

U.S. Office of Special Counsel 1730 M Street NW, Suite 218 Washington, DC 20036-4505 <u>certification@osc.gov</u>

U.S. Office of Special Counsel's Certification Program Compliance Form

The U.S. Office of Special Counsel's (OSC) Certification Program allows federal agencies to meet the statutory obligations of 5 U.S.C. § 2302(c), the Dr. Chris Kirkpatrick Whistleblower Protection Act, and the Office of Special Counsel Reauthorization Act of 2017. In addition to the existing requirements of the program, these statutes require agency heads to ensure that their employees receive yearly information about whistleblower protection laws and to provide annual *supervisory* training on how to respond to complaints involving whistleblower protections.¹ Using this form, please explain how the certifying agency has met the requirements of OSC's Certification Program. The completed form should be emailed to certification@osc.gov. Questions about completing this form should be directed to OSC's Diversity, Outreach, and Training Unit, which can be reached at certification@osc.gov.

General Information

Agency or Office Certifying:

Agency and OIG Agency OIG Component (please indicate parent agency)

Contact Information

Please provide the contact information for the official responsible for implementing OSC's Certification Program (the individual's name and phone number will be placed on OSC's website as the point of contact once the agency is certified).

Name: Title: Email: Phone: Address (to send certificate):

1. In addition to submitting this form to request certification and recertification (every three years), agencies will need to complete an annual certification checklist to ensure ongoing compliance.

Requirement Compliance Information

1. POSTINGS AT AGENCY LOCATIONS

Agencies should post the laws regarding prohibited personnel practices (PPPs), whistleblowing, and whistleblower retaliation. The posters should be displayed in all personnel and EEO offices and/or in other prominent places throughout the agency.

A. Please attach the posters displayed throughout the agency locations.

B. On what date(s) were posters displayed throughout agency locations:

2. NEW EMPLOYEE NOTIFICATIONS

Written materials on the PPPs and filing whistleblower disclosures and OSC's role in enforcing the laws within its jurisdiction should be provided in new employee orientation packets within 180 days of employment. OSC has created an outline of PPP rights and remedies that can be printed or sent via email. The materials are available on OSC's website.

A. Please attach the written materials that you are providing to new employees in their orientation packets.

B. On what date were materials added to orientation packets?

3. ANNUAL EMPLOYEE NOTIFICATION

Agencies shall provide annual notice to all employees on rights and remedies regarding PPPs and filing whistleblower disclosures along with access to written materials (described above). An example of an agency head's letter sent to agency employees is available on the OSC <u>website</u>.

A. Please attach the annual notice that was provided to all employees.

B. On what date and how (e.g., email) was this information provided to employees?

4. SUPERVISORY TRAINING

Comprehensive PPP Training

Each agency, in consultation with OSC, should provide training every three years to all managers and supervisors to assure their understanding and implementation of their responsibilities under 5 U.S.C. § 2302. OSC offers in-person and virtual training to assist agencies with fulfilling this requirement.

A. What method was used to train supervisors? If possible, please attach a copy of the training materials. If OSC did not provide the training, please include the date on which OSC approved the materials.

B. Approximate number of supervisors at your agency:

C. Approximate number of supervisors trained:

D. On what date(s) were supervisors trained?

Annual Supervisory Training

The Dr. Chris Kirkpatrick Whistleblower Protection Act of 2017 requires agencies to train supervisors, in consultation with OSC, on how to respond to complaints alleging a violation of whistleblower protections. OSC has developed a new PowerPoint presentation and offers in-person and virtual training to satisfy this requirement.

A. What method was used to train supervisors? If possible, please attach a copy of the training materials. If the agency modified OSC's slides or developed new materials, please include the date on which OSC approved the materials.

B. Approximate number of supervisors trained:

C. On what date(s) were supervisors trained?

5. LINK TO OSC'S WEBSITE

Each agency should provide a link from its public-facing website <u>and</u> <i>intranet site to the OSC website: <u>*https://osc.gov.*</u>

A. Provide the website address where employees can find a link to the OSC website and a screenshot of the link on the intranet page (if applicable).

Confirmation of Completion

Signature of official responsible for implementing OSC's Certification Program: