



KNOW YOUR RIGHTS IN THE WORKPLACE

FEDERAL CONTRACTORS EDITION

PRINTABLE LABOR LAWS

EMPLOYEE RIGHTS

UNDER THE NATIONAL LABOR RELATIONS ACT

The NLRA guarantees the right of employees to organize and bargain collectively with their employers, and to engage in other protected concerted activity. Employees covered by the NLRA * are protected from certain types of employer and union misconduct. This Notice gives you general information about your rights, and about the obligations of employers and unions under the NLRA. Contact the National Labor Relations Board, the Federal agency that investigates and resolves complaints under the NLRA, using the contact information supplied below, if you have any questions about specific rights that may apply in your particular workplace.

Under the NLRA, you have the right to:

- **Organize a union** to negotiate with your employer concerning your wages, hours, and other terms and conditions of employment.
- **Form, join or assist a union.**
- **Bargain collectively** through representatives of employees' own choosing for a contract with your employer setting your wages, benefits, hours, and other working conditions.
- **Discuss your terms and conditions of employment** or union organizing with your co-workers or a union.
- **Take action** with one or more co-workers to improve your working conditions by, among other means, raising work related complaints directly with your employer or with a government agency, and seeking help from a union.

Under the NLRA, it is illegal for a union or for the union that represents you in bargaining with your employer to:

- **Threaten** you that you will lose your job unless you support the union.
- **Refuse to process a grievance** because you have criticized union officials or because you are not a member of the union.
- **Use or maintain discriminatory standards or procedures** in making job referrals from a hiring hall.
- **Cause or attempt to cause an employer to discriminate against you** because of your union-related activity.
- **Take other adverse action against you** based on whether you have joined or support the union.

If you and your coworkers select a union to act

Under the NLRA, it is illegal for your employer to:

- **Prohibit you from soliciting for a union during non-work time**, such as before or after work or during break times; or from distributing union literature during non-work time, in non-work areas, such as parking lots or break rooms.
- **Question you about your union** support or activities in a manner that discourages you from engaging in that activity.
- **Fire, demote, or transfer you, or reduce your hours or change your shift**, or otherwise take adverse action against you, or threaten to take any of these actions, because you join or support a union, or because you engage in concerted activity for mutual aid and protection, or because you choose not to engage in any such activity.
- **Threaten to close your workplace** if workers

NATIONAL LABOR RELATIONS ACT (Continued)

- **Strike and picket**, depending on the purpose or means of the strike or the picketing.
- **Choose not to do any of these activities**, including Joining or remaining a member of a union.

Illegal conduct will not be permitted. If you believe your rights or the rights of others have been violated, you should contact the NLRB promptly to protect your rights, generally within six months of the unlawful activity. You may inquire about possible violations without your employer or anyone else being informed of the inquiry. Charges may be filed by any person and need not be filed by the employee directly affected by the violation. The NLRB may order an employer to rehire a worker fired in violation of the law and to pay lost wages and benefits, and may order an employer or union to cease violating the law. Employees should seek assistance from the nearest regional NLRB office, which can be found on the Agency's website: www.nlrb.gov.

as your collective bargaining representative, your employer and the union are required to bargain in good faith in a genuine effort to reach a written, binding agreement setting your terms and conditions of employment. The union is required to fairly represent you in bargaining and enforcing the agreement.

You can also contact the NLRB by calling toll-free: **1-844-762-NLRB (6572)**. Language assistance is available. Hearing impaired callers who wish to speak to an NLRB representative should send an email to relay.service@nlrb.gov. An NLRB representative will email the requestor with instructions on how to schedule a relay service call.



SCAN TO LEARN MORE

choose a union to represent them.

- **Promise or grant promotions, pay raises, or other benefits** to discourage or encourage union support.
- **Prohibit you from wearing union hats, buttons, t-shirts, and pins in the workplace** except under special circumstances.
- **Spy on or videotape peaceful union activities** and gatherings or pretend to do so.

