



FRAUD, WASTE, and ABUSE (FW&A)

FRAUD is any intentional deception designed to unlawfully deprive the Air Force of something of value or to secure from the Air Force for an individual a benefit, privilege, allowance or consideration to which he or she is not entitled. Such practices include, but are not limited to:

- The offer, payment, acceptance of bribes or gratuities or evading or corrupting inspectors or other officials.
- Making false statements, submitting false claims or using false weights or measures.
- Deceit, either by suppressing the truth or misrepresenting material facts, or to deprive the Air Force of something of value.
- Adulterating or substituting materials, falsifying records and books of accounts.
 - Conspiring to carry out any of the above actions.

The term also includes conflict of interest cases, criminal irregularities, and the unauthorized disclosure of official information relating to procurement and disposal matters. This definition can include any theft or diversion of resources for personal or commercial gain.

WASTE is the extravagant, careless, or needless expenditure of Air Force funds or the consumption of Air Force property that results from deficient practices, systems controls, or decisions. The term also includes improper practices not involving prosecutable fraud.

ABUSE is intentional, wrongful, or improper use of Air Force resources. Examples include misuse of rank, position, or authority that causes the loss or misuse of resources such as tools, vehicles, computers, or copy machines.

AGENCY	DSN	COMM
Department of the Air Force (ref: AFI 90-301)	227-1061	(800) 538-8429
Department of Defense (ref: AFI 90-301)	223-5080	(800) 424-9098
Wright-Patterson AFB (OPR: 88 ABW/IG)	986-2397	(937) 656-2397
Air Force District of Washington (OPR: AFDW/IG)	612-6471	(242) 612-6471
National Air & Space Intelligence Center (OPR: NASIC/IG)	674-0311	(937) 904-0311

AFI 90-301 formalizes Air Force commitment to prevent and eliminate FW&A. Air Force military and civilian members have a duty to report FW&A, mismanagement, a violation of any Air Force instruction, an injustice, deficiency, or like condition, to a superior or commander in their chain of command, to an Inspector General (IG) or other appropriate inspector, or within any established grievance channel. Fraud, Waste, and Abuse complaints may be reported to the AF Audit Agency, AF Office of Special Investigations (AFOSI), Security Forces, or other proper authority. Promptly advise the AFOSI of suspected criminal misconduct or fraud.

Complaints should attempt to resolve FW&A issues and complaints at the lowest possible level using command channels before elevating them to the next higher level or to the IG. However, complainants may file an IG complaint at any level without notifying or following the chain of command. Complainants may submit FW&A disclosures on an AF Form 102, by letter, in person, or by FW&A hotlines. All complainants have the right to file a protected disclosure.