

ENVIRONMENTAL RESEARCH AND EDUCATION FOUNDATION

Whistleblower Protection Policy

The Environmental Research and Education Foundation (EREF) requires directors, officers and employees to observe high standards of business and personal ethics in the conduct of their duties and responsibilities. As employees and representatives of the EREF, honesty and integrity must be practiced in fulfilling responsibilities and complying with all applicable laws and regulations.

Reporting Responsibility

This Whistleblower Policy is intended to encourage and enable employees and others to raise serious concerns internally so that EREF can address and correct inappropriate conduct and actions. It is the responsibility of all board members, officers, employees and volunteers to report concerns about violations of EREF's code of ethics or suspected violations of law or regulations that govern EREF's operations.

No Retaliation

It is contrary to the values of EREF for anyone to retaliate against any board member, officer, employee or volunteer who in good faith reports an ethics violation, or a suspected violation of law, such as a complaint of discrimination, or suspected fraud, or suspected violation of any regulation governing the operations of EREF. An employee who retaliates against someone who has reported a violation in good faith is subject to discipline up to and including termination of employment.

Reporting Procedure

EREF has an open door policy and suggests that employees share their questions, concerns, suggestions or complaints with their supervisor. If you are not comfortable speaking with your supervisor or you are not satisfied with your supervisor's response, you are encouraged to speak with the President or a Board Member. Employees are required to report complaints or concerns about suspected ethical and legal violations in writing to the President or, if the President is not appropriate, the Chairman of the Board who has the responsibility to investigate all reported complaints.

Compliance Representative

The EREF President is responsible for ensuring that all complaints about unethical or illegal conduct are investigated and resolved. The President will advise the Board of Directors of all complaints and their resolution, including compliance activity relating to accounting or alleged financial improprieties.

Accounting and Auditing Matters

The President shall immediately notify the Secretary-Treasurer of any concerns or complaint regarding corporate accounting practices, internal controls or auditing and work with the committee until the matter is resolved.

Acting in Good Faith

Anyone filing a written complaint concerning a violation or suspected violation must be acting in good faith and have reasonable grounds for believing the information disclosed indicates a violation. Any allegations that prove not to be substantiated and which prove to have been made maliciously or knowingly to be false will be viewed as a serious disciplinary offense.

Confidentiality

Violations or suspected violations may be submitted on a confidential basis by the complainant. Reports of violations or suspected violations will be kept confidential to the extent possible, consistent with the need to conduct an adequate investigation.

Handling of Reported Violations

The President will notify the person who submitted a complaint and acknowledge receipt of the reported violation or suspected violation. All reports will be promptly investigated and appropriate corrective action will be taken if warranted by the investigation.

Bryan F. Staley
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Policy approved by the Board of Directors on December 1, 2016