



## **National Security Internship**

The Government Accountability Project is the nation's leading whistleblower protection and advocacy organization. The Government Accountability Project's mission is to promote corporate and government accountability by protecting whistleblowers, advancing occupational free speech, and empowering citizen activists. Located in Washington, D.C., the Government Accountability Project is a nonpartisan, nonprofit organization and public interest law firm.

The Government Accountability Project is a consistent high-profile newsmaker, with its recent and former clients including:

- Robert MacLean, a former DHS Air Marshal who was fired for revealing a plan to remove Marshals from international flights during a time of heightened security concerns.
- NSA contractor Edward Snowden, who disclosed illegal domestic surveillance programs that were implemented under the guise of national security.
- Dr. Dean Wyatt, a USDA veterinarian who exposed the horrific mistreatment of animals in two slaughterhouses, indicating a systemic problem in the national food safety system.
- Several anonymous World Bank whistleblowers, whose disclosures (among others) GAP released, eventually leading to the resignation of Bank President Paul Wolfowitz.

The National Security Program at the Government Accountability Project works with whistleblowers, policymakers, and watchdogs to facilitate whistleblowing disclosures, strengthen the channels through which those disclosures are made, evaluate those channels' effectiveness through independent investigations, and represent whistleblowers who suffer retaliation as a result of their disclosures. The National Security Program focuses its resources on Intelligence Community and military whistleblowing, where we work with congressional staff and executive watchdogs to spur frequent oversight. Separately, our program conducts its own investigations into IC or military misconduct.

The Government Accountability Project seeks an undergraduate student interested in national security, public policy, and human rights for a National Security internship at its Washington, D.C. office. This position is open to undergraduate students who will take on varying levels of responsibility depending on their background in law, policy and general experience.

The National Security Intern will assist the Government Accountability Project's National Security Program in handling legislative, investigative, and legal assignments. They will work closely with Government Accountability Project investigators, policy associates, and lawyers to further whistleblower protection legislation, investigate abuses of the protections, and assist national security related legal cases and challenges. Our work is frequently covered by both large outlets like CNN and the Washington Post and trade papers like Foreign Policy Magazine and

Government Executive. Further, we will try to devote the intern's resources to their expertise and interests.

In the beginning of the internship, primary job responsibilities for this position include:

- Assist the Government Accountability Project's National Security Program by handling legislative, investigative, and legal assignments;
- Create and present congressional briefing packets related to pending legislation, recent investigations, and legal cases;
- File Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requests and speak with sources to assist with ongoing and developing investigations;
- Interface with new and old legal clients;
- Attend meetings with congressional staff, journalists, sources, and clients as relevant to legislative, investigative, and legal initiatives;
- Perform administrative tasks on an as-needed basis.

Once the intern learns more about whistleblowing protections and the accountability sphere, they will be able to assume even greater job responsibilities:

- Draft and brief stakeholders on national security whistleblower legislation;
- Identify new investigative targets relating to government accountability, free speech rights, and whistleblower protections;
- Design FOIA requests around pressing accountability issues and FOIA lawsuits around the requests to gather information more effectively;
- Prepare legal memoranda and briefs, at the request and under the supervision of the Legal Director, to be used in ongoing legal challenges

Applicants should have strong writing skills, be adept with social networking and new media tools, and comfortable conducting direct outreach and advocacy. Applicants should also be able to prosper in an independent work environment and require minimal supervision.

Applicants should submit a cover letter and resume to Katrina Meyer, Intern Coordinator, at [KatrinaM@whistleblower.org](mailto:KatrinaM@whistleblower.org) with the name of the internship in the subject line.

