

# EMPLOYEE RIGHTS

## EMPLOYEE POLYGRAPH PROTECTION ACT

**The Employee Polygraph Protection Act prohibits most private employers from using lie detector tests either for pre-employment screening or during the course of employment.**

### **PROHIBITIONS**

Employers are generally prohibited from requiring or requesting any employee or job applicant to take a lie detector test, and from discharging, disciplining, or discriminating against an employee or prospective employee for refusing to take a test or for exercising other rights under the Act.

### **EXEMPTIONS**

Federal, State and local governments are not affected by the law. Also, the law does not apply to tests given by the Federal Government to certain private individuals engaged in national security-related activities.

The Act permits polygraph (a kind of lie detector) tests to be administered in the private sector, subject to restrictions, to certain prospective employees of security service firms (armored car, alarm, and guard), and of pharmaceutical manufacturers, distributors and dispensers.

The Act also permits polygraph testing, subject to restrictions, of certain employees of private firms who are reasonably suspected of involvement in a workplace incident (theft, embezzlement, etc.) that resulted in economic loss to the employer.

The law does not preempt any provision of any State or local law or any collective bargaining agreement which is more restrictive with respect to lie detector tests.

### **EXAMINEE RIGHTS**

Where polygraph tests are permitted, they are subject to numerous strict standards concerning the conduct and length of the test. Examinees have a number of specific rights, including the right to a written notice before testing, the right to refuse or discontinue a test, and the right not to have test results disclosed to unauthorized persons.

### **ENFORCEMENT**

The Secretary of Labor may bring court actions to restrain violations and assess civil penalties against violators. Employees or job applicants may also bring their own court actions.

**THE LAW REQUIRES EMPLOYERS TO DISPLAY THIS POSTER WHERE EMPLOYEES AND JOB APPLICANTS CAN READILY SEE IT.**



WAGE AND HOUR DIVISION  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

1-866-487-9243  
[www.dol.gov/agencies/whd](http://www.dol.gov/agencies/whd)





# Know Your Rights: Workplace Discrimination is Illegal

The U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) enforces Federal laws that protect you from discrimination in employment. If you believe you've been discriminated against at work or in applying for a job, the EEOC may be able to help.

## Who is Protected?

- Employees (current and former), including managers and temporary employees
- Job applicants
- Union members and applicants for membership in a union

## What Types of Employment Discrimination are Illegal?

Under the EEOC's laws, an employer may not discriminate against you, regardless of your immigration status, on the bases of:

- Race
- Color
- Religion
- National origin
- Sex (including pregnancy, childbirth, and related medical conditions, sexual orientation, or gender identity)
- Age (40 and older)
- Disability
- Genetic information (including employer requests for, or purchase, use, or disclosure of genetic tests, genetic services, or family medical history)
- Retaliation for filing a charge, reasonably opposing discrimination, or participating in a discrimination lawsuit, investigation, or proceeding
- Interference, coercion, or threats related to exercising rights regarding disability discrimination or pregnancy accommodation

## What Organizations are Covered?

- Most private employers
- State and local governments (as employers)
- Educational institutions (as employers)
- Unions
- Staffing agencies

## What Employment Practices can be Challenged as Discriminatory?

All aspects of employment, including:

- Discharge, firing, or lay-off
- Harassment (including unwelcome verbal or physical conduct)
- Hiring or promotion
- Assignment
- Pay (unequal wages or compensation)
- Failure to provide reasonable accommodation for a disability; pregnancy, childbirth, or related medical condition; or a sincerely-held religious belief, observance or practice
- Benefits
- Job training
- Classification
- Referral
- Obtaining or disclosing genetic information of employees
- Requesting or disclosing medical information of employees
- Conduct that might reasonably discourage someone from opposing discrimination, filing a charge, or participating in an investigation or proceeding
- Conduct that coerces, intimidates, threatens, or interferes with someone exercising their rights, or someone assisting or encouraging someone else to exercise rights, regarding disability discrimination (including accommodation) or pregnancy accommodation

## What can You Do if You Believe Discrimination has Occurred?

Contact the EEOC promptly if you suspect discrimination. Do not delay, because there are strict time limits for filing a charge of discrimination (180 or 300 days, depending on where you live/work). You can reach the EEOC in any of the following ways:

