

Managing Whistleblower Reports and Qui Tam Litigation Risks

Whistleblower programs use monetary rewards and antiretaliation protections to encourage insiders to report misconduct. These tips can lead to rapid escalation, including **grand jury subpoenas** and **federal indictments**.

WHEN TO TAKE ACTION

Early intervention is the only way to prevent a whistleblower report from becoming a **federal criminal defense** matter. Take action if:

- **An internal report is filed:** All credible reports must be investigated promptly and documented thoroughly.
- **An employee suddenly requests unusual billing data:** This can be a sign of a potential qui tam relator gathering evidence.
- **A former employee initiates a dispute:** Grievances often escalate into whistleblower filings as a form of retaliation or for financial gain.

HOW TO TAKE ACTION

- **Strengthen Internal Reporting:** Maintain confidential, well-publicized channels to reduce the likelihood of external filings.
- **Document Remediation:** When issues are found, promptly fix and document the actions to limit government penalties.
- **Protect Against Retaliation:** Enforce strict antiretaliation policies to prevent further legal exposure.
- **Consider Self-Disclosure:** Use our **white collar crime lawyers** to evaluate self-disclosure pathways that may reduce penalties and whistleblower awards.

Contact Dykema's White Collar Defense and Government Investigations practice today for a confidential consultation.

**Mark Chutkow**

Member, Bloomfield Hills
248-203-0715
mchutkow@dykema.com

**Jennifer Beidel**

Member, Bloomfield Hills
248-203-0506
jbeidel@dykema.com

**Leigha Simonton**

Member, Dallas
214-462-6444
lsimonton@dykema.com