

Watchworthy women

Female forces to reckon with

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Watchworthy Whistle-Blowers

Glamour salutes women who've risked it all to do what they knew was right.

This month, Julia Roberts stars in *Erin Brockovich*, the true story of a Los Angeles legal file clerk who in 1992 exposed Pacific Gas & Electric for poisoning the water supply of the small town of Hinkley, California. A single mother, Brockovich won a \$333 million lawsuit for her town, and the admiration of townspeople and the lawyer she worked for. But not everyone is so lucky. —JESSICA BRANCH



Julia Roberts as Brockovich



Linda Shenwick,
44, SENIOR BUDGET EXPERT AT THE UN

REVELATION: Last year, Shenwick alerted members of Congress to what she believed was rampant nepotism, corruption and waste at UN headquarters.

RESULTS: Shenwick was put on unpaid leave and offered lower-level jobs. She's suing to get her old job back.



Cathy Harris,
43, U.S. CUSTOMS INSPECTOR

REVELATION: Last year, Harris told her lawyer about racial profiling, including excessive strip searches of female minority airline passengers.

RESULTS: The Customs commissioner has ordered reforms, but last November, Harris received a 30-day notice of plans to fire her.



Jennifer Long,
49, INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE AUDITOR

REVELATION: Long testified before the Senate in 1997 about IRS abuses such as targeting low-income taxpayers for audits.

RESULTS: Several IRS demonstrations ensued. In April 1999, Long herself was threatened with termination. After a public uproar, the IRS backed off.



Yvette Walton,
50, NEW YORK CITY POLICE OFFICER

REVELATION: In April 1999, Walton testified before the City Council that New York's Street Crime Unit was biased against blacks and Hispanics.

RESULTS: After the hearing, Walton was fired for "unrelated reasons." She is suing the department for violating her right to speak freely.



Submarine Sexism?

The pros and cons of women down under

As the Pentagon considers allowing women to serve on submarines, *Glamour* asked experts why women should or shouldn't go underwater.

PRO "Five of the top 10 midshipmen from the 1999 graduating class of the U.S. Naval Academy were women," points out Lieutenant Jensin Sommer of the Navy Office of Information.

PRO Paula Coughlin, the former Navy lieutenant who resigned after the Tailhook scandal, asserts, "It's in the Navy's best interest to open that field to as many qualified people as they can get."

PRO "Various surface vessels and aircraft squadrons already have women as commanding officers," points out Mary Wamsley, former chair of the Defense Advisory Committee on Women in the Services.

CON Wamsley cites "concerns about habitability [sleeping and bathroom facilities] and cost." Ensuring onboard privacy could make subs too heavy to maneuver well, and could cut down on space for weapons.

CON Harassment might result. Georgia Sadler, retired Navy captain and chair of the Alliance for National Defense, says, "Submariners would need to rethink the value we put on privacy."

—J.B. AND LYNN FLOYD