



February 22, 2011

Dear Editor / Producer:

"Whistleblowers should do two things: call us at *60 Minutes* and read *'The Whistleblower's Handbook.'* Its 21 rules lay out the game plan for holding institutions accountable while protecting your job."  
- Michael Radutzky, Senior Producer *60 Minutes*

The Lyons Press, an imprint of Globe Pequot Press, proudly announces the March 1, 2011 release of **THE WHISTLEBLOWER'S HANDBOOK: A STEP-BY-STEP GUIDE TO DOING WHAT'S RIGHT AND PROTECTING YOURSELF** (ISBN 978-0-7627-6373-3; \$16.95; Paperback) by Stephen M. Kohn.

Ever wonder what to do if your boss is a crook?

**THE WHISTLEBLOWER'S HANDBOOK** is the first ever consumer guide to reporting fraud, violations of environmental rules, health and safety hazards, and political corruption in the workplace. Stephen Martin Kohn, Executive Director of the National Whistleblowers Center, has represented important whistleblowers, such as Linda Tripp (who suffered retaliation on her job at the Department of Defense after she turned over her infamous tapes to the Office of Special Counsel), Frederic Whitehurst (who blew the whistle on the FBI crime-lab and misconduct in the O.J. Simpson murder trial and the Oklahoma City bombing case), and Bunnatine Greenhouse (who blew the whistle on the illegal "no bid" contracts awarded to Halliburton for the "Reconstruction of Iraq").

In an interview, Kohn can discuss;

- What to Do if the Boss is a Crook
- How to Follow the Money, and Whistleblower Reward Laws
- The Birth of Modern Whistleblower Protections
- Whistleblower Protections under Federal and State Laws
- Why Delaying is Deadly
- What to Look for When Blowing the Whistle on Fraud Against the Government
- Obtaining Evidence Needed to Win a Case Against an Employer
- How to be Prepared For the Aftermath of Your Whistleblowing Actions

**Stephen Martin Kohn** is one of the leading whistleblower attorneys in the United States and is the Executive Director of the National Whistleblower Center. Since 1984 he has successfully represented numerous nationally recognized whistleblowers. He is regularly consulted by House and Senate leaders for help in drafting whistleblower protection laws. The author of several legal books on the subject, he lives in Washington, D.C.

I hope you will consider **THE WHISTLEBLOWER'S HANDBOOK** for a review, feature, or on-air segment, and look forward to exploring media opportunities for this title with you.

Bob Sembiante  
Senior Publicist / Globe Pequot Press  
[Robert.sembiante@globepequot.com](mailto:Robert.sembiante@globepequot.com)  
203-458-4555



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**Contact: Bob Sembiente, Publicist**

[robert.sembiente@globepequot.com](mailto:robert.sembiente@globepequot.com)

(203) 458-4555 / 800-962-0973, ext. 4555

Call or E-mail for a review copy or interview

# The Whistleblower's Handbook

**A STEP-BY-STEP GUIDE TO DOING WHAT'S RIGHT AND PROTECTING YOURSELF**

By Stephen M. Kohn

Every single day, American workers by the thousands report fraud, violations of environmental rules, health and safety hazards, and political corruption. The National Business Ethics Survey reports that 56% of workers admit to witnessing serious misconduct at work, and more than half of them take the first step to report it.

But there exists a maze of confusing state and federal laws that govern whistleblowing, protect employees, and sometimes provide for large monetary rewards for whistleblowers who do the right thing. Ignorance of the proper steps to expose wrongdoing too often leads to silence, lost court cases, public embarrassment, and a failure to effect real change. But when done right, whistleblowing has strengthened democracy, protected the environment, and saved taxpayers and investors billions of dollars. Modern whistleblower laws have created a powerful tool for effective grassroots participation.

Now, from the nation's leading whistleblower attorney, comes the first-ever consumer guide to whistleblowing. In ***The Whistleblower's Handbook***, Stephen Martin Kohn explains nearly all federal and state laws regarding whistleblowing. In the step-by-step bulk of the book, he also presents twenty-one rules for whistleblowers.

