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September 23, 2025

Honorable Scott Kupor Director U.S. Office of Personnel Management 1900 E Street, NW Washington, DC 20415

Dear Director Kupor,

Congratulations on your recent confirmation as Director of the Office of Personnel Management (OPM). I look forward to working with you to ensure the American people are receiving the best possible service, in the most efficient manner.

I am deeply grateful to the outstanding civil servants who take their call to service seriously by supporting our veterans, elderly, small businesses, farmers and ranchers, students, and others who need assistance. While these federal employees are often overworked and underappreciated, too many bureaucrats are using their position to rip off taxpayers.

As you know, federal employees are prohibited from being paid for more than one full-time position for the government at the same time, with some limited exceptions. Yet, I've identified numerous examples of full-time federal employees moonlighting for other agencies or government contractors without approval or knowledge of their managers.

From 2021 to 2024, a Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) employee held multiple other full-time government contractor jobs, frequently billing taxpayers for more than 24 hours of work in a single day. In addition to HUD, she was paid by AmeriCorps and the National Institutes of Health. Since she teleworked in all three positions, she was able to hide her overlapping jobs and get away with billing taxpayers \$225,866 for hours she never worked. She claimed she worked 26 hours on 13 of the 21 workdays in a single month.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> 5 U.S. Code § 5533, the Dual Pay Act, prohibits federal employees from receiving pay from more than one position for more than an aggregate of 40 hours in a calendar week, with several specific exceptions. In effect, this means most federal employees can't hold two full-time federal jobs simultaneously and get paid for both. <a href="https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/USCODE-2024-title5/pdf/USCODE-2024-title5-partIII-subpartD-chap55-subchapIV-sec5533.pdf">https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/USCODE-2024-title5/pdf/USCODE-2024-title5-partIII-subpartD-chap55-subchapIV-sec5533.pdf</a>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> "Former HUD Employee, Who Moonlighted for Two Other Federal Agencies, Admits Making False Claims," U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Office of Inspector General, June 26, 2025; <a href="https://www.hudoig.gov/newsroom/press-release/former-hud-employee-who-moonlighted-two-other-federal-agencies-admits-making">https://www.hudoig.gov/newsroom/press-release/former-hud-employee-who-moonlighted-two-other-federal-agencies-admits-making</a>.

Beginning in 2023, a senior human resources official at the Peace Corps was also employed as a contractor for two other government agencies, the Federal Housing and Finance Agency and the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.<sup>3</sup> He falsified timecards submitted to the different agencies and double billed taxpayers for tens of thousands of dollars.<sup>4</sup> According to his LinkedIn profile, he was "key in the development" of the Peace Corps' remote work policy,<sup>5</sup> which he presumably took advantage of to get away with his job juggling.

Timecard thieves have even gotten away with two-timing OPM, the government's personnel policy manager, and the National Security Agency (NSA), an intelligence agency of the Department of Defense (DOD).

A full-time contractor for OPM was simultaneously employed full-time for NSA. While required to work on-site at both jobs, he wasn't showing up at either. He got away with it for four months, during which time he double billed taxpayers for \$70,646.<sup>6</sup>

A full-time contractor at the NSA headquarters was actually working for another DOD contractor for nearly a year. She submitted 79 fraudulent timesheets for the NSA job, costing taxpayers \$65,265 for hours she never worked.<sup>7</sup>

A senior policy advisor for the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) avoided doing work by claiming he was also employed by the CIA. He got away with the scheme for more than 13 years, during which time he defrauded taxpayers out of nearly \$900,000. While being one of the highest paid employees in the federal government, he skipped out on work and instead traveled overseas and spent time at his Massachusetts vacation home. This wasn't a case of moonlighting per se, but the EPA should have known such an arrangement was illegal and better monitored the whereabouts and productivity of one of its senior staff members.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Gabby Allen, "Former Peace Corps employee faces wire fraud, theft charges," DC News Now, July 2, 2025; <a href="https://www.dcnewsnow.com/news/local-news/maryland/montgomery-county/former-peace-corps-employee-faces-wire-fraud-theft-charges/">https://www.dcnewsnow.com/news/local-news/maryland/montgomery-county/former-peace-corps-employee-faces-wire-fraud-theft-charges/</a>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> "Former Federal Employee Charged With Wire Fraud, Theft, and Making False Statements," U.S. Attorney's Office, District of Maryland, U.S. Department of Justice, July 2, 2025; <a href="https://www.justice.gov/usao-md/pr/former-federal-employee-charged-wire-fraud-theft-and-making-false-statements">https://www.justice.gov/usao-md/pr/former-federal-employee-charged-wire-fraud-theft-and-making-false-statements</a>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Evester Edd, Jr. LinkedIn profile, accessed August 27, 2025; <a href="https://www.linkedin.com/in/evester-edd-jr-07a18424">https://www.linkedin.com/in/evester-edd-jr-07a18424</a>. <sup>6</sup> "Former Federal Contract Employee Sentenced For Falsifying Timesheets at Two Agencies," U.S. Attorney's Office, District of Columbia, U.S. Department of Justice, February 17, 2017; <a href="https://www.justice.gov/usao-dc/pr/former-federal-contract-employee-sentenced-falsifying-timesheets-two-agencies">https://www.justice.gov/usao-dc/pr/former-federal-contract-employee-sentenced-falsifying-timesheets-two-agencies</a>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> "NSA Contractor Pleads Guilty To Submitting False Timesheets," U.S. Attorney's Office, District of Maryland, U.S. Department of Justice, May 22, 2014; <a href="https://www.justice.gov/usao-md/pr/nsa-contractor-pleads-guilty-submitting-false-timesheets">https://www.justice.gov/usao-md/pr/nsa-contractor-pleads-guilty-submitting-false-timesheets</a>.

