

REVISION TO SECTION 3: THE DUTY OF INQUIRY

Purpose: To eliminate the "Plausible Deniability" defense by establishing legal presumptions of knowledge based on available technical data.

I. UPDATED DEFINITION: RECKLESS DISREGARD & RED FLAGS

A Public Official acts with "Reckless Disregard" if they certify a Covered Statement despite the existence of one or more **Objective Red Flags**. These include, but are not limited to:

1. **Automated System Alerts:** Any "critical error," "data discrepancy," or "integrity failure" notification generated by federal technical systems or the **Federal Truth Archive** digital ledger.
2. **Internal Audit Warnings:** Formal written or digital notifications from agency IG offices, GAO discrepancy reports, or lower-level technical supervisors flagging inaccuracies.
3. **Algorithmic Dissent:** Any automated data output that contradicts the official's summary or budget request.

II. THE "HEAD-IN-THE-SAND" SHIELD (CONSTRUCTIVE KNOWLEDGE)

- **Willful Blindness:** The deliberate avoidance of looking at available digital ledger data, SHA-256 hash verifications, or internal audit logs before signing a budget or certification shall be legally equivalent to **Actual Knowledge**.
- **Legal Presumption:** If an **Objective Red Flag** was delivered to the official's office or dashboard, the law shall presume the official had knowledge of the fraud. The burden of proof shifts to the official to prove a "systemic delivery failure" beyond their control.