



NASA OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL



OFFICE OF INVESTIGATIONS

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST



MAINTAIN
TRUST

“When a man assumes a public trust, he should consider himself public property.”

(Thomas Jefferson)

ABOUT THE OFFICE OF INVESTIGATIONS

WHO ARE WE?

Each Federal agency has an independent Office of Inspector General (OIG) charged with conducting objective audits and investigations, as well as preventing and detecting fraud, waste, and abuse. Within the NASA OIG, the Office of Investigations handles allegations of wrongdoing involving organizations or individuals that receive awards from, conduct business with, or work with NASA.

WHAT DO WE DO?

We investigate allegations in which NASA is the potential victim of fraud, waste, or abuse by employees, grantees, contractors, or others. We receive allegations from many sources, including proposal reviewers, Agency employees, the OIG hotline, and the public. We also handle all allegations of research misconduct involving Small Business Innovation Research and Small Business Technology Transfer (SBIR/STTR) proposals and awards.



STANDARDS OF ETHICAL CONDUCT

As a NASA employee, you have a responsibility to maintain the public's trust in the Agency, and avoid the appearance of impropriety.

Use of Government Position. As a NASA employee, you cannot use your position with the Government for your own personal gain or for the benefit of others.

Conflicting Financial Interests. You are prohibited from working on Government matters in which you, your spouse or minor child, or certain others have a financial interest.

Impartiality. In general, you should not act on a Government matter if a reasonable person who knew the circumstances of the situation could legitimately question your impartiality.

Seeking Other Employment. If you are seeking other employment—either a future position or part-time work performed in your off-duty hours—you may not work on particular matters that would affect the prospective employer's financial interest.

Outside Activities. You may not engage in outside employment or other activity if it conflicts with your NASA duties or violates a law or regulation.

Gifts from Outside Sources. Generally, you may not accept gifts that are given because of your NASA position or that come from certain "prohibited" sources.

Gifts Between Employees. Generally, you cannot give a gift to your official superior. Also, you generally cannot accept a gift from another employee who earns less pay.

CRIMINAL CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Conflicting Financial Interests (18 U.S.C. 208). You are prohibited from working on Government matters in which you, your spouse or minor child, or certain others have a financial interest. (Note: This prohibition is also discussed in the Standards of Ethical Conduct.)

Supplementation of Salary (18 U.S.C. 209). You may not be paid by someone other than the United States for performing your Government duties.

Bribery (18 U.S.C. 201). You are prohibited from accepting gratuities or bribes to influence your Government actions.

Compensation in Matters Affecting the Government (18 U.S.C. 203). You are prohibited from receiving compensation for representational activities involving certain matters in which the United States is a party or has a direct and substantial interest.

Activities in Claims and Other Matters Affecting the Government (18 U.S.C. 205). You are generally prohibited from certain involvement in claims against the United States, or from representing another before the Government in matters in which the United States is a party or has a direct and substantial interest.

Restrictions on Former Employees (18 U.S.C. 207). After you leave Government service (or leave certain high-level positions), you may encounter limitations on some post-Government activities.

BRIBERY, KICKBACKS, AND CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Bribery occurs when individuals offer, give, receive, or solicit items of value to influence the actions of an official or other person in charge of a public or legal duty. Kickback schemes involve contractors or subcontractors who secretly pay a fee in exchange for a contract. Conflict of interest violations can involve contracting or oversight officials who have an undisclosed interest in a contractor or a consultant doing business with NASA.

Indicators of potential violations include:

- A Government official with a pattern of preferential contractor treatment;
- A Government official with a lifestyle that exceeds his or her salary; and
- A Government official who socializes or has personal or outside-business relationships with contractors and their families.

NOTE: Please visit <https://www.oge.gov> and <https://www.nasa.gov/offices/ogc> for additional information.

NASA OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL
OFFICE OF INVESTIGATIONS
300 E Street SW, Washington, DC 20546-0001
202-358-1500



OFFICE LOCATIONS AND PHONE NUMBERS

NASA OIG HEADQUARTERS

Washington, DC
202-358-1500

AMES RESEARCH CENTER

Moffett Field, CA
650-604-2678 (Investigations)

ARMSTRONG FLIGHT RESEARCH CENTER

Edwards Air Force Base, CA
202-358-1001 (Investigations)

GLENN RESEARCH CENTER

Cleveland, OH
216-433-6121 (Investigations)
216-433-9714 (Audits)

GODDARD SPACE FLIGHT CENTER

Greenbelt, MD
301-286-9316 (Investigations)
301-286-0497 (Audits)

Trenton, NJ Place of Duty
609-656-2543 or 609-656-2545

JET PROPULSION LABORATORY

Pasadena, CA
202-358-1001 (Investigations)
818-354-9743 (Audits)

JOHNSON SPACE CENTER

Houston, TX
281-483-8427 (Investigations)
281-483-9572 (Audits)

KENNEDY SPACE CENTER

Kennedy Space Center, FL
321-867-4714 (Investigations)
321-867-4719 (Audits)

LANGLEY RESEARCH CENTER

Hampton, VA
757-864-3263 (Investigations)
757-864-8500 (Audits)

MARSHALL SPACE FLIGHT CENTER

Marshall Space Flight Center, AL
256-544-9188 (Investigations)
256-791-2002 (Audits)

ROCKY MOUNTAIN RESIDENT AGENCY

Greenwood Village, CO
202-358-4900 (Investigations)

STENNIS SPACE CENTER

Stennis Space Center, MS
228-688-1493 (Investigations)

NASA Policy Directive 9800.1B requires NASA employees who observe crime, fraud, waste, abuse, or mismanagement to report the observation or suspicion to the OIG. Likewise, NASA employees, contractors, grantees, programs, partners, and those receiving NASA funds are expected to cooperate fully with the OIG and its designees. To report suspected violations, contact us at one of our office locations or through our Hotline.

OIG HOTLINE

1-800-424-9183 / TDD: 1-800-535-8134

[*https://oig.nasa.gov/hotline.html*](https://oig.nasa.gov/hotline.html)

NASA Office of Inspector General
P.O. Box 23089, L'Enfant Plaza Station
Washington, DC 20026

[*https://oig.nasa.gov*](https://oig.nasa.gov)