



**State of Alaska
Department of Labor and Workforce Development
Division of Labor Standards and Safety**

AKOSH Program Directive #12-04

Date: June 27, 2012
To: All AKOSH Staff
From: Grey Mitchell, Director
Subject: **AKOSH Whistleblower Investigation Manual**

Purpose:

This directive sets forth and implements policy, procedures and other information on the handling of discrimination complaints by the AKOSH Whistleblower Investigator. Specifically, it deals with the rights of employees afforded under Alaska Statute 18.60.089. The Alaska Statute provides protections similar to those of section 11(c) of the federal Occupational Safety and Health Act which prohibits reprisals, in any form, against employees who exercise rights under the federal Act. The AKOSH Whistleblower Investigation Manual is adjusted to fit the needs of AKOSH.

This notice is effective immediately and cancels and replaces AKOSH Program Directive 06-02. This directive will be posted on the AKOSH Program Directive link located at: [AKOSH Whistleblower Investigation Manual, June 2012](#)

This Program Directive is an internal guideline not a statutory or regulatory rule and is intended to provide instructions to AKOSH personnel regarding internal operation of the Alaska Occupational Safety and Health Program and is solely for the benefit of the program.

Scope:

This Program Directive applies AKOSH-wide and specifically to the AKOSH Whistleblower Investigator.

Note:

The federal Office of the Whistleblower Protections Program (OWPP) has the responsibility of investigating retaliation allegations within Federal Occupation Safety and Health (OSHA) jurisdiction. Federal OSHA investigates whistleblower and retaliation allegations for more than

twenty one other federal statutes that protect employees who report violations of various airline, commercial motor carrier, consumer product, environmental, financial reform, food safety, health care reform, nuclear, pipeline, public transportation agency, railroad, maritime and national transit securities laws. Due to the frequent amendments and additional statutes added to federal responsibility, AKOSH personnel should refer to the federal Whistleblower Investigations Manual for a complete list of the statutes investigated. Additional information may also be available from OSHA's Office of the Whistleblower Protections Program (OWPP) website located at: <http://www.whistleblowers.gov>

Attachment: AKOSH Whistleblower Investigation Manual, June 2012

CC: Dean Ikeda, Regional Administrator, USDOL, Region X, OSHA
Dave Mahlum, Deputy Regional Administrator, USDOL, Region X, OSHA
Andrea Reid, State Program Manager, USDOL, Region X, OSHA
Steve Gossman, Assistant Regional Administrator, Region X, OSHA
Lyn Lorenz, FSO Secretary, USDOL, Region X, OSHA
Scott Ketcham, Alaska Area Director, USDOL, Region X, OSHA, Anchorage
Shannon Devon, Regulations Specialist II, AKOSH