<sup>8 &</sup>quot;Former EPA Senior Policy Advisor Sentenced To 32 Months In Prison For Carrying Out Scheme That Cost Government Nearly \$900,000-Admitted Collecting Pay For Hundreds Of Days He Wasn't Working," U.S. Attorney's Office, District of Columbia, U.S. Department of Justice, December 18, 2013; <a href="https://www.justice.gov/usao-dc/pr/former-epa-senior-policy-advisor-sentenced-32-months-prison-carrying-out-scheme-cost-0">https://www.justice.gov/usao-dc/pr/former-epa-senior-policy-advisor-sentenced-32-months-prison-carrying-out-scheme-cost-0</a>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Charles Clark, "EPA's 'Moonlighting Spy:' I Guess Greed Made Me Do It; Convicted attorney John Beale isn't really sure why he pretended he secretly worked for the CIA," Government Executive, January 24, 2014; https://www.govexec.com/federal-news/2014/01/epas-moonlighting-spy-i-guess-greed-made-me-do-it/77480/.

Each of these cases demonstrates how easy it is for corrupt public employees to pull down a pair of paychecks without actually earning either, sometimes for years or even a decade or more.

While some government managers do not know, or even care, where their employees are, I tried tracking down the exact locations of the federal workforce with the help of the non-profit transparency group Open the Books. The quest turned into a game of bureaucrat hide-and-seek with the Biden administration redacting the names of 350,861 rank-and-file employees and the worksites of over 281,000 bureaucrats.<sup>10</sup>

The public, who is paying the salaries of federal employees and contractors, deserves access to this information and the federal government. The U.S. Senate,<sup>11</sup> House of Representatives,<sup>12</sup> and White House<sup>13</sup> all publicly post the names, titles, and salaries of employees. There are also a number of privately-run, searchable websites containing employment histories for many employees of both the executive and legislative branches of the federal government.<sup>14</sup>

Because OPM oversees policies related to hiring and managing the federal workforce, your agency is best situated to provide the leadership necessary to increase transparency and stop the timecard fraud by double-billing bureaucrats.

As Chair of the Senate DOGE Caucus and a member of the Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee, I'm interested in learning how we can work together to improve accountability and eliminate waste, fraud, and abuse. To assist me with this mission, could you share your thoughts on the following questions:

Is the data in OPM's Enterprise Human Resources Integration system, which includes the occupations, employment agency, and personal identifiable information of civilian federal employees, <sup>15</sup> current and complete enough to identify individuals on the payrolls of multiple agencies? If so, can such a cross check be completed?

12 "Statement of Disbursements of the House as Compiled by the Chief Administrative Officer, Part 1 of 3," U.S. House of Representatives, April 1, 2025 to June 30, 2025; <a href="https://www.house.gov/sites/default/files/2025-08/2025q2">https://www.house.gov/sites/default/files/2025-08/2025q2</a> vol1 signed.pdf.

Leadership Connect provides detailed profiles and organizational charts of government employees. <a href="https://app.leadershipconnect.io/">https://app.leadershipconnect.io/</a>.

U.S. Senator Joni Ernst and Open the Books CEO and founder Adam Andrzejewski, "Where's Waldo at Club Fed?," Newsweek, March 30, 2023; <a href="https://www.newsweek.com/wheres-waldo-club-fed-opinion-1791205">https://www.newsweek.com/wheres-waldo-club-fed-opinion-1791205</a>.
 "Semiannual Report of the Secretary of the Senate," U.S. Senate, October 1, 2024 to March 31, 2025; <a href="https://www.senate.gov/legislative/common/generic/report\_secsen.htm">https://www.senate.gov/legislative/common/generic/report\_secsen.htm</a>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> "Annual Report to Congress on White House Office Personnel," Executive Office of the President, July 1, 2025; <a href="https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2025/07/2025-Annual-Report-to-Congress-on-White-House-Staff.pdf">https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2025/07/2025-Annual-Report-to-Congress-on-White-House-Staff.pdf</a>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> OpenPayrolls.com is a free public research tool providing United States citizens access to millions of public compensation records that were released in accordance with public record laws. This website is not affiliated with any government entity. https://openpayrolls.com/federal.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> "Federal Employment Reports," U.S. Office of Personnel Management website, accessed September 5, 2025; <a href="https://www.opm.gov/policy-data-oversight/data-analysis-documentation/federal-employment-reports/">https://www.opm.gov/policy-data-oversight/data-analysis-documentation/federal-employment-reports/</a>.

While OPM releases information about the federal workforce, including titles, job descriptions, duty stations, and salaries, *at request*, <sup>16</sup> could the agency begin posting this data publicly online in a searchable format by agency, location, and other fields?

Are there any records you can provide explaining why the Biden administration redacted the names and work locations of hundreds of thousands of civilian federal employees that Open the Books filed a Freedom of Information Act request to obtain in 2022?

Other than requiring employees to regularly show up at the office, how can managers spot and stop unscrupulous bureaucrats who aren't actually working the hours they claim to be?

Are you aware of any other recent cases of double-billing bureaucrats being paid by various agencies for the same hours?

I would appreciate learning your thoughts and suggestions on this matter.

Sincerely,

Joni K. Ernst

United States Senator

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> The U.S. Office of Personnel Management, "Data Release Policy," November 2018; <a href="https://www.opm.gov/policy-data-oversight/data-analysis-documentation/data-policy-guidance/data-standards/data-release-policy-november-2018.pdf">https://www.opm.gov/policy-data-oversight/data-analysis-documentation/data-policy-guidance/data-standards/data-release-policy-november-2018.pdf</a>.