[Candidate Name] [Address Line 1] [Address Line 2]

## Dear [Candidate Name],

The National Whistleblower Center (NWC) is a non-partisan, non-profit entity devoted to educating citizens on issues of interest to the domestic and international whistleblower communities. The positions you hold on the issues identified in the enclosed survey questionnaire are of critical importance to the whistleblower community. A 2020 Marist Poll conducted on behalf of the NWC found that whistleblower protection is supported by over 80% of likely voters, with 1 in 4 stating that a candidate's position on whistleblowing would impact their voting decision. In 2008, a similar survey found nearly identical results and reported that whistleblowing was the second most important issue on which likely voters wanted Congress to focus. Whistleblowers represent a unique demographic that cuts through age, race, party affiliation, sexual orientation, and nationality. The voter demographics who scored highest on this issue were Independents, Democrats who would consider voting Republican, and Republicans who would consider voting Democrat. These results highlight the bipartisan nature of those who pledge loyalty to truth over power. Whistleblowing is not just a political issue but a voter issue, especially for those whose votes are seeking leadership attune to addressing fraud and corruption regardless of party affiliation.

Drawing on our years of experience working with whistleblowers and assisting with whistleblower legislation, we have constructed a survey asking you to acknowledge whether you agree or disagree with the statements regarding whistleblower issues. The survey includes the option to comment on each provision and provide a general statement regarding your position on whistleblowers.

Your prompt response to this survey is of great importance. Please complete, sign, and return it to National Whistleblower Center at 3238 P St., Washington, D.C., 20007, or via email at info@whistleblowers.org by <u>October 15<sup>th</sup></u>. We will then release a national press release announcing your responses. If no response has been collected, we will be compelled to report that you failed to respond to the crucial issues set forth in the survey.

Your survey response will be announced to the national press, sent to our email list of 275,600 supporters, and posted on National Whistleblower Center's website (172,000 users annually) and published by the Whistleblower Network News (76,000 users annually) and distributed as widely as possible. It is important to note that 66,897 of the supporters on our email list reside in the eight major swing states for this election.

As a non-partisan, non-profit, tax-exempt education and advocacy organization, the NWC is committed to serving the public interest. To learn more about our work, please see the <u>C-SPAN</u> coverage of our 11<sup>th</sup> annual National Whistleblower Day celebration on Capitol Hill from July 30<sup>th</sup>, 2024, and by visiting our website at www.whistleblower.org.

We look forward to your response to the survey and thank you in advance for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Siri Turner

Executive Director of National Whistleblower Center

Stephen M. Kohn

Co-Founder and current Board Chairperson of the National Whistleblower Center

Michael D. Kohn

Co-Founder and current President National Whistleblower Center

**Sherron Watkins** 

Enron Whistleblower

Jane Turner

FBI Whistleblower

Bunnatine "Bunny" Greenhouse

Army Corps of Engineers Whistleblower

Dr. Aaron Westrick

Law Enforcement Whistleblower Fraud

Dr. Frederic Whitehurst

FBI Whistleblower

## PRESIDENTIAL SURVEY

This survey is being conducted by the National Whistleblower Center (NWC), a fiercely non-partisan organization dedicated to educating the whistleblower community about issues of critical importance to that community. What positions the 2024 presidential candidates hold on issues of greatest concern to the whistleblower community are often missing from the national dialogue. The results, or failure to respond, will be formally released online by the NWC. The Whistleblower News Network has agreed to publish the full results and widely disseminated for republication.

Does the Candidate Agree or Disagree with the following statements:

		Agree	Disagree	Comments
1.	I believe that whistleblowers deserve robust legal protections.			
2.	I would support carefully worded legislation aimed at prohibiting corporations from silencing whistleblowers with non-disclosure agreements.			
3.	I support the passage of S.625, ; S. 811, S. 2500 and S. 4655, all of which are bipartisan efforts aimed at addressing shortcomings in existing federal whistleblower programs.			
4.	I will ensure implementation of <u>Senate</u> <u>Resolution 793</u> (whistleblower education and appreciation requirements), unanimously passed by the U.S. Senate on July 31, 2024.			
5.	I acknowledge that the Project 2025 recommendation to establish a "Schedule F" category for federal employees would strip those employees of whistleblower protections and therefore I do not accept that recommendation.			
6.	Federal agencies should fully implement the United States Strategy on Countering Corruption, including all of the whistleblower provisions outlined in that Strategy. <sup>ii</sup>			

7.	I support providing the funding necessary to permit the federal whistleblower programs (specifically those administered by the Office of Special Counsel, SEC, CFTC, FinCEN, and the IRS) to expeditiously investigate and more quickly issue awards to whistleblowers. iii			
8.	I will appoint a senior member of the White House staff to act as a liaison to the whistleblower community. <sup>iv</sup>			
Signat	ure of Candidate		Date	
PROT	SE FEEL FREE TO INCLUDE A GENERAL S ECTING, AWARDING AND DEFENDING W EMENT WILL BE PUBLISHED WITH THE S	VHISTL	EBLOWERS. YOUR	ITION ON

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> <u>S.Res.793</u>, a resolution designating July 30, 2024, as "National Whistleblower Appreciation Day," is a bipartisan noncontroversial resolution which has been unanimously adopted for the past decade. It commemorates the anniversary of the United States' first whistleblower law, celebrates the contributions of whistleblowers and urges federal agencies to adopt educational programming informing employees of their whistleblower rights. It was sponsored by Senators Chuck Grassley (R-IA) and Ron Wyden (D-OR) and cosponsored by the twenty other Senators who make up the Senate Whistleblower Protection Caucus.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>ii</sup> The <u>United States Strategy on Countering Corruption</u> includes a number of provisions requiring federal agencies to "stand in solidarity" with whistleblowers and leverage whistleblower information in enforcement efforts.

iii These whistleblower programs have been immense successes and have become critical components of their respective agency's enforcement efforts, leading directly to billions of dollars in collected funds from fraudsters. Given the number and amount of sanctions generated by these programs, they are hugely successful and ultimately profitable but require consistent funding and support to ensure cash flow needed to allow the programs to remain profitable and successful.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>iv</sup> Continued engagement between the White House and the whistleblower community would help ensure that concerns related to whistleblowing are heard and addressed, furthering transparency and accountability.