# **DSSO POLICIES**

### Non-Harassment

It is DSSA's policy to prohibit intentional and unintentional harassment of any individual by another person on the basis of any protected classification including, but not limited to, race, color, creed, religion, national origin, sex (including gender, gender identity, and pregnancy), marital status, status with regard to public assistance, familial status, disability, veteran status, sexual orientation, or age. The purpose of this policy is to ensure that in the workplace, no one harasses another individual.

If you feel that you have been subjected to conduct which violates this policy, you should immediately report the matter to your supervisor. If you are unable for any reason to contact this person, or if you have not received a satisfactory response within five (5) business days after reporting any incident of what you perceive to be harassment, please contact the Executive Director. If the person toward whom the complaint is directed is the Executive Director, you should contact the Board Chair or any Personnel Committee member. Every report of perceived harassment will be fully investigated and corrective action will be taken where appropriate. Violation of this policy will result in disciplinary action, up to and including discharge. All complaints will be kept confidential to the extent possible, but confidentiality cannot be guaranteed. In addition, the DSSA will not allow any form of retaliation against individuals who report unwelcome conduct to management or who cooperate in the investigations of such reports in accordance with this policy. Employees who make complaints in bad faith may be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including discharge. All employees must cooperate with all investigations.

#### Sexual Harassment

It is DSSA's policy to prohibit harassment of any employee by any supervisor, employee, customer or vendor on the basis of sex or gender. The purpose of this policy is to ensure that at the DSSA, all employees are free from sexual harassment. While it is not easy to define precisely what types of conduct could constitute sexual harassment, examples of prohibited behavior include unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, obscene gestures, displaying sexually graphic magazines, calendars or posters, sending sexually explicit e-mails, text messages and other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature, such as uninvited touching of a sexual nature or sexually related comments. Depending upon the circumstances, improper conduct also can include sexual joking, vulgar or offensive conversation or jokes, commenting about an employee's physical appearance, conversation about your own or someone else's sex life, or teasing or other conduct directed toward a person

because of his or her gender which is sufficiently severe or pervasive to create an unprofessional and hostile working environment. Although the intent of the person engaging in the conduct may be harmless or even friendly, it is the welcomeness of the conduct by the recipient that is relevant to whether the conduct is harassment. Given the difficulty of judging whether the conduct is welcome or unwelcome in particular situations, DSSA prohibits all employees from engaging in any conduct of a sexual nature or amounting to harassment based on any protected category in the work setting.

If you feel that you have been subjected to conduct which violates this policy, you should immediately report the matter to your supervisor. If you are unable for any reason to contact this person, or if you have not received a satisfactory response within five (5) business days after reporting any incident of what you perceive to be harassment, please contact the Executive Director. If the person toward whom the complaint is directed is the Executive Director, you should contact the Board Chair or any Personnel Committee member. Every report of perceived harassment will be fully investigated and corrective action will be taken where appropriate. Violation of this policy will result in disciplinary action, up to and including discharge. All complaints will be kept confidential to the extent possible, but confidentiality cannot be guaranteed. In addition, the DSSA will not allow any form of retaliation against individuals who report unwelcome conduct to management or who cooperate in the investigations of such reports in accordance with this policy. Employees who make complaints in bad faith may be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including discharge. All employees must cooperate with all investigations.

## **Drug and Alcohol Policy**

To help ensure a safe, healthy and productive work environment for our employees and others, to protect DSSA property, and to ensure efficient operations, the DSSA has adopted a policy of maintaining a workplace free of drugs and alcohol\*. This policy applies to all employees and other individuals who perform work for the DSSA.

The unlawful or unauthorized use, abuse, solicitation, theft, possession, transfer, purchase, sale or distribution of controlled substances, drug paraphernalia or alcohol by an individual anywhere on DSSA premises, while on DSSA business (whether or not on DSSA premises) or while representing the DSSA, is strictly prohibited. Employees and other individuals who work for the DSSA also are prohibited from reporting to work or working while they are using or under the influence of alcohol or any controlled substances, except when the use is pursuant to a licensed medical practitioner's instructions and the licensed medical practitioner authorized the employee or individual to report to work.

Violation of this policy will result in disciplinary action, up to and including discharge.

The DSSA maintains a policy of non-discrimination and will endeavor to make reasonable accommodations to assist individuals recovering from substance and alcohol dependencies, and those who have a medical history which reflects treatment for substance abuse conditions. We encourage employees to seek assistance before their substance abuse or alcohol misuse renders them unable to perform the essential functions of their jobs, or jeopardizes the health and safety of any DSSA employee, including themselves.

\*when alcohol is offered or available during a non-mainstage event, it is acceptable for employees of the DSSA to consume alcohol in moderation keeping in mind they are representing the Association. Inappropriate behaviors that are the result of over consumption are subject to disciplinary action.

## Workplace Violence

THE DSSA is strongly committed to providing a safe workplace. The purpose of this policy is to minimize the risk of personal injury to employees and damage to DSSA and personal property. We do not expect you to become an expert in psychology or to physically subdue a threatening or violent individual. Indeed, we specifically discourage you from engaging in any physical confrontation with a violent or potentially violent individual. However, we do expect and encourage you to exercise reasonable judgment in identifying potentially dangerous situations.

Experts in the mental health profession state that prior to engaging in acts of violence, troubled individuals often exhibit one or more of the following behaviors or signs: over-resentment, anger and hostility; extreme agitation; making ominous threats such as bad things will happen to a particular person, or a catastrophic event will occur; sudden and significant decline in work performance; irresponsible, irrational, intimidating, aggressive or otherwise inappropriate behavior; reacting to questions with an antagonistic or overtly negative attitude; discussing weapons and their use, and/or brandishing weapons in the workplace; overreacting or reacting harshly to changes in DSSA policies and procedures; personality conflicts with co-workers; obsession or preoccupation with a co-worker or supervisor; attempts to sabotage the work or equipment of a co-worker; blaming others for mistakes and circumstances; demonstrating a propensity to behave and react irrationally

Prohibited Conduct

Threats, threatening language or any other acts of aggression or violence made toward or by any DSSA employee WILL NOT BE TOLERATED. For purposes of this policy, a threat includes any verbal or physical harassment or abuse, any attempt at intimidating or instilling fear in others, menacing gestures, flashing of weapons, stalking or any other hostile, aggressive, injurious or

destructive action undertaken for the purpose of domination or intimidation. To the extent permitted by law, employees and visitors are prohibited from carrying weapons onto DSSA premises.

Procedures for Reporting a Threat

All potentially dangerous situations, including threats by co-workers, should be reported immediately to any member of management with whom you feel comfortable. Reports of threats may be maintained confidential to the extent maintaining confidentiality does not impede our ability to investigate and respond to the complaints. All threats will be promptly investigated. All employees must cooperate with all investigations. No employee will be subjected to retaliation, intimidation or disciplinary action as a result of reporting a threat in good faith under this policy.

If the DSSA determines, after an appropriate good faith investigation, that someone has violated this policy, the DSSA will take swift and appropriate corrective action.

If you are the recipient of a threat made by an outside party, please follow the steps detailed in this section. It is important for us to be aware of any potential danger in our offices. Indeed, we want to take effective measures to protect everyone from the threat of a violent act by an employee or by anyone else.