

## Claim Filing Process:

To file a federal FEPLI claim with Wright USA, you must send us a written claim – by mail, fax, or e-mail, (**preferably on our form**) and include the following information, at a minimum:

- ▶ Your name and home address;
- ▶ Your employing federal agency;
- ▶ Your Member ID number;
- ▶ Your telephone number and e-mail address that we can use to contact you;
- ▶ A brief description of the circumstances that give rise to the claim along with supporting documentation (memorandums/emails/notice of adverse action/notice of investigation/Civil Complaint/Subpoenas/Interrogatories, etc.);
- ▶ Whether you have union or other employee association representation or you have other professional liability insurance coverage; and
- ▶ Your signature

When we receive your claim, we will confirm your active coverage in Wright USA's program and determine whether you are eligible for legal defense service benefits. We usually make our decision within one to two business days after receiving your claim. You can check on the status of your claim by contacting us at 800.424.9801.

If there is limited/insufficient information about the claim (specifically, information about the alleged misconduct, your involvement in the alleged misconduct, essential dates related to the claim, etc.) we may need to call you and ask for additional documentation. If additional information is not available at that time, your claim may be approved for a limited and restricted scope of representation, until additional information is available. Under these conditions, coverage would be strictly limited to the services authorized by Wright USA and any additional services will have to be pre-approved by a member of the Wright USA Claims Department.

If we approve the claim, we notify you in writing and securely forward your claim over to The Brownell Firm; the law firm that manages our FEPLI Defense Team. Within one business day, after we have forwarded your claim to The Brownell Firm, our Chief Panel Counsel, Ms. Bonnie Brownell will contact you to discuss your claim and representation. Please be advised, at this point in the claims process, Ms. Brownell and her associates are the only attorneys authorized to bill to your account.

If we deny the claim, you do have the right to request reconsideration by sending us a written request within 60 days after you receive notice of the denial. Wright USA's President will review the matter along with the Insurance Carrier and we will respond within 30 days, unless additional information is required. We are available to discuss any coverage issues as well using the number provided above.

***Federal Employee Program Administrator***

[www.WrightUSA.com](http://www.WrightUSA.com)

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## The FEPLI DEFENSE TEAM:

The Brownell Firm, is a Washington, DC law firm. Ms. Bonnie Brownell manages the legal counsel panel, or Defense Team, for our FEPLI Program. The FEPLI Defense Team includes attorneys with expertise in a wide range of areas affecting federal employment. Our Defense Team's experience on the "inside" as former federal employees (Assistant U.S. Attorneys, members of the military, counsel to federal agencies, and law enforcement agents) assures them a unique understanding of the federal work place.

For more information on the FEPLI Defense Team and how The Brownell Firm handles our FEPLI claim assignments, please contact: Ms. Bonnie Brownell, Principal, The Brownell Firm, 1050 Seventeenth Street NW, Suite 700, Washington, D.C. 20036.

### **Understanding Wright's Panel Counsel's Function:**

- Our Panel of Defense Counsel includes attorneys throughout the country with legal expertise relevant to the federal employee who is accused of misconduct in the course and scope of his/her federal employment.
- Chief Panel Counsel (Ms. Bonnie Brownell, The Brownell Firm, Washington, DC) will provide an initial consultation designed to identify your potential for exposure and assist you in understanding your legal defense options.
- Chief Panel Counsel will work with you on developing a legal defense strategy and action plan that is sensitive to your situation and employment goals. We appreciate the politically sensitive nature of the allegations against you. We make sure you are comfortable with the substance and tone of your defense.
- In implementing your legal defense plan, Panel Counsel will keep you informed as to the status of your defense and remain available to answer any questions you might have as new information becomes available or the circumstances change.
- If your claim requires expertise not available on our existing panel of attorneys (ex. hiring of a criminal defense attorney – usually a former Assistant US Attorney – in the jurisdiction in which you reside), our Chief Panel Counsel, on your behalf, will screen potential attorneys, negotiate rates, facilitate the implementation of a productive defense plan and monitor the matter until it is resolved.
- If at any point in the process you have questions or concerns regarding your legal defense services, Wright USA's FEPLI Claims Manager remains available at 800.424.9801.

### **Understanding what the Panel Counsel will not do:**

- This is a legal defense program for which Chief Panel Counsel will neither seek, nor grant your request to act as your legal representative for a legal matter involving an affirmative cause of action against the government. In doing so, we maintain a consistent and credible position with all government agencies and assure that the Wright FEPLI program is responsible for legal fees up to your policy limits.
- Wright's Panel is carefully chosen for their expertise and has agreed to negotiated rates and cooperative representation. Both result in enhanced legal services to Wright's insureds. As such, attorneys retained by the insured, outside of the panel, will not receive compensation through the Wright FEPLI program. Any fees promised or paid to a non-panel counsel will be at the insured's expense

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## FEPLI Claim Form

Please submit a claim when you first become aware of allegations of your misconduct arising out of the course and scope of your employment, which has or may become the subject of an adverse action against you, including: adverse personnel actions, lawsuit (Federal Tort Claims Act, or Constitutional *Bivens*), or investigation – criminal or administrative. Your claim may be submitted to Wright USA by email, fax or USPS:

**Wright USA**  
**706 Philadelphia Pike Suite 1**  
**Wilmington, DE 19809**  
**Fax – 302-483-0230**

[PLIclaims@wrightusa.com](mailto:PLIclaims@wrightusa.com)

If you require additional assistance, please feel free to call 1-800-424-9801.

### Insured Information – Personal

<b>Name</b>	
<b>Home Address</b>	
<b>City State and ZIP Code</b>	
<b>Home Phone No.</b>	
<b>Personal Cell Phone No.</b>	
<b>Member ID No.</b>	
<b>E-Mail Address – we recommend not using a government E-mail address for this claim.</b>	

### Insured Information - Professional

<b>Employing Federal Agency and address - please indicate whether you are an active employee or retired (if retired include date of retirement)</b>	<i>Title, Grade, Office (Division, Department, etc.)</i>
<b>Work Phone No.</b>	
<b>Work Cell Phone No.</b>	
<b>Work Fax No. – we will not send a fax w/o prior notice to the member</b>	
<b>Preferred method of contact (telephonically)</b>	Home phone _____ Personal cell phone _____ Work cell phone _____ Work phone _____

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