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**Why is there a CFPB Ombudsman?** An ombudsman provides an alternate, informal way to resolve issues. Many organizations, both government and private, have an ombudsman. The CFPB Ombudsman's Office was established by the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act of 2010 (Dodd-Frank Act), which created the CFPB.

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**Independence** We are outside of the CFPB's business lines, reporting to the Deputy Director with access to the Director, which ensures our independence at the CFPB.

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**Impartiality** We do not advocate for one side, but instead for a fair process.

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**Confidentiality** We have put safeguards in place to preserve confidentiality. We will not share your identifying information outside the Ombudsman's Office unless you tell us we can. We also may have to share it if there is: a threat of imminent risk of serious harm; you have raised an issue of government fraud, waste, or abuse; or if required by law.

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**Why should I contact the Ombudsman?** We can assist in informally resolving process issues by: facilitating discussions, brainstorming and evaluating options and resources, sharing independent analyses, offering an impartial perspective, ensuring confidentiality of someone's identity, engaging in shuttle diplomacy, and providing recommendations, among other options.

**When should I contact the Ombudsman?** Try us, when you have not had success with existing CFPB processes to address your process concerns, or because you want to keep your concerns confidential. You are welcome to contact the Ombudsman at any time, but we ask you to try the existing CFPB avenues for resolution first.

**Can we meet again?** Stakeholders who previously connected with our office are welcome to re-connect to share further feedback.