

2022

National Whistleblower Center

# ANNUAL REPORT



# About Us:

National Whistleblower Center ("NWC") is the world's leading whistleblower organization. NWC has impacted whistleblower polices and protections since 1988. Our Board of Directors is composed of long-term whistleblower advocates, whistleblowers, and non-profit experts committed to justice.

## 2022 Key Accomplishments

### National Whistleblower Day

Over 3 days of programming, we presented 12 panels and racked up over 300 watch hours. Over 10 federal agencies recognized National Whistleblower Day. The Senate resolution received unanimous support. NWC raised over \$5000 in our NWD fundraiser.

### Effective Advocacy

NWC supported SEC rule amendments adopted in 2022, fixing major issues with earlier rulemaking. NWC's active engagement has kept bills alive that will improve anti-money laundering provisions, establish anti-trust whistleblower provisions, and further wildlife whistleblower protections.

### Increased Media Interest

Solicitations from media outlets were frequent and increasingly prestigious through 2022. Siri Nelson was featured on PBS, in the Wall Street Journal, Harvard Political Review, and the Financial Times.



@stopfraud



info@whistleblowers.org



@nationalwhistleblowercenter



# Our Board of Directors:

National Whistleblower Center has an engaged Board of Directors who bring their expertise and passion for whistleblower rights to our mission.



**Stephen Kohn**  
*Chairman*



**Michael Kohn**  
*President*



**Mark Toney**  
*Director*



**Mary Jane Wilmoth**  
*Secretary/Treasurer*



**Jane Turner**  
*FBI Whistleblower*



**Dr. Fred Whitehurst**  
*FBI Whistleblower*



**Gina Green**  
*Director / Professor*  
*Earth Commons Inst.*

NWC's Board of Directors includes:

- Chairman, Stephen Kohn, Founder and Expert Whistleblower Attorney
- President, Michael Kohn, Founder and Expert Whistleblower Attorney
- Director, Mark Toney, Executive Director at The Utility Reform Network
- Secretary & Treasurer, Mary Jane Wilmoth, Expert Whistleblower Attorney
- FBI Whistleblower, Jane Turner, Journalist
- FBI Whistleblower, Dr. Fredrick Whitehurst
- Director and Professor at Georgetown University Earth Commons Institute, Dr. Gina Green.

# From our Executive Director

In 2022, NWC has built partnerships and garnered greater public support. More people today know about whistleblowing than they did in 2021. There have been meaningful improvements in the law and there are more promising improvements on the horizon.

In 2022, National Whistleblower Center won major victories for whistleblowers:

- Exxon whistleblowers who sought assistance from NWC were reinstated and won nearly \$1 million in back-pay and damages;
- *Amicus* briefs were filed in pivotal cases, educating courts about the Internal Revenue Service whistleblower program;
- Over 100 whistleblowers were recognized on National Whistleblower Day;
- NWC's expert advice has helped steward several federal laws to ensure they include whistleblower best practices: anonymity, anti-retaliation, and rewards; and
- The Securities and Exchange Commission adopted improved program rules, citing NWC comments.

Generous donations make all of this work possible. We are so grateful to support whistleblowers and will fight for more victories in 2023.



**Siri Nelson**



*Executive Director*  
National Whistleblower Center

Our victories this year are only eclipsed by the tenacity and resilience of the whistleblowers we strive to empower. Every day NWC works to raise awareness about the value of protecting all employees, regardless of where they are employed, when they blow the whistle.

Having the courage to speak up is a quality we all possess under the right conditions. NWC strives to ensure that those conditions are available to as many employees so more people can speak up and fewer are forced to suffer.

# Recognizing Whistleblowers

In 2022, National Whistleblower Center recognized and amplified the voices of whistleblowers worldwide. Hear from just a handful of these brave truth tellers:



"NWC provided me with a community when my community left me. Hearing from fellow whistleblowers was validating."

**Sara Thompson**  
*Peace Corps Whistleblower*



"Speaking at NWC gave me the feeling that my experience of retaliation has meaning and voice will have an impact."