**Submit** an inquiry through the EEOC's public portal:  
<https://publicportal.eeoc.gov/Portal/Login.aspx>

**Call** 1-800-669-4000 (toll free)  
1-800-669-6820 (TTY)  
1-844-234-5122 (ASL video phone)

**Visit** an EEOC field office (information at  
[www.eeoc.gov/field-office](http://www.eeoc.gov/field-office))

**E-Mail** [info@eeoc.gov](mailto:info@eeoc.gov)

Additional information about the EEOC, including information about filing a charge of discrimination, is available at [www.eeoc.gov](http://www.eeoc.gov).



## EMPLOYERS HOLDING FEDERAL CONTRACTS OR SUBCONTRACTS

The Department of Labor's Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs (OFCCP) enforces the nondiscrimination and affirmative action commitments of companies doing business with the Federal Government. If you are applying for a job with, or are an employee of, a company with a Federal contract or subcontract, you are protected under Federal law from discrimination on the following bases:

### Race, Color, Religion, Sex, Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity, National Origin

Executive Order 11246, as amended, prohibits employment discrimination by Federal contractors based on race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, or national origin, and requires affirmative action to ensure equality of opportunity in all aspects of employment.

### Asking About, Disclosing, or Discussing Pay

Executive Order 11246, as amended, protects applicants and employees of Federal contractors from discrimination based on inquiring about, disclosing, or discussing their compensation or the compensation of other applicants or employees.

### Disability

Section 503 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, protects qualified individuals with disabilities from discrimination in hiring, promotion, discharge, pay, fringe benefits, job training, classification, referral, and other aspects of employment by Federal contractors. Disability discrimination includes not making reasonable accommodation to the known physical or mental limitations of an otherwise qualified individual with a disability who is an applicant or employee, barring undue hardship to the employer. Section 503 also requires that Federal contractors take affirmative action to employ and advance in employment qualified individuals with disabilities at all levels of employment, including the executive level.

### Protected Veteran Status

The Vietnam Era Veterans' Readjustment Assistance Act of 1974, as amended, 38 U.S.C. 4212, prohibits employment discrimination against, and requires affirmative action to recruit, employ, and advance in employment, disabled veterans, recently separated veterans (i.e., within three years of discharge or release from active duty), active duty wartime or campaign badge veterans, or Armed Forces service medal veterans.

### Retaliation

Retaliation is prohibited against a person who files a complaint of discrimination, participates in an OFCCP proceeding, or otherwise opposes discrimination by Federal contractors under these Federal laws.

Any person who believes a contractor has violated its nondiscrimination or affirmative action obligations under OFCCP's authorities should contact immediately:

The Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs (OFCCP)  
U.S. Department of Labor  
200 Constitution Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20210  
1-800-397-6251 (toll-free)

If you are deaf, hard of hearing, or have a speech disability, please dial 7-1-1 to access telecommunications relay services. OFCCP may also be contacted by submitting a question online to OFCCP's Help Desk at <https://ofccphelpdesk.dol.gov/s/>, or by calling an OFCCP regional or district office, listed in most telephone directories under U.S. Government, Department of Labor and on OFCCP's "Contact Us" webpage at <https://www.dol.gov/agencies/ofccp/contact>.

## PROGRAMS OR ACTIVITIES RECEIVING FEDERAL FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

### Race, Color, National Origin, Sex

In addition to the protections of Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended, Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended, prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color or national origin in programs or activities receiving Federal financial assistance. Employment discrimination is covered by Title VI if the primary objective of the financial assistance is provision of employment, or where employment discrimination causes or may cause discrimination in providing services under such programs. Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 prohibits employment discrimination on the basis of sex in educational programs or activities which receive Federal financial assistance.

### Individuals with Disabilities

Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, prohibits employment discrimination on the basis of disability in any program or activity which receives Federal financial assistance. Discrimination is prohibited in all aspects of employment against persons with disabilities who, with or without reasonable accommodation, can perform the essential functions of the job.

If you believe you have been discriminated against in a program of any institution which receives Federal financial assistance, you should immediately contact the Federal agency providing such assistance.



