



<b>SUBJECT:</b> Whistleblower Policy  <b>Responsible Authority:</b> Asst. VP Finance and Administration, FAU Foundation  <b>Scope:</b> Defines the FAU Foundation's policies concerning the submission of concerns regarding questionable matters and the receipt, retention and treatment of such complaints. The policy deals with the protection from retaliatory actions resulting from whistleblowing.	<b>Effective Date:</b> 3/16/2016	<b>Policy Number:</b> 17	
	<b>Supersedes:</b> 1/11/2012	<b>Page</b> 1	<b>Of</b> 4

**General:**

The Florida Atlantic University Foundation, Inc. Code of Conduct (hereinafter referred to as the Code) requires directors, other volunteers, and employees to observe high standards of business and personal ethics in the conduct of their duties and responsibilities. Employees and representatives of the organization must practice honesty and integrity in fulfilling their responsibilities and comply with all applicable laws and regulations.

The objectives of the Florida Atlantic University Foundation, Inc. Whistleblower Policy are to establish policies and procedures for:

- The submission of concerns regarding questionable accounting or audit matters by employees, directors, officers, and other stakeholders of the organization, on a confidential and anonymous basis.
- The receipt, retention, and treatment of complaints received by the organization regarding accounting, internal controls, or auditing matters.
- The protection of directors, volunteers and employees reporting concerns from retaliatory actions.

**Reporting Responsibility**

Each director, volunteer, and employee of Florida Atlantic University Foundation, Inc. has an obligation to report in accordance with this Whistleblower Policy (a) questionable or improper accounting or auditing matters, and (b) violations and suspected violations of Florida Atlantic University Foundation, Inc.'s Code (hereinafter collectively referred to as Concerns).

## **Authority of Audit Committee**

All reported Concerns will be forwarded to the Audit Committee in accordance with the procedures set forth herein. The Audit Committee shall be responsible for investigating, and making appropriate recommendations to the Board of Directors, with respect to all reported concerns.

## **No Retaliation**

This Whistleblower Policy is intended to encourage and enable directors, volunteers, and employees to raise Concerns within the Organization for investigation and appropriate action. With this goal in mind, no director, volunteer, or employee who, in good faith, reports a Concern shall be subject to retaliation or, in the case of an employee, adverse employment consequences. Moreover, a volunteer or employee who retaliates against someone who has reported a Concern in good faith is subject to discipline up to and including dismissal from the volunteer position or termination of employment.

## **Reporting Concerns**

### **Employees**

Employees should first discuss their Concern with their immediate supervisor. If, after speaking with his or her supervisor, the individual continues to have reasonable grounds to believe the Concern is valid, the individual should report the Concern to the Chief Executive Officer. In addition, if the individual is uncomfortable speaking with his or her supervisor, or the supervisor is a subject of the Concern, the individual should report his or her Concern directly to the Chief Executive Officer.

If the Concern was reported verbally to the Chief Executive Officer, the reporting individual, with assistance from the Chief Executive Officer, shall reduce the Concern to writing. The Chief Executive Officer is required to promptly report the Concern to the Chair of the Audit Committee, which has specific and exclusive responsibility to investigate all Concerns. If the Chief Executive Officer, for any reason, does not promptly forward the Concern to the Audit Committee, the reporting individual should directly report the Concern to the University Inspector General who will report to the Chair of the Audit Committee. Contact information for the Chair of the Audit Committee may be obtained through the FAU Foundation Website. Concerns may be also be submitted anonymously. Such anonymous Concerns should be in writing and sent directly to the Chair of the Audit Committee.

### **Directors and Other Volunteers**

Directors and other volunteers should submit Concerns in writing, or use the confidential website which reports directly to the University's Inspector General.

## **Handling of Reported Violations**

The Audit Committee shall address all reported Concerns. The Chair of the Audit Committee shall immediately notify the Audit Committee, the Board Chair, and the Chief Executive Officer of any such report. The Chair of the Audit Committee will notify the sender and acknowledge receipt of the Concern within ten business days, if possible. It will not be possible to acknowledge receipt of anonymously submitted Concerns.

All reports will be promptly investigated by the Audit Committee, and appropriate corrective action will be recommended to the Board of Directors, if warranted by the investigation. In addition, action taken must include a conclusion and/or follow-up with the complainant for complete closure of the Concern.

The Audit Committee will bring the recommendation to the Executive Committee which will make the decisions concerning whether to retain outside legal counsel, accountants, private investigators, or any other resource deemed necessary to conduct a full and complete investigation of the allegations.

## **Acting in Good Faith**

Anyone reporting a Concern must act in good faith and have reasonable grounds for believing the information disclosed indicates an improper accounting or auditing practice, or a violation of the Codes. After review from the FAU Foundation Audit Committee, if they determine that the allegations proves to be unsubstantiated, and proves to have been made maliciously, recklessly, or with the foreknowledge that the allegations are false, it will be viewed as a serious disciplinary offense and may result in discipline, up to and including dismissal from the volunteer position or termination of employment. Such conduct may also give rise to other actions, including civil lawsuits.

## **Confidentiality**

Reports of Concerns, and investigation pertaining thereto, shall be kept confidential to the extent possible, consistent with the need to conduct an adequate investigation.

Disclosure of reports of Concerns to individuals not involved in the investigation will be viewed as a serious disciplinary offense and may result in discipline, up to and including termination of employment. Such conduct may also give rise to other actions, including civil lawsuits.

This is the website for submitting a completely anonymous report.

<https://fauf.fau.edu/whistleblower/>

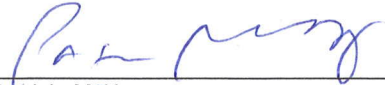
---

**FAU Foundation**

*Initiating Authority:  
Interim Chief Executive Officer*

Signature:  Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Name: David Kian

*Chairman*

Signature:  Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Name: Patricia McKay

*Asst. VP Finance and Administration*

Signature:  Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Name: Sharon Brown