Office of Inspector General



November 18, 2024

The Honorable Charles E. Grassley Ranking Member Committee on the Budget U.S. Senate Washington, DC 20510

Re: EEO Complaints

Dear Senator Grassley:

Thank you for the opportunity to respond to your November 5, 2024, letter regarding EEO complaints, particularly sexual harassment complaints, filed against PBGC OIG employees. What follows are your questions and requests and our responses to them.

1. Please provide the number of Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) complaints against OIG employees your office has received in the past five years. How many of those involved an element of sexual harassment?

PBGC OIG response: We have not received any EEO complaints, including those with an element of sexual harassment, against OIG employees in the past five years. Also, PBGC's Office of Equal Employment Opportunity (OEEO) would receive and investigate EEO complaints against PBGC OIG employees. We confirmed with OEEO that it has not received any EEO complaints, including those with an element of sexual harassment, against OIG employees in the past five years.

2. Please provide the total amount of payments used to settle all sexual harassment complaints against OIG employees within your office for the last five years and the funding sources for those payments.

PBGC OIG response: Because no sexual harassment complaints have been filed against OIG employees for the last five years, no payments have been made to settle any such complaints.

3. Have you reimbursed the Judgment Fund for all necessary payments? If not, why not?

PBGC OIG response: Because no sexual harassment complaints have been filed against OIG employees during the last five years, no necessary payments have been made for which reimbursement was sought from the Judgment Fund.

4. Please list all outside counsel or private law firms retained or used by your office for sexual harassment claims against OIG employees for the last five years. For each, list the amount of taxpayer money received and the services rendered.

PBGC OIG response: Because no sexual harassment complaints have been filed against OIG employees during the last five years, no outside counsel or private law firm was retained or used for sexual harassment claims.

5. Did all NDAs include the anti-gag whistleblower provision?

PBGC OIG response: Because no sexual harassment complaints have been filed against OIG employees during the last five years, no agreement with an NDA was ever completed to settle such a complaint.

6. How many sexual harassment investigations into OIG employees have lasted longer than the allowed time of 180 days?

PBGC OIG response: Because no sexual harassment complaints have been filed against OIG employees during the last five years, neither OIG nor OEEO have investigated such a complaint in that time.

Thank you for the opportunity to address this important matter. If you have any questions, please call me at (202) 355-2980.

Sincerely,

Nicholas J. Novak Inspector General

cc: Jace Pimentel