# Conozca sus Derechos: La Discriminación en el Lugar de Trabajo es Ilegal

La Comisión Para la Igualdad de Oportunidades en el Empleo (EEOC, por sus siglas en inglés) de los EE. UU. hace cumplir las leyes federales que lo protegen contra la discriminación en el empleo. Si cree que ha sido discriminado(a) en el trabajo o al solicitar un trabajo, la EEOC puede ayudarle.

## ¿Quién está Protegido?

- Empleados (actuales y anteriores), incluyendo gerentes y empleados temporales
- Miembros de sindicatos y Solicitantes de membresía en un sindicato
- Aplicantes de trabajo

## ¿Qué Tipos de Discriminación Laboral son Ilegales?

Según las leyes de la EEOC, un empleador no puede discriminarlo, independientemente de su estatus migratorio, por motivos de:

- Raza
- Color
- Religión
- Origen nacional
- Sexo (incluyendo embarazo, parto, y condiciones médicas relacionadas, orientación sexual o identidad de género)
- Edad (40 años o más)
- Discapacidad
- Información genética (incluyendo solicitudes del empleador para la compra, el uso o la divulgación de pruebas genéticas, servicios genéticos o historial médico familiar)
- Tomar represalias por presentar un cargo, oponerse razonablemente a la discriminación o participar en una demanda, investigación o procedimiento por discriminación
- Interferencia, coerción o amenazas relacionadas con el ejercicio de los derechos relacionados con la discriminación por discapacidad o la acomodación por embarazo

## ¿Qué Organizaciones están Cubiertas?

- La mayoría de los empleadores privados
- Instituciones educativas (como empleadores)
- Gobiernos estatales y locales (como empleadores)
- Sindicatos
- Agencias de empleo

## ¿Qué Prácticas Laborales Pueden ser Discriminatorias?

Todos los aspectos del empleo, incluyendo:

- Despidos
- Acoso (incluyendo conducta física o verbal no deseada)
- Contratación o promoción
- Asignaciones
- Remuneración (salarios desiguales o compensación)
- Falta de proporcionar adaptaciones razonables para una discapacidad; embarazo, parto o condición médica relacionada al embarazo o parto; o para la observancia o práctica de una creencia religiosa sincera
- Beneficios
- Formación profesional
- Clasificación
- Referencias
- Obtención o divulgación de información genética de los empleados
- Solicitud o divulgación de información médica de los empleados
- Conducta que podría desalentar razonablemente a alguien de oponerse a la discriminación, presentar un cargo o participar en una investigación o procedimiento
- Conducta que coaccione, intimide, amenace o interfiera con el ejercicio de sus derechos por parte de alguien, o alguien que ayude o aliente a otra persona a ejercer sus derechos, en relación con la discriminación por discapacidad (incluyendo las adaptaciones) o adaptaciones por embarazo

## ¿Qué Puede Hacer si Cree que ha Ocurrido Discriminación?

Comuníquese con la EEOC de inmediato si sospecha discriminación. No demore, porque existen límites de tiempo estrictos para presentar una denuncia por discriminación (180 o 300 días, según el lugar donde viva o trabaje). Puede comunicarse con la EEOC de cualquiera de las siguientes maneras:

**Presentar** una consulta a través del Portal Público de la EEOC: <https://publicportal.eeoc.gov/Portal/Login.aspx>

**Llame** 1-800-669-4000 (número gratuito)  
1-800-669-6820 (TTY)  
1-844-234-5122 (Video Teléfono de ASL)

**Visite** una Oficina de Campo de la EEOC (información en [www.eeoc.gov/field-office](http://www.eeoc.gov/field-office))

**Corre Electrónico:** [info@eeoc.gov](mailto:info@eeoc.gov)

Información adicional sobre la EEOC, incluyendo información sobre cómo presentar un cargo de discriminación, está disponible en [www.eeoc.gov/es](http://www.eeoc.gov/es).





