

Postal Big Brother stalking EEO complainants

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The Postal Service is now demanding that EEO complainants seeking monetary relief provide information about their personal life during the investigatory stage of their complaint. Postal Big Brothers want to know about everything from recent illnesses, dietary problems and deaths in the families to legal, financial and marital problems the employee may be having.

The Postal Service is requesting the information on PS-Form 2569-C (EEO Investigative Affidavit) when an employee files a formal EEO complaint. Employees filing formal complaints are notified that "in addition to evidence and testimony concerning your allegations(s) of discrimination, the EEO investigator will require you to provide testimony and evidence pertaining to the nature, the extent, and the severity of the harm you allegedly suffered. You must complete PS Form 2569-C and include it in your affidavit statement."

The affidavit states the employee must "declare under penalty of perjury" that the answers are "true and correct."

Employees are strongly urged not to answer the questions on the form or sign the affidavit. The Postal Service has no legal basis to require the information or deny your EEO claim for not answering the questions. The affidavit is an obvious attempt to gather information that can later be used against the employee in retaliation for their filing an EEO complaint.

The questions have been described as "repugnant, objectionable, intrusive and invasive," by EEO employee representatives. No one should ever answer any questions on PS Form 2569-C or sign the form without first consulting an attorney.

Employees filing EEO complaints are entitled to legal representation during the entire process and the best advice is to get an attorney early on in the process. If you can't afford an attorney, you may have someone else represent you during the investigatory and hearing stage of the complaint.