|  |
| --- |
| **TRC Financial Services Limited*****VIGIL MECHANISM / WHISTLE BLOWER POLICY*** |

**VIGIL MECHANISM / WHISTLE BLOWER POLICY**

1. **POLICY OBJECTIVES**
	1. The Company is committed to developing a culture where it is safe for all employees to raise concerns about any poor or unacceptable practice and any event of misconduct.
	2. The Company is committed to adhere to the highest standards of ethical, moral and legal conduct of business operations. To maintain these standards, the Company encourages its employees who have concerns about suspected misconduct to come forward and express these concerns without fear of punishment or unfair treatment.
	3. A Vigil (Whistle Blower) mechanism provides a channel to the employees and Directors to report to the management concerns about unethical behaviour, actual or suspected fraud or violation of the Codes of conduct or policy.
	The mechanism provides for adequate safeguards against victimization of employees and Directors to avail of the mechanism and also provide for direct access to the Chairman / Managing Director/ Chairman of the Audit Committee in exceptional cases. This neither releases employees from their duty of confidentiality in the course of their work nor can it be used as a route for raising malicious or unfounded allegations about a personal situation.
2. **DEFINITIONS**
	1. “Alleged wrongful conduct” shall mean violation of law, Infringement of Company’s rules, misappropriation of monies, actual or suspected fraud, substantial and specific danger to public health and safety or abuse of authority”.
	2. “Audit Committee” means a Committee constituted by the Board of Directors of the Company in accordance guidelines of Listing Agreement and Companies Act, 2013.
	3. “Board” means the Board of Directors of the Company.
	4. “Code” means Code of Conduct for Directors and Senior Management Executives adopted by the Company.
	5. “Employee” means all the present employees and whole time Directors of the Company (Whether working in India or abroad).
	6. “Protected Disclosure” means a concern raised by an employee or group of employees of the Company, through a written communication and made in good faith which discloses or demonstrates information about an unethical or improper activity under the title “SCOPE OF THE POLICY” with respect to the Company. It should be factual and not speculative or in the nature of an interpretation / conclusion and should contain as much specific information as possible to allow for proper assessment of the nature and extent of the concern.
	7. “Subject” means a person or group of persons against or in relation to whom a Protected Disclosure is made or evidence gathered during the course of an investigation.
	8. “Whistle Blower” is an employee or group of employees who make a Protected Disclosure under this Policy and also referred in this policy as complainant.
3. **ELIGIBILITY**

All Employees of the Company including directors are eligible to make Protected Disclosures under the Policy in relation to matters concerning the Company.

1. **RECEIPT AND DISPOSAL OF PROTECTED DISCLOSURES**
	1. All Protected Disclosures should be reported in writing by the Whistle Blower / Complainant as soon as possible after he / she becomes aware of the same so as to ensure a clear understanding of the issues raised and should either be typed or written in a legible handwriting in English.
	2. All Protected Disclosures should be addressed to the Chairman of the Audit Committee / Chairman of the Company in exceptional cases (wherein the complaint is against the chairman of Audit Committee).
	3. The Protected Disclosure should be submitted in a closed and secured envelope and should be super scribed as “Protected disclosure under the Whistle Blower policy” with a covering letter signed by the Whistle Blower / Complainant.
	4. The Chairman of the Audit Committee/Chairman as the case may be, shall detach the covering letter bearing the identity of the Whistle Blower and process only the Protected Disclosure.
	5. The Chairman of the Audit Committee shall assure that in case any further clarification is required he will get in touch with the complainant.
	6. Anonymous / Pseudonymous disclosure shall not be entertained.
	7. Protected Disclosure against the Vigilance and Ethics Officer should be addressed to the Chairman Company.
	8. On receipt of the protected disclosure the Chairman of the Audit Committee, as the case may be, shall make a record of the Protected Disclosure and also ascertain from the complainant whether he / she was the person who made the protected disclosure or not. He / she shall also carry out initial investigation either himself/herself or by involving any other Officer of the Company or an outside agency before referring the matter to the Audit Committee of the Company for further appropriate investigation and needful action.
	9. The Audit Committee, if deems fit, may call for further information or particulars from the complainant.
2. **INVESTIGATION**
	1. All Protected Disclosures under this policy will be recorded and thoroughly investigated. The Audit Committee may investigate and may at its discretion consider involving any other Officer of the Company and/ or an outside agency for the purpose of investigation.
	2. The decision to conduct an investigation is by itself not an accusation and is to be treated as a neutral fact finding process.
	3. Subject(s) will normally be informed in writing of the allegations at the outset of a formal investigation and have opportunities for providing their inputs during the investigation.
	4. Subject(s) shall have a duty to co-operate with the Audit Committee or any of the Officers appointed by it in this regard.
	5. Unless there are compelling reasons not to do so, Subject(s) will be given the opportunity to respond to material findings contained in the investigation report. No allegation of wrong doing against a Subject(s) shall be considered as maintainable unless there is good evidence in support of the allegation.
	6. Subject(s) have a right to be informed of the outcome of the investigations. If allegations are not sustained, the Subject should be consulted as to whether public disclosure of the investigation results would be in the best interest of the Subject and the Company.
	7. The investigation shall be completed normally within 90 days of the receipt of the protected disclosure and is extendable by such period as the Audit Committee deems fit.
	8. Any member of the Audit Committee or other officer having any conflict of interest with the matter shall disclose his / her concern / interest forthwith and shall not deal with the matter.
3. **DECISION AND REPORTING**
	1. If an investigation leads the Chairman of the Audit Committee to conclude that an improper or unethical act has been committed, Chairman of the Audit Committee shall recommend to the Board of Directors of the Company to take such disciplinary or corrective action as he / she may deem fit. It is clarified that any disciplinary or corrective action initiated against the Subject as a result of the findings of an investigation pursuant to this Policy shall adhere to the applicable personnel or staff conduct and disciplinary procedures.
	2. In case the Subject is the Chairman of the Company, the Chairman of the Audit Committee after examining the Protected Disclosure shall forward the protected disclosure to other members of the Audit Committee if deemed fit. The Audit Committee shall appropriately and expeditiously investigate the Protected Disclosure.
	3. If the report of investigation is not to the satisfaction of the complainant, the complainant has the right to report the event to the appropriate legal or investigating agency.
	4. A complainant who makes false allegations of unethical & improper practices or about alleged wrongful conduct of the Subject to the Audit Committee shall be subject to appropriate disciplinary action in accordance with the rules, procedures and policies of the Company.
4. **SECRECY / CONFIDENTIALITY**