## EMPLEADORES QUE TIENEN CONTRATOS O SUBCONTRATOS FEDERALES

La Oficina de Programas de Cumplimiento de Contratos Federales (OFCCP, por sus siglas en inglés) del Departamento de Trabajo hace cumplir los compromisos de no discriminación y acción afirmativa de las empresas que hacen negocios con el gobierno federal. Si está solicitando un trabajo con, o es un empleado de una empresa con un contrato o subcontrato federal, usted está protegido(a) por la ley federal contra la discriminación en las siguientes bases:

### Raza, Color, Religión, Sexo, Orientación Sexual, Identidad de Género, Origen Nacional

La Orden Ejecutiva 11246, enmendada, prohíbe la discriminación laboral por parte de los contratistas federales por motivos de raza, color, religión, sexo, orientación sexual, identidad de género u origen nacional, y requiere acción afirmativa para garantizar la igualdad de oportunidades en todos los aspectos del empleo.

### Preguntar, Divulgar o Discutir Salarios

La Orden Ejecutiva 11246, enmendada, protege a los solicitantes y empleados de contratistas federales de la discriminación basada en preguntar, divulgar o discutir su compensación o la compensación de otros solicitantes o empleados.

### Discapacidad

La Sección 503 del Acta de Rehabilitación de 1973, según enmendada, protege a las personas calificadas con discapacidades contra la discriminación en la contratación, promoción, despido, pago, beneficios complementarios, capacitación laboral, clasificación, referencias y otros aspectos del empleo por parte de contratistas federales. La discriminación por discapacidad incluye no hacer adaptaciones razonables a las limitaciones físicas o mentales conocidas de una persona con una discapacidad que de otro modo calificaría y que es un solicitante o empleado, a menos que haga una dificultad excesiva para el empleador. La Sección 503 también requiere que los contratistas federales tomen medidas afirmativas para emplear y promover a personas calificadas con discapacidades en todos los niveles de empleo, incluyendo a nivel ejecutivo.

### Estatus Protegido Como Veterano

El Acta de Asistencia para el Reajuste de los Veteranos de la Era de Vietnam de 1974, modificada, 38 U.S.C. 4212, prohíbe la discriminación laboral y requiere acción afirmativa para reclutar, emplear y avanzar en el empleo a veteranos discapacitados, veteranos recientemente separados (es decir, dentro de los tres años posteriores al su separación o liberación del servicio activo), veteranos en servicio activo en tiempo de guerra o insignia de campaña, o veteranos con medallas de servicio de las fuerzas armadas.

### Represalias

Se prohíben las represalias contra una persona que presente una queja por discriminación, participe en un procedimiento de la OFCCP o se oponga a la discriminación por parte de contratistas federales en virtud de estas leyes federales.

Cualquier persona que crea que un contratista ha violado sus obligaciones de no discriminar o acción afirmativa bajo las autoridades de la OFCCP debe comunicarse de inmediato con:

La Oficina de Programas de Cumplimiento de Contratos Federales (OFCCP),  
Departamento de Trabajo de los EE. UU.,  
200 Constitution Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20210  
1-800-397-6251 (llamada gratuita).

Si es sordo, tiene problemas de audición o tiene una discapacidad del habla, marque 7-1-1 para acceder a los servicios de retransmisión de telecomunicaciones. También se puede contactar a la OFCCP enviando una pregunta en línea a la mesa de ayuda de la OFCCP en <https://ofccphelpdesk.dol.gov/s/>, o llamando a una oficina regional o distrital de la OFCCP, que figura en la mayoría de los directorios telefónicos bajo el Departamento de Trabajo de los EE.UU y en la página web "Contáctenos" de la OFCCP en <https://www.dol.gov/agencies/ofccp/contact>.

## PROGRAMAS O ACTIVIDADES QUE RECIBEN ASISTENCIA FINANCIERA FEDERAL

### Raza, Color, Origen Nacional, Sexo

Además de las protecciones del Título VII del Acta de Derechos Civiles de 1964, según enmendada, el Título VI del Acta de Derechos Civiles de 1964, según enmendada, prohíbe la discriminación por motivos de raza, color, u origen nacional en programas o actividades que reciben asistencia financiera. La discriminación laboral está cubierta por el Título VI si el objetivo principal de la asistencia financiera es la provisión de empleo, o cuando la discriminación laboral cause o pueda causar discriminación en la prestación de servicios bajo dichos programas. El Título IX de las Enmiendas de Educación de 1972 prohíbe la discriminación laboral por razón de sexo en programas o actividades educativas que reciben asistencia financiera federal.