## About the Author

Stephen Martin Kohn is one of the leading whistleblower attorneys in the U.S. Since 1984 he has represented important whistleblowers, such as Frederic Whitehurst (who blew the whistle on the FBI crime-lab and misconduct in the O.J. Simpson murder trial and the Oklahoma City bombing case), Linda Tripp (who suffered retaliation on her job at the Department of Defense after she turned over her infamous tapes to the Office of Special Counsel) and Bunnatine Greenhouse (who blew the whistle on the illegal "no bid" contracts awarded to Halliburton for the "Reconstruction of Iraq"). He currently represents Bradley Berkenfeld, the UBS Swiss Bank-whistleblower, who exposed the largest tax fraud in U.S. history. Mr. Kohn is regularly consulted by House and Senate leaders for assistance on drafting whistleblower protection laws, and directly worked on the language enacted into law in the Sarbanes-Oxley Act. Currently, Mr. Kohn is a partner in the Washington, D.C. law firm of Kohn, Kohn & Colapinto, LLP, the President of the National Whistleblower Center and the former Director of Corporate Litigation for the Government Accountability Project.

## The Whistleblower's Handbook

By Stephen M. Kohn

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## Advance Praise for **The Whistleblowers Handbook**

(Publicity Contact: Bob Sembiante/Senior Publicist, Globe Pequot Press /  
[Robert.sembiante@globepequot.com](mailto:Robert.sembiante@globepequot.com) / 203-458-4555)

"As a whistleblower who has successfully won a case against the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), I can attest to the fact that this is the definitive Bible for whistleblowers. Written by Stephen Kohn, the premiere whistleblower attorney in the United States, this handbook contains everything you will need to know about blowing the whistle, and surviving."

- Jane Turner, FBI Whistleblower and 25 year veteran agent

"It is time that "situational" knowledge within the whistleblowing environment is released to remove the "chill" on employees, to protect the public trust, and to ensure that "truth" and "integrity" among the private and public entities supporting the government are never an OPTION, but an OBLIGATION! I surely hope this gets to all workers who have committed themselves to making a difference wherever they work."

- Bunnatine Greenhouse, Army Corps of Engineers Whistleblower

"Steve has written a first-rate handbook for workers who have witnessed egregious examples of waste, fraud or abuse which they know should be reported to the authorities but who are afraid of losing their jobs if they do. The handbook tells them of the many laws and services available to them, which if understood and used intelligently, can not only protect a whistleblower from losing his job, but can even led to cash rewards under some circumstances."

- William Sanjour, EPA Whistleblower

"'The Whistleblower's Handbook' opens a window into the controversial but vital role of whistleblowers in America's workplace dating from the days of the Civil War. With compelling insider details, practical "rules" and rare insights, Stephen Kohn, the country's leading whistleblower expert, has created the essential overview for CEO's, CFO's, GC's, chief compliance officers, HR and audit professionals, and others who should be knowledgeable about this fundamental aspect of corporate life."

- Donna Boehme, former Group Compliance and Ethics Officer, BP plc, and Principal, Compliance Strategists LLC

"As the courageous whistleblower who faced fierce opposition and exposed the largest tax scandal in US history . . . this invaluable reference guide will help any future whistleblower navigate the treacherous international waters of ensuring what is done is done 100% right."

- Brad Birkenfeld, UBS Whistleblower



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"Finally -- the "how-to" guide for whistleblowers. This is a much-needed step-by-step explanation for anyone thinking about speaking out against fraud and corruption. Whistleblowers will avoid a lot of tears from the book's checklists and do's and don'ts. Written in clear and understandable language this book should be in the bottom drawer of anyone thinking about blowing the whistle -- and on the desk for managers who want to improve compliance."