The complainant, Members of Audit Committee, the Subject and everybody involved in the process shall:

1. Maintain confidentiality of all matters under this Policy
2. Discuss only to the extent or with those persons as required under this policy for completing the process of investigations.
3. Not keep the papers unattended anywhere at any time
4. Keep the electronic mails / files under password.
5. **CONFIDENTIALITY & PROTECTION**
	1. No unfair treatment will be meted out to a Whistle Blower by virtue of his/ her having reported a Protected Disclosure under this policy. Complete protection will, therefore, be given to Whistle Blowers against any unfair practice like retaliation, threat or intimidation of termination/ suspension of service, disciplinary action, transfer, demotion, refusal of promotion or the like including any direct or indirect use of authority to obstruct the Whistle Blower’s right to continue to perform his duties / functions including making further Protected Disclosure.
	2. A Whistle Blower may report any violation of the above clause to the Chairman of the Audit Committee, who shall investigate into the same and recommend suitable action to the management.
	3. The identity of the Whistle Blower shall be kept confidential to the extent possible and permitted under law. The identity of the complainant will not be revealed unless he himself has made either his details public or disclosed his identity to any other office or authority. In the event of the identity of the complainant being disclosed, the Audit Committee is authorized to initiate appropriate action as per extant regulations against the person or agency making such disclosure. The identity of the Whistle Blower, if known, shall remain confidential to those persons directly involved in applying this policy, unless the issue requires investigation by law enforcement agencies, in which case members of the organization are subject to subpoena.
	4. Any other Employee assisting in the said investigation shall also be protected to the same extent as the Whistle Blower.
	5. Provided however that the complainant before making a complaint has reasonable belief that an issue exists and he has acted in good faith. Any complaint not made in good faith as assessed as such by the Audit Committee shall be viewed seriously and the complainant shall be subject to disciplinary action as per the Rules / certified standing orders of the Company.
6. **ACCESS TO CHAIRMAN OF THE AUDIT COMMITTEE**

The Whistle Blower shall have right to access Chairman of the Audit Committee directly in exceptional cases and the Chairman of the Audit Committee is authorized to prescribe suitable directions in this regard.

1. **ADMINISTRATION AND REVIEW OF THE POLICY**

The Board of Directors shall be responsible for the administration, interpretation, application and review of this policy. The Board also shall be empowered to bring about necessary changes to this Policy, if required at any stage with the concurrence of the Audit Committee.

1. **AMENDMENT**

The Company reserves its right to amend or modify this Policy in whole or in part, at any time without assigning any reason whatsoever. However, no such amendment or modification will be binding on the Employees and Directors unless the same is notified to them in writing.