### Personas con Discapacidades

La Sección 504 del Acta de Rehabilitación de 1973, enmendada, prohíbe la discriminación laboral por motivos de discapacidad en cualquier programa o actividad que reciba asistencia financiera federal. Está prohibida la discriminación en todos los aspectos de empleo contra las personas con discapacidades que, con o sin ajustes razonables, pueden desempeñar las funciones esenciales del trabajo.

Si cree que ha sido discriminado(a) en un programa de cualquier institución que recibe asistencia financiera federal, debe comunicarse de inmediato con la agencia federal que brinda dicha asistencia.

(Actualizado 6/27/2023)

# Your Employee Rights Under the Family and Medical Leave Act

## What is FMLA leave?

The Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA) is a federal law that provides eligible employees with **job-protected leave** for qualifying family and medical reasons. The U.S. Department of Labor's Wage and Hour Division (WHD) enforces the FMLA for most employees.

Eligible employees can take **up to 12 workweeks** of FMLA leave in a 12-month period for:

- The birth, adoption or foster placement of a child with you,
- Your serious mental or physical health condition that makes you unable to work,
- To care for your spouse, child or parent with a serious mental or physical health condition, and
- Certain qualifying reasons related to the foreign deployment of your spouse, child or parent who is a military servicemember.

An eligible employee who is the spouse, child, parent or next of kin of a covered servicemember with a serious injury or illness **may take up to 26 workweeks** of FMLA leave in a single 12-month period to care for the servicemember.

You have the right to use FMLA leave in **one block of time**. When it is medically necessary or otherwise permitted, you may take FMLA leave **intermittently in separate blocks of time, or on a reduced schedule** by working less hours each day or week. Read Fact Sheet #28M(c) for more information.

FMLA leave is **not paid leave**, but you may choose, or be required by your employer, to use any employer-provided paid leave if your employer's paid leave policy covers the reason for which you need FMLA leave.

## Am I eligible to take FMLA leave?

You are an **eligible employee** if **all** of the following apply:

- You work for a covered employer,
- You have worked for your employer at least 12 months,
- You have at least 1,250 hours of service for your employer during the 12 months before your leave, and
- Your employer has at least 50 employees within 75 miles of your work location.

Airline flight crew employees have different "hours of service" requirements.

You work for a **covered employer** if **one** of the following applies:

- You work for a private employer that had at least 50 employees during at least 20 workweeks in the current or previous calendar year,
- You work for an elementary or public or private secondary school, or
- You work for a public agency, such as a local, state or federal government agency. Most federal employees are covered by Title II of the FMLA, administered by the Office of Personnel Management.

## How do I request FMLA leave?

Generally, to request FMLA leave you **must**:

- Follow your employer's normal policies for requesting leave,
- Give notice at least 30 days before your need for FMLA leave, or
- If advance notice is not possible, give notice as soon as possible.

You **do not have to share a medical diagnosis** but must provide enough information to your employer so they can determine whether the leave qualifies for FMLA protection. You **must also inform your employer if FMLA leave was previously taken** or approved for the same reason when requesting additional leave.

Your **employer may request certification** from a health care provider to verify medical leave and may request certification of a qualifying exigency.

The FMLA does not affect any federal or state law prohibiting discrimination or supersede any state or local law or collective bargaining agreement that provides greater family or medical leave rights.

State employees may be subject to certain limitations in pursuit of direct lawsuits regarding leave for their own serious health conditions. Most federal and certain congressional employees are also covered by the law but are subject to the jurisdiction of the U.S. Office of Personnel Management or Congress.

## What does my employer need to do?

If you are eligible for FMLA leave, your **employer must**:

- Allow you to take job-protected time off work for a qualifying reason,
- Continue your group health plan coverage while you are on leave on the same basis as if you had not taken leave, and
- Allow you to return to the same job, or a virtually identical job with the same pay, benefits and other working conditions, including shift and location, at the end of your leave.

Your **employer cannot interfere with your FMLA rights** or threaten or punish you for exercising your rights under the law. For example, your employer cannot retaliate against you for requesting FMLA leave or cooperating with a WHD investigation.