**Art Acevedo**  
*Police Whistleblower*



"As a member of NWC's Board, I support programming that helps whistleblowers around the world."

**Dr. Fred Whitehurst**  
*FBI Whistleblower*



"NWC has amplified my voice to better combat injustices while affirming my dignity as a survivor."

**Cdr. Kimberly Young-McLear, PhD**  
*Coast Guard Whistleblower*

Each of these whistleblowers are featured in panels available on YouTube at:  
[www.youtube.com/NationalWhistleblowerCenterDC](http://www.youtube.com/NationalWhistleblowerCenterDC)

# Legislative Action

National Whistleblower Center works relentlessly to advance legislation and regulations for effective whistleblower programs. With the support of legal experts and whistleblowers with firsthand experience, NWC has been able to effectively support key laws and the best practices of Anonymity, Anti-Retaliation, and Rewards.

	Bill Drafted	Introduced	Passed
Wildlife	✓		
SEC	✓	✓	✓
AML	✓	✓	
Peace Corps	✓	✓	
IRS	✓		

- **Wildlife:** Providing "Dodd-Frank Act"-style whistleblower protections to Wildlife Whistleblowers.
- **SEC:** Securities and Exchange Commission Rule Amendments, prohibiting caps and protecting mandatory award for related actions.
- **AML:** Anti-Money Laundering Whistleblower Reward Provisions.
- **Peace Corps:** Whistleblower Protections for Peace Corps volunteers.
- **IRS:** Reducing IRS program timelines.



# National Whistleblower Appreciation Day:

National Whistleblower Center celebrates National Whistleblower Day (NWD) every year on July 30th. This year, NWC hosted three days of live programming online, which included legislators, whistleblowers, and whistleblower advocates from around the world.



Notably, NWC welcomed remarks from Senator Grassley, the House Office of the Whistleblower Ombuds, French Parliament Member Ugo Bernalicis, NASAA, and several whistleblowers from around the United States and the world.

You can watch all of our NWD programming on YouTube today!  
Visit: [www.youtube.com/NationalWhistleblowerCenterDCC](http://www.youtube.com/NationalWhistleblowerCenterDCC)

# How We Work:



## Whistleblowers

For National Whistleblower Day, NWC recognized over 100 whistleblowers. NWC connected whistleblowers to storytellers and artists interested in their stories, and featured whistleblowers in every event we participated in this year.



## Events

In addition to garnering thousands of views on National Whistleblower Day, NWC hosted six LinkedIn live panels and twitter spaces, and participated in panels. NWC reached thousands online and hundreds in person in 2022.



## Partnerships

NWC has partnered with Kohn, Kohn, and Colapinto, LLP; Zerbe, Miller, Fingeret, Frank, & Jadav, LLC; Whistleblower Law Collaborative, LLP; H. Street Law, LLP; Lamplighter Project; Whistleblowers of America; and others to submit briefs, produce events, and advocate effectively.



## Education

NWC has been invited by the State Department to participate in programs for leaders around the world. From small group discussions with stakeholders from Africa & Central America, to participating in the IX Summit of the Americas, NWC has educated world leaders.



## Media

NWC has garnered massive media attention. Leaders and NWC were featured in the Wall Street Journal, PBS, Washington Post, the Hill, Financial Times, Yahoo News, and National Law Review, among others.



## Leadership

NWC continues to take the lead within the whistleblower community. Our leadership has resulted in the widespread adoption and use of social media to educate the public—including federal agencies' use of social media to raise awareness and recognize whistleblowers for National Whistleblower Day.



# Global Progress

In 2022, National Whistleblower Center had a global impact. We participated in educational projects directed at leaders on several continents. Most notably, our partnership with University Tecnológico de Monterrey has helped us build stronger connections in Central America.



INTERNATIONAL  
ANTI-CORRUPTION  
CONFERENCE



In 2022, NWC was invited to present at the:

- World Justice Forum at the Hague in the Netherlands to guide anti-corruption professionals from around the world through the concept of a whistleblowers' bill of rights.
- IX Summit of the Americas in Los Angeles, California, where NWC representatives were invited to contribute to IX Summit working group reports, ensuring they included whistleblower protections.
- International Anti-Corruption Conference in Washington, D.C., where NWC presented the first whistleblower-focused panel of the event.
- National Whistleblower Center Chairman, Stephen Kohn, also presented at the Banking Investigator's Forum in London, United Kingdom.

In addition to these presentations, NWC has led several State Department International Visitors Leadership Program lectures throughout 2022.

NWC strives to raise awareness about the global availability of U.S. whistleblower programs.

Through our global community of supporters and collaborators, NWC has been able to spread the word about whistleblower best practice: anonymity, anti-retaliation, and reward.

NWC continues to advocate for global protections and the effective implementation of laws such as the European Whistleblower Directive.

# Outreach:

Public support of whistleblowers is ever growing. NWC's public reach amplifies whistleblower issues, effectively raising awareness. No one plans to become a whistleblower. The more informed the general public is, the safer and more well understood whistleblowers are in the hardest moment of their lives.

Whistleblowers face isolation and confusion. Our work and our supporters provide a sense of community. This robust community helps NWC spread the word and keeps whistleblowers motivated.

Our supporters allow NWC to have a global impact, critical in regions where there are no whistleblower protections. In the United States, we have been able to impact decisions that have improved conditions for an untold number of public and private employees.

The resources NWC provides, from social media posts to Frequently Asked Questions pages and panel discussions, are made possible by public support.

In addition to our website, we have a robust digital advocacy base. Our Action Alert Network has over 200,000 members. Our Sunday Read articles reach thousands per week, educating the public about current affairs and how they relate to whistleblower issues.

## NWC's Impact:

NWC engages with the public using social media and by talking to journalists about whistleblower protections.



NWC reaches thousands on social media like LinkedIn, Instagram, Twitter, and YouTube through events, partnerships, and campaigns. Our followers grow by the year and help raise the profile on whistleblowing.

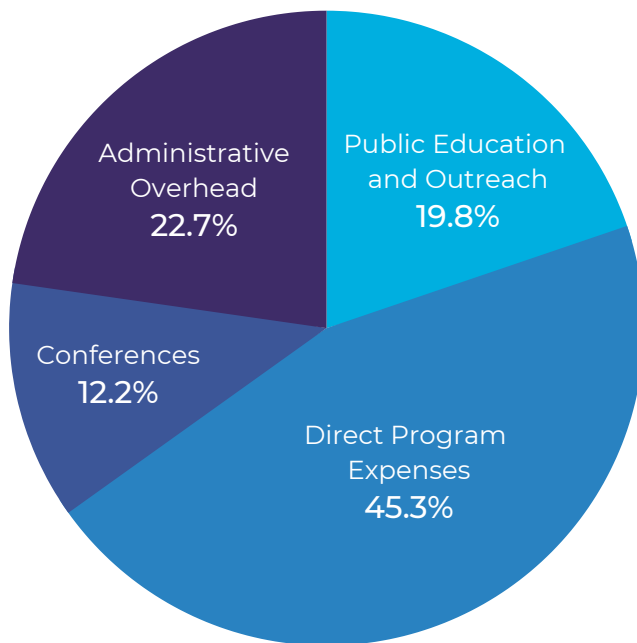
*Follow us!*

Twitter @StopFraud / Instagram @NationalWhistleblowerCenter

# Thank You!



## 2022 Expenses



Total Expenses  
Year to Date: **\$526,376**

## Major Donors:

### Whistleblower Advocate

Over \$10,000

*Sawheny Family Foundation*  
*Whistleblower Legal Defense Foundation*

### Whistleblower Sponsor

From \$5,000 to \$10,000

*E & S Siegel Foundation*

### Whistleblower Ally

From \$500 to \$5,000

*Fred and Cheryl Whitehurst*  
*Neil Henrichsen*  
*Rebekah Jones*