



April 21, 2021

President Joseph Biden
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Biden:

I am writing to urge you to issue an Executive Order recognizing July 30th as “National Whistleblower Appreciation Day” and requiring all executive offices and agencies to educate employees about their legal rights and the importance of whistleblowers.

On July 30th, 1778, Congress unanimously passed the first U.S. whistleblower law. All Americans should celebrate this important moment in history. In the 243 years since Congress first passed this legislation, whistleblowers have played a critical role in preserving American democracy and the rule of law – often at tremendous personal cost.

In recent decades, U.S. legislators and presidents across party lines have recognized the importance of whistleblowers and enacted a wave of powerful whistleblower laws – heralded by the 1986 amendments to the False Claims Act that you oversaw while you were a ranking member of the Senate Judiciary Committee. However, more progress must be made towards protecting whistleblowers and creating a culture where every person can safely report wrongdoing without fear of retaliation.

The United States Senate has unanimously recognized July 30th as National Whistleblower Appreciation Day each year since 2013. The 2020 Resolution is attached to this letter. It is critical to see this tradition continued and expanded. That’s why the National Whistleblower Center asking you to issue an Executive Order that —

- (1) designates July 30th as “National Whistleblower Day”; and
- (2) requires each executive office and agency to recognize National Whistleblower Day by—
 - (A) informing employees, contractors working on behalf of the taxpayers of the United States, and members of the public about the legal right of a United States citizen to “blow the whistle”; and
 - (B) acknowledging the contributions of whistleblowers to combating fraud, abuses of authority, threats to the environment and the public health and safety, and other violations of law.

Issuing an Executive Order that acknowledges the importance of whistleblowing could change the culture of retaliation against whistleblowers that persists today. You can learn more about the history of National Whistleblower Day and its significance here: <http://bit.ly/EnactNWD>.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
Mary Jane Wilmoth
Interim Executive Director, National Whistleblower Center