The news this week was full of the latest whistle-blowing by Jan R. Frye, deputy assistant secretary for acquisitions and logistics of the troubled VA, alleging a pattern of illegal contracts and other purchases causing the agency to misappropriate at least $5 billion yearly.

Whistle-blowing, an employee's ability to raise issues, either inside or outside the organization, relating to his or her employer's illegal actions such as securities violations, tax fraud, safety violations and so on, can be a risky and courageous move. A whistle-blower brought down Enron, for example.

What does this mean for you? If you're a manager, you need to respect such claims raised by your employees by not retaliating after they're made such complaints by engaging in discipline, transfers or terminations if you're doing so as a result of their concerns. In fact, you should take such action only after consulting with HR or legal and making sure that they understand the full scope of the complaint. If you're an employee, it's not easy to be a whistle-blower, but there are actually some federal statutes that offer rewards for your bravery in some situations.

If you're interested, take the day off and watch some of the great whistle-blower movies out there: Russell Crowe in The Insider, John Travolta in A Civil Action, or Julia Roberts in Erin Brockovich. Tell your boss I said so.

MORE TIPS ON WORKPLACE SOLUTIONS

Lynne Eisaguirre 2015. All rights reserved.

For additional information on this and many other workplace related topics go to Workplaces That Work website

FIND THESE INSIGHTS VALUABLE?
SHARE THEM WITH OTHERS.
See what's happening on our social sites

Facebook
Twitter

Forward this email

This email was sent to jo@workplacesthatwork.com by lynne@workplacesthatwork.com | Update Profile/Email Address | Rapid removal with SafeUnsubscribe™ | Privacy Policy.

Try it FREE today.

Workplaces That Work | 1942 Broadway | Suite 314 | Boulder | CO | 80302