- Dean Zerbe, *Forbes.com* columnist, National Managing Director of AlliantGroup, LP

"Steve Kohn's book 'The Whistleblower's Handbook' provides a great service to current and would-be whistleblowers and to our citizenry by providing a comprehensive guide to exposing waste, fraud, abuse, and misconduct in both the private and public sectors. It effectively acts as a compass and detailed avoidance map to help navigate whistleblowers through the retaliatory minefields they may already have entered, or will soon face.

- Russ Tice, *Former Intelligence Officer, (NSA) National Security Agency*

"Written by the foremost authority on the subject, 'The Whistleblower's Handbook' is extraordinarily user-friendly and extremely easy to read. Every worker bears a responsibility to guard the public interest. Like no other resource, this book places the power of the law squarely in the hands of America's workforce."

- David L. Lewis, *Ph.D., EPA Whistleblower*

"Based on the complex and illogical array of whistleblower legislation, it is astounding that anyone undertakes to do the right thing and report malfeasance to the authorities. Yet, Stephen Kohn has written an inspiring and optimistic report on the state of whistle blowing in the US and guides us through the complexities of risking our own comfort by blowing the whistle in 21 rules. 'The Whistleblower's Handbook' is replete with compelling and little-known stories alongside the more typical, highly-publicized tabloid fodder. A particularly sobering account of whistleblowers in the earliest days of our republic and the moral imperative that protected them will make readers yearn for a way to protect ourselves in the same way as the Founding Fathers protected a group of seamen during the Revolution. The wise reader will pay heed to Kohn's short list of rules when performing her moral duty."

- Gina Vega, *Professor of Management at the Bertolon School of Business, Salem State University, Author of "Moral Courage in Organizations: Doing the Right Thing at Work"*

"This book highlights citizen empowerment and true grassroots democracy in action. As a whistleblower, I know the power of speaking the truth and the unfortunate consequences for those who do. Every American should read this book."

- Marsha Coleman-Adebayo, *Founder of No FEAR Coalition*



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Suggested Interview Questions for **"The Whistleblower's Handbook:  
A Step-by-Step Guide to Doing What's Right and Protecting Yourself"**

By Stephen Martin Kohn, Executive Director of the National Whistleblower Center

(Publicity Contact: Bob Sembiante, Senior Publicist / GPP /  
[Robert.Sembiante@GlobePequto.com](mailto:Robert.Sembiante@GlobePequto.com) / 203-458-4555)

- 1) What is a whistleblower?
- 2) How widespread is whistleblowing and what is its impact?
- 3) What does every American worker need to know about whistleblowing?
- 4) If an employee discovers a safety or environmental violation at work, what should they do? What about financial fraud?
- 5) Is Wikileaks a legitimate whistleblower website?
- 6) Can whistleblowers obtain large financial rewards? How?
- 7) What are the most common types of crimes whistleblowers report in the United States?
- 8) What are there examples you can state that show whistleblowing works in the U.S. workplace?
- 9) What are some of the potential risks and consequences of which a whistleblower should be aware? And conversely, what are the possible rewards?
- 10) What is the single most important rule for whistleblowers?
- 11) Can you explain the most effective whistleblower law in the United States: The False Claims Act (FCA)?
- 12) What are your thoughts on corporate sponsored "hotlines" as a means of reporting witnessed misconduct?
- 13) Court cases can prove expensive for a whistleblower. Are there any federal laws in place to aid the whistleblower with legal fees?
- 14) Employers often offer settlement proposals to prevent a case from going to court. What is the best response to these types of proposals?
- 15) Are there different laws that cover reporting tax crimes as opposed to reporting other workplace illegal activity?
- 16) Is whistleblowing protected under the First Amendment?
- 17) Have whistleblowers obtained large multi-million dollar rewards? How?
- 18) How can whistleblowing be used to increase government and corporate accountability?
- 19) How has whistleblowing helped strengthen democracy in the United States?
- 20) Can employees who work in foreign countries blow the whistle and be protected in the United States? How?
- 21) The Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform Act contained numerous whistleblower protection and reward provisions, can you tell us what they are and how these reforms were a "game changer" for American workers?



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