

For Immediate Release July 29, 2024 For Information Contact
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Statement from the U.S. Department of the Interior's Inspector General about Whistleblower Appreciation Day

Washington, DC – Inspector General Mark Lee Greenblatt issued the following statement about National Whistleblower Appreciation Day, which is celebrated each year on July 30, and the crucial role whistleblowers play in identifying fraud, waste, and abuse at the Department of the Interior:

"National Whistleblower Appreciation Day is an important, annual reminder of the invaluable service whistleblowers provide the American people and the U.S. Department of the Interior.

The Department's responsibilities to the American people are vast, profound, and built on a foundation of integrity and trust—from stewarding our public lands to protecting, managing and honoring our natural resources and cultural heritage. When Department employees and contractors come forward and blow the whistle on wrongdoing, they speak out for all of us.

I commend those who take a stand against government waste, fraud, abuse, and misconduct, and encourage others who see or experience such malfeasance to do the same."

Individuals who are aware of fraud, waste, abuse, or misconduct in U.S. Department of the Interior programs should contact the OIG Hotline at www.doioig.gov/oig-hotline-forms. Learn more about the OIG Hotline by watching our video, How the OIG Hotline Works.

For more information on Whistleblower Rights and Protections, visit <u>doioig.gov/whistleblower</u>, or view the educational video <u>Whistleblower 101</u>.

Like and subscribe to our <u>YouTube channel</u> for more updates, insights, and content from the U.S. Department of the Interior Office of Inspector General.

About the Office of Inspector General

We provide independent oversight to promote accountability, integrity, economy, efficiency, and effectiveness within the U.S. Department of the Interior.

We derive our authority from the <u>Inspector General Act of 1978</u>, which established OIGs as independent and objective oversight bodies to ensure accountability in their respective agencies. Like all OIGs, our office works to prevent, detect, and report on waste, fraud, abuse, and mismanagement.