

“A final order of the Board may impose disciplinary action consisting of removal, reduction in grade, debarment from Federal employment for a period not to exceed 5 years, suspension, reprimand, or an assessment of a civil penalty not to exceed \$1,000.”

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2012 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 112-199 effective 30 days after Nov. 27, 2012, see section 202 of Pub. L. 112-199, set out as a note under section 1204 of this title.

**§ 1216. Other matters within the jurisdiction of the Office of Special Counsel**

(a) In addition to the authority otherwise provided in this chapter, the Special Counsel shall, except as provided in subsection (b), conduct an investigation of any allegation concerning—

(1) political activity prohibited under subchapter III of chapter 73, relating to political activities by Federal employees;

(2) political activity prohibited under chapter 15, relating to political activities by certain State and local officers and employees;

(3) arbitrary or capricious withholding of information prohibited under section 552, except that the Special Counsel shall make no investigation of any withholding of foreign intelligence or counterintelligence information the disclosure of which is specifically prohibited by law or by Executive order;

(4) activities prohibited by any civil service law, rule, or regulation, including any activity relating to political intrusion in personnel decisionmaking; and

(5) involvement by any employee in any prohibited discrimination found by any court or appropriate administrative authority to have occurred in the course of any personnel action.

(b) The Special Counsel shall make no investigation of any allegation of any prohibited activity referred to in subsection (a)(5), if the Special Counsel determines that the allegation may be resolved more appropriately under an administrative appeals procedure.

(c) If the Special Counsel receives an allegation concerning any matter under paragraph (1), (3), (4), or (5) of subsection (a), the Special Counsel may investigate and seek corrective action under section 1214 and disciplinary action under section 1215 in the same way as if a prohibited personnel practice were involved.

(Added Pub. L. 101-12, §3(a)(13), Apr. 10, 1989, 103 Stat. 28; amended Pub. L. 103-94, §3, Oct. 6, 1993, 107 Stat. 1004.)

AMENDMENTS

1993—Subsec. (c). Pub. L. 103-94 amended subsec. (c) generally. Prior to amendment, subsec. (c) read as follows:

“(1) If an investigation by the Special Counsel under subsection (a)(1) substantiates an allegation relating to any activity prohibited under section 7324, the Special Counsel may petition the Merit Systems Protection Board for any penalties provided for under section 7325.

“(2) If the Special Counsel receives an allegation concerning any matter under paragraph (3), (4), or (5) of subsection (a), the Special Counsel may investigate and seek corrective action under section 1214 in the same way as if a prohibited personnel practice were involved.”

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1993 AMENDMENT; SAVINGS PROVISION

Amendment by Pub. L. 103-94 effective 120 days after Oct. 6, 1993, but not to release or extinguish any pen-

alty, forfeiture, or liability incurred under amended provision, which is to be treated as remaining in force for purpose of that penalty, forfeiture, or liability, and no provision of Pub. L. 103-94 to affect any proceedings with respect to which charges were filed on or before 120 days after Oct. 6, 1993, with orders to be issued in such proceedings and appeals taken therefrom as if Pub. L. 103-94 had not been enacted, see section 12 of Pub. L. 103-94, set out as an Effective Date; Savings Provision note under section 7321 of this title.

**§ 1217. Transmittal of information to Congress**

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Special Counsel or any employee of the Special Counsel designated by the Special Counsel, shall transmit to the Congress on the request of any committee or subcommittee thereof, by report, testimony, or otherwise, information and the Special Counsel’s views on functions, responsibilities, or other matters relating to the Office. Such information shall be transmitted concurrently to the President and any other appropriate agency in the executive branch.

(b) ADDITIONAL REPORT REQUIRED.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—If an allegation submitted to the Special Counsel is resolved by an agreement between an agency and an individual, the Special Counsel shall submit to Congress and each congressional committee with jurisdiction over the agency a report regarding the agreement.

(2) CONTENTS.—Any report required under paragraph (1) shall identify, with respect to an agreement described in that paragraph—

(A) the agency that entered into the agreement;

(B) the position and employment location of the employee who submitted the allegation that formed the basis of the agreement, provided the information is not so specific as to be reasonably likely to identify the employee;

(C) the position and employment location of any employee alleged by an employee described in subparagraph (B) to have committed a prohibited personnel practice, as defined in section 2302(a)(1);

(D) a description of the allegation described in subparagraph (B); and

(E) whether the agency that entered into the agreement has agreed to pursue any disciplinary action as a result of the allegation described in subparagraph (B).

(Added Pub. L. 101-12, §3(a)(13), Apr. 10, 1989, 103 Stat. 28; Pub. L. 115-91, div. A, title X, §1097(h)(3), Dec. 12, 2017, 131 Stat. 1625.)

AMENDMENTS

2017—Pub. L. 115-91 designated existing provisions as subsec. (a), inserted heading, and added subsec. (b).

**§ 1218. Annual report**

The Special Counsel shall submit to Congress, on an annual basis, a report regarding the activities of the Special Counsel, which shall include, for the year preceding the submission of the report—

(1) the number, types, and disposition of allegations of prohibited personnel practices filed with the Special Counsel and the costs of resolving such allegations;