

SCHIEBLE Christoph (HR)

From: SLOOTJES Rene (HR)
Sent: Wednesday 5 December 2012 13:50
To: SCHIEBLE Christoph (HR)
Subject: RE: Whistleblowing communication

Some suggestions. Let's see if OLAF comes up with something.
Thanks,
René

From: SCHIEBLE Christoph (HR)
Sent: Wednesday, December 05, 2012 1:32 PM
To: SLOOTJES Rene (HR)
Subject: RE: Whistleblowing communication

René

Here is my first attempt on "cases" – I started from [REDACTED] + [REDACTED] and generalised a little. [REDACTED] I didn't use as it is not really a prime example of something going the right way, as MO pointed out to me.

Maybe you have some suggestions on how to improve. As for the rest, I am waiting for the material that OLAF comes up with.

Regards

Christoph

Revelation of a serious conflict of interest

A contractual agent working in the contracts section of a service noticed that specific contracts for maintenance were regularly awarded to the same company while key documents in the file were missing. When he brought this case to the attention of his hierarchy, he received unsatisfactory answers that did not allow him to regularize the file.

The agent brought the case to the attention of OLAF whose investigation has corroborated the initial elements reported by the whistleblowing and unveiled a serious conflict of interest between the head of the service and an outside contractor. The head of service never discovered the identity of the whistleblower.

Protection of a whistleblower

An official became aware of factual indices pointing at a potential serious breach of financial rules by a colleague. Based on these indices, he established a report to his hierarchy who transmitted the information to OLAF.

The person implicated by the potential wrongdoings discovered the reporting and filed a criminal lawsuit for defamation against the official.

As there were no indications that the official had acted in bad faith, the employing institution ensured protection from the criminal proceedings by turning down the request of the criminal authorities to waive the immunity of the official.

From: SLOOTJES Rene (HR)
Sent: Monday, November 26, 2012 11:24 AM
To: WILLIAMS Karen (HR); SCHIEBLE Christoph (HR)
Subject: Whistleblowing communication

Following the meeting at the cabinet, some follow-up is required.

Case studies

Name of a 'happy whistleblower'

Names of two ethics correspondents

Transmission notes to EP

I suggest the following:

Christoph, can you prepare some case studies? Examples that spring to mind: [REDACTED] (MO) – source is a whistleblower. [REDACTED] (MO) – whistleblowers were protected against counterclaim. [REDACTED] (MO) – refusal to waive immunity of a whistleblower. Maybe OLAF has more, Anton Penneman is a good contact for this.

Karen, can you contact OLAF at director level for the second point? To get the name of a whistleblower who is willing to speak to the press is a bit delicate.

I will do a transmission note and call two ethics correspondents.

René