



Fraud reporting protection

Filing a report is anonymous. The reporter does not need to provide their name or identifying information.

Employees, contractors, subcontractors or anyone who reports suspected DBE fraud are also protected from retaliation such as, but not limited to, demotion, suspension, firing, and other reprisal actions.

Visit the Office of Inspector General for details: oig.dot.gov/investigations/dot-employee-whistleblower-protection

Sound Transit is committed to preventing DBE fraud.

For more information

For general information about the Diversity Programs Office, visit soundtransit.org/diversity, call 206-689-4914 or email diversity@soundtransit.org.

For information in alternative languages and formats, call 1-800-201-4900 / TTY Relay: 711 or email accessibility@soundtransit.org.

To file a Title VI discrimination complaint on the basis of race, color or national origin VI
Complaints may be filed with Sound Transit, the Federal Transit Administration, the Department of Justice, and/or the Department of Transportation. A complaint filed with Sound Transit must be in writing and filed within 180 days of the alleged discriminatory act. Sound Transit Title VI complaint forms are available at no cost by calling 206-398-5000 or emailing diversity@soundtransit.org.

Sound Transit plans, builds and operates regional transit systems and services to improve mobility for Central Puget Sound.

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Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Program Fraud



 **SOUNDTRANSIT**
Diversity Programs



How to identify and report DBE fraud

What is DBE program fraud?

Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) fraud is a deliberate deception to secure an unfair gain. It can occur in a number of different forms, including monetary and contractual, to gain an illegal advantage. Fraud can be any number of actions that compromise the contracting process or other aspects of the DBE Program.

Types of DBE program fraud

- Bid rigging
- Bribery
- Kickbacks
- Misrepresentation of who is doing the work
- Misrepresentation of who owns the company

Signs of potential DBE program fraud

- A business owner lacking background, expertise or equipment to perform the work
- DBE not present at the work site
- Prime contractor that always uses the same DBE
- Financial or payroll irregularities like ghost employees, employees working for both the prime and the DBE, joint bank accounts
- No written contract between the prime contractor and the DBE

Three ways to report suspected DBE program fraud

- Call Sound Transit's DBE Fraud Hotline at **1-877-480-6617**
- Email dbefraud@soundtransit.org
- Report fraud to the Office of Inspector General oig.dot.gov/hotline

Provide as much information as possible concerning the specific allegations such as:

- ✓ Name of companies and parties involved
- ✓ Specific activities taking place that suggest fraud
- ✓ Dates, locations, project name
- ✓ Any other relevant information