

U.S. OFFICE OF SPECIAL COUNSEL
1730 M Street, N.W., Suite US
Washington D.C. 20036450

February 11, 2004

Peter H. Noone, Esq.
Avery Dooley Post & Avery, LLP
Attorneys At Law
90 Concord Avenue
Belmont, MA 02478

Re: OSC File No, MA-04-0864, Teresa Chambers

Dear Mr. Noone:

This letter responds to your complaint to the U.S. Office of Special Counsel on behalf of your client, Teresa Chambers. You complained that U.S. Park Police Chief Chambers received a removal proposal in reprisal for making protected disclosures and engaging in protected First Amendment speech.

Based on the information you provided, we have concluded that reasonable grounds exist to refer your allegations for further investigation by our Investigation and Prosecution Division. Your request for a stay of Ms. Chambers' removal is still under consideration. Please contact us if Chief Chambers receives a decision on the proposal to remove her from the service.

A Special Counsel Attorney or Investigator will contact you shortly to continue the inquiry.

Because you alleged reprisal for whistleblowing, you may have the following rights. You may seek corrective action from the Merit Systems Protection Board under the provisions of 5 U.S.C. §§ 1214(a)(3) and 1221 (individual right of action) for any personnel action taken or proposed to be taken against you because of a protected disclosure that was the subject of your complaint to this Office. If the Special Counsel notifies you that it has terminated the investigation of your allegation of reprisal for whistleblowing, you will have 65 days within which to file a request for corrective action with the Board.

You may also file an individual right of action with the Board after 120 days have elapsed after seeking corrective action from the Special Counsel if the whistleblower reprisal complaint is still pending before the Special Counsel and you have not been informed that the Special Counsel will seek corrective action on your behalf.

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The Merit Systems Protection Board regulations concerning rights to file a corrective action case with the Board can be found at 5 C.F.R., Part 1209.

Leonard Dribinsky
Associate Special Counsel For
Complaints and Disclosure Analysis