

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

July 12, 2017

Major General Stephen L. Danner
Adjutant General
Missouri National Guard
2302 Militia Drive
Jefferson City, MO 65101

Dear Major General Danner:

As you may know, the Department of Defense Office of Inspector General (DOD IG) recently completed an investigation in June 2017 related to Michael Sandknop, a former Missouri National Guard contractor for Bio-Medical Personnel Services Incorporated (BPSI). Mr. Sandknop was hired as a Multimedia Specialist by BPSI in September 2013. In February 2014, Mr. Sandknop was placed on unpaid administrative leave and later discharged. The DOD IG substantiated Mr. Sandknop's allegations that the adverse employment actions taken against him were made in retaliation for protected disclosures under U.S.C. 10 § 2409.¹

Based on its findings of retaliation, the DOD IG directed National Guard Bureau officials to consider appropriate action against BPSI and any possible successor in interest. The DOD IG also directed the National Guard Bureau to order BPSI or any possible successor in interest to reinstate Complainant to the position he held prior to the reprisal, correct Complainant's personnel record to expunge the February 4, 2014, termination letter from his file, and award compensatory damages (including back pay), employment benefits, and other terms and conditions of employment that would apply to Complainant in that position if the reprisal had not been taken.

In light of these recommendations, we respectfully request that you provide the following information:

1. Please indicate whether the Missouri National Guard intends to accept the DOD IG's findings;
2. Please explain what steps the MONG will take to implement the report's recommendations;
3. Please provide documentation describing the training provided to managers to handle whistleblower complaints, the whistleblower complaint review process,

¹ Department of Defense Office of Inspector General, *Bio-Medical Personnel Services Missouri National Guard Public Office Whistleblower Retaliation Investigation* (DODIG-2017-083) (June 6, 2017).

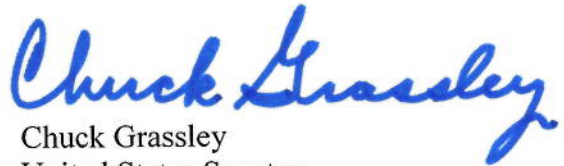
and any changes related to whistleblower complaints you plan to make going forward.

Please provide this information as soon as possible but no later than August 1, 2017. If you have any questions regarding this letter, please ask your staff to contact Saundra Shropshire at Saundra_Shropshire@hsgac.senate.gov or at (202) 224-2630.

Sincerely,



Claire McCaskill
United States Senator



Chuck Grassley
United States Senator