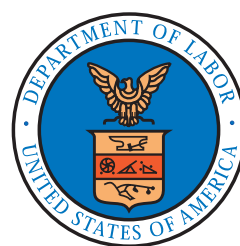
After becoming aware that your need for leave is for a reason that may qualify under the FMLA, your **employer must confirm whether you are eligible** or not eligible for FMLA leave. If your employer determines that you are eligible, your **employer must notify you in writing**:

- About your FMLA rights and responsibilities, and
- How much of your requested leave, if any, will be FMLA-protected leave.

## Where can I find more information?

Call **1-866-487-9243** or visit **dol.gov/fmla** to learn more.

If you believe your rights under the FMLA have been violated, you may file a complaint with WHD or file a private lawsuit against your employer in court. **Scan the QR code to learn about our WHD complaint process.**



**WAGE AND HOUR DIVISION**  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF LABOR





# YOUR RIGHTS UNDER USERRA

## THE UNIFORMED SERVICES EMPLOYMENT AND REEMPLOYMENT RIGHTS ACT

**USERRA protects the job rights of individuals who voluntarily or involuntarily leave employment positions to undertake military service or certain types of service in the National Disaster Medical System. USERRA also prohibits employers from discriminating against past and present members of the uniformed services, and applicants to the uniformed services.**

### REEMPLOYMENT RIGHTS

You have the right to be reemployed in your civilian job if you leave that job to perform service in the uniformed service and:

- ☆ you ensure that your employer receives advance written or verbal notice of your service;
- ☆ you have five years or less of cumulative service in the uniformed services while with that particular employer;
- ☆ you return to work or apply for reemployment in a timely manner after conclusion of service; and
- ☆ you have not been separated from service with a disqualifying discharge or under other than honorable conditions.

If you are eligible to be reemployed, you must be restored to the job and benefits you would have attained if you had not been absent due to military service or, in some cases, a comparable job.

### RIGHT TO BE FREE FROM DISCRIMINATION AND RETALIATION

If you:

- ☆ are a past or present member of the uniformed service;
- ☆ have applied for membership in the uniformed service; or
- ☆ are obligated to serve in the uniformed service;

then an employer may not deny you:

- ☆ initial employment;
- ☆ reemployment;
- ☆ retention in employment;
- ☆ promotion; or
- ☆ any benefit of employment

because of this status.

In addition, an employer may not retaliate against anyone assisting in the enforcement of USERRA rights, including testifying or making a statement in connection with a proceeding under USERRA, even if that person has no service connection.

### HEALTH INSURANCE PROTECTION

- ☆ If you leave your job to perform military service, you have the right to elect to continue your existing employer-based health plan coverage for you and your dependents for up to 24 months while in the military.
- ☆ Even if you don't elect to continue coverage during your military service, you have the right to be reinstated in your employer's health plan when you are reemployed, generally without any waiting periods or exclusions (e.g., pre-existing condition exclusions) except for service-connected illnesses or injuries.

### ENFORCEMENT

- ☆ The U.S. Department of Labor, Veterans Employment and Training Service (VETS) is authorized to investigate and resolve complaints of USERRA violations.
- ☆ For assistance in filing a complaint, or for any other information on USERRA, contact VETS at 1-866-4-USA-DOL or visit its website at <https://www.dol.gov/agencies/vets/>. An interactive online USERRA Advisor can be viewed at <https://webapps.dol.gov/elaws/vets/userra>
- ☆ If you file a complaint with VETS and VETS is unable to resolve it, you may request that your case be referred to the Department of Justice or the Office of Special Counsel, as applicable, for representation.
- ☆ You may also bypass the VETS process and bring a civil action against an employer for violations of USERRA.

The rights listed here may vary depending on the circumstances. The text of this notice was prepared by VETS, and may be viewed on the internet at this address: <https://www.dol.gov/agencies/vets/programs/userra/poster> Federal law requires employers to notify employees of their rights under USERRA, and employers may meet this requirement by displaying the text of this notice where they customarily place notices for employees.



**U.S. Department of Labor**  
1-866-487-2365



**U.S. Department of Justice**



**Office of Special Counsel**



**1-800-336-4590**

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