HOW CAN I REPORT FRAUD, WASTE, ABUSE, AND MISMANAGEMENT?

FraudNet is available online or by telephone for the public to report government fraud, waste, abuse, or mismanagement of federal funds.

FraudNet:
- Refers allegations to the appropriate authorities
- Helps other agencies establish and operate hotlines
- Supports congressional investigations

FRAUD IS ATTEMPTING TO OBTAIN SOMETHING OF VALUE THROUGH WILLFUL MISREPRESENTATION

- Using an agency computer to download sexually explicit material
- Buying a digital music player for "official data storage"
- Writing technical specifications or contract terms to favor a specific contractor

WASTE IS SQUANDERING MONEY OR RESOURCES, EVEN IF NOT EXPLICITLY ILLEGAL

- Buying overpriced office equipment from a favored vendor
- Buying unnecessary equipment for personal use or gain
- Directing agency staff to discard computers rather than donating them to local schools

ABUSE IS BEHAVING IMPROPERLY OR UNREASONABLY, OR MISUSING ONE'S POSITION OR AUTHORITY

- Using an agency computer to download sexually explicit materials
- Writing technical specifications or contract terms to favor a specific contractor
- Buying a digital music player for "official data storage"

MISMANAGEMENT IS CREATING A SUBSTANTIAL RISK TO AN AGENCY’S ABILITY TO ACCOMPLISH ITS MISSION

- Continuing to pay utility bills for formerly leased office space
- Stockpiling equipment beyond its shelf-life
- Inflating hours billed to an agency for IT support

THE IMPACT OF FRAUD, WASTE, ABUSE, AND MISMANAGEMENT IS FELT GOVERNMENT-WIDE.

The public sent 10,989 complaints to FraudNet in FY 2018.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Allegations</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fraud</td>
<td>584</td>
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<tr>
<td>Waste</td>
<td>523</td>
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<tr>
<td>Abuse</td>
<td>376</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mismanagement</td>
<td>399</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other types of allegations</td>
<td>323</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Only the judicial system can determine whether an act is indeed fraud.

For example, $2.8 Billion was recovered by the Department of Justice in FY 2018 from civil cases involving fraud.

GOVERNMENT AGENCIES THAT TRACK AND RECOVER DAMAGES FROM FRAUD, WASTE, ABUSE, AND MISMANAGEMENT HAVE A BIG JOB.

The public sent 10,989 complaints to FraudNet in FY 2018.

1,200 of those complaints were considered to be allegations worth pursuing.

FraudNet is GAO’s hotline for the public to report government fraud, waste, abuse, or mismanagement of federal funds.