

The Pacifica Foundation Promotes Whistleblowers—America’s Unsung Hero’s
Pacifica Supports Good Government / Public Interest Groups and Coalitions.

Berkeley, CA—On September 27, 2011, after attending the 5th Annual Washington Whistleblower Assembly (WWA) and the National Pacifica Board meeting, Arlene Engelhardt, Pacifica’s Executive Director issued a “new policy” calling for full network wide support for courageous whistleblowers serving the public interest.

The Government Accountability Project (GAP) and the International Association of Whistleblowers (IAW) spearheaded the Washington Whistleblower Assembly in conjunction with American Federation of Government Employees, Federal Law Enforcement Associations, the Project on Government Oversight, the Union of Concerned Scientists, the United Food and Commercial Workers International Union, Voices for Corporate Responsibility, and International Brotherhood of Teamsters.

The historic IAW whistleblower caucus began with a poignant “empty chair” ceremony celebrating whistleblowers who made the ultimate sacrifice for the public good and culminated with an agreement between the Whistleblowers and Pacifica Foundation to support whistleblowers and promote First Amendment activism.

While often unfairly maligned, whistleblowers serve an important public service at great risk to their own personal and professional lives. Just think of all the national catastrophes that could have been avoided if the public had known and heeded whistleblower warnings—the Iraq War, Bernie Madoff scandal, the Wall Street/Sub-prime melt down.

These were all preventable disasters, which could have been avoided or mitigated if the public had listened to courageous whistleblowers. Consequently, Pacific encourages all individual whistleblowers and the entire Make It Safe Coalition (MISC) to continue to speak truth to power, and promote the public good.

The Pacifica Radio Network is the oldest public radio network in the country, which consists of five independently, operated, non-commercial, listener-supported radio stations in radio stations from coast to coast, including New York (NY), Washington (DC), Houston (TX), Berkley (CA) and Los Angeles (CA), with hundreds of affiliated stations in between.