*The National Labor Relations Act covers most private-sector employers. Excluded from coverage under the NLRA are public-sector employees, agricultural and domestic workers, independent contractors, workers employed by a parent or spouse, employees of air and rail carriers covered by the Railway Labor Act, and supervisors (although supervisors that have been discriminated against for refusing to violate the NLRA may be covered).



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This is an official Government Notice and must not be defaced by anyone.

PRINT

RIGHT TO WORK



IF YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO WORK DON'T LET ANYONE TAKE IT AWAY

If you have the skills, experience, and legal right to work, your citizenship or immigration status shouldn't get in the way. Neither should the place you were born or another aspect of your national origin. A part of U.S. immigration laws protects legally-authorized workers from discrimination based on their citizenship status and national origin. You can read this law at [8 U.S.C. § 1324b](#). **The Immigrant and Employee Rights Section (IER) may be able to help if an employer treats you unfairly in violation of this law.** The law that IER enforces is 8 U.S.C. § 1324b. The regulations for this law are at 28 C.F.R. Part 44. Call IER if an employer: Does not hire you or fires you because of your national origin or citizenship status (this may violate a part of the law at 8 U.S.C. § 1324b(a)(1)) Treats you unfairly while checking your right to work in the U.S., including while completing the **Form I-9** or using **E-Verify** (this may violate the law at 8 U.S.C. § 1324b(a)(1) or (a)(6)) Retaliates against you because you are speaking up for your right to work as protected by this law (the law prohibits retaliation at 8 U.S.C. § 1324b(a)(5)) The law can be complicated. Call IER to get more information on protections from discrimination based on citizenship status and national origin.

Immigrant and Employee Rights Section (IER)

1-800-255-7688 TTY 1-800-237-2515 www.justice.gov/ier IER@usdoj.gov



U.S. Department of Justice, Civil Rights Division, Immigrant and Employee Rights Section, January 2019

This guidance document is not intended to be a final agency action, has no legally binding effect, and has no force or effect of law. The document may be rescinded or modified at the Department's discretion, in accordance with applicable laws. The Department's guidance documents, including this guidance, do not establish legally enforceable responsibilities beyond what is required by the terms of the applicable statutes, regulations, or binding judicial precedent. For more information, see "Memorandum for All Components: Prohibition of Improper Guidance Documents," from Attorney General Jefferson B. Sessions III, November 16, 2017.



SI USTED TIENE DERECHO A TRABAJAR NO DEJE QUE NADIE SE LO quite

Si usted dispone de las capacidades, experiencia y derecho legal a trabajar, su estatus migratorio o de ciudadanía no debe representar un obstáculo, ni tampoco lo debe ser el lugar en que usted nació o ningún otro aspecto de su nacionalidad de origen. Existe una parte de las leyes migratorias de los EE. UU. que protegen a los trabajadores que cuentan con la debida autorización legal para trabajar de la discriminación por motivos de su estatus de ciudadanía o nacionalidad de origen. Puede consultar esta ley contenida en la **Sección 1324b del Título 8 del Código de los EE. UU.** **Es posible que la Sección de Derechos de Inmigrantes y Empleados (IER, por sus siglas en inglés) pueda ayudar si un empleador lo trata de una forma injusta, en contra de esta ley.** La ley que hace cumplir la IER es la Sección 1324b del Título 8 del Código de los EE. UU. Los reglamentos de dicha ley se encuentran en la Parte 44 del Título 28 del Código de Reglamentos Federales. Llame a la IER si un empleador: No lo contrata o lo despide a causa de su nacionalidad de origen o estatus de ciudadanía (esto podría representar una vulneración de parte de la ley contenida en la Sección 1324b(a)(1) del Título 8 del Código de los EE. UU.) Lo trata de una manera injusta a la forma de comprobar su derecho a trabajar en los EE. UU., incluyendo al completar el **Formulario I-9** o utilizar **E-Verify** (esto podría representar una vulneración de la ley contenida en la Sección 1324b(a)(1) o (a)(6) del Título 8 del Código de los EE. UU.) Toma represalias en su contra por haