

# Know Your Rights Under the Recovery Act!

## *Did you know?*

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 <sup>1</sup> provides protections for certain employees of non-federal employers who make specified disclosures relating to possible fraud, waste and/or abuse of Recovery Act funds.

## *Who is protected?*

Employees of non-federal employers receiving recovery funds. This includes State and local governments, contractors, subcontractors, grantees or professional membership organizations acting in the interest of recovery fund recipients.

## *How are Whistleblowers Protected?*

You cannot be discharged, demoted or otherwise discriminated against as a reprisal for making a protected disclosure.

## *What types of disclosures are protected?*

The disclosure must be made by the employee to the Recovery Accountability and Transparency Board, an Inspector General, the Comptroller General, a member of Congress, a state or federal regulatory or law enforcement agency, a person with supervisory authority over the employee, a court or grand jury, or the head of a federal agency or his/her representatives.

The disclosure must involve information that the employee believes is evidence of:

- gross mismanagement of an agency contract or grant relating to recovery funds;
- a gross waste of recovery funds;
- a substantial and specific danger to public health or safety related to the implementation or use of recovery funds;
- an abuse of authority related to the implementation or use of recovery funds; or
- a violation of law, rule, or regulation related to an agency contract or grant awarded or issued relating to recovery funds.

## *Take Action!*

Log on to [Recovery.gov](http://Recovery.gov) for more information about your rights and details on how to report at [www.recovery.gov](http://www.recovery.gov).

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<sup>1</sup>[Section 1553 of Division A, Title XV of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, P.L. 111-5](#)