

# State Inspector General

## HOTLINE

### Whistleblower Retaliation

#### What Is Whistleblower Retaliation?

State Military Department, State Active Duty, State Military Reserve (SMR) and State Civil Service personnel, authorized to take, direct others to take, recommend or approve any personnel action may not take, fail to take, or threaten to take any personnel action against an employee because of protected whistleblowing.

*EXAMPLE: A supervisor directs the geographic reassignment of an employee because the employee reported safety violations to senior agency officials.*

**Definition** - Protected whistleblowing is disclosing information which the discloser reasonably believes evidences:

- a violation of law, rule, or regulation,
- gross mismanagement,
- gross waste of funds,
- an abuse of authority, or
- a substantial and specific danger to public health or safety.

#### What Can You Do If You Believe Whistleblower Retaliation Has Occurred?

If you believe that you have been subjected to retaliation for protected whistleblowing you can file a complaint with the State Military Department, State Inspector General, Hotline at 888.645.0411. The State Inspector General has the authority to investigate allegations of prohibited personnel practices by State Military Department, State Active Duty, State Military Reserve, and State Civil Service personnel. The Adjutant General may take corrective or disciplinary action when warranted.

#### For More Information Contact:

State Military Department  
State Inspector General  
9800 Goethe Road  
Sacramento, CA 95826-9101  
Telephone: 888.645.0411

#### Statutes:

CMVC 101  
Title 10, Section 1034 USC  
5 U.S.C. § 2302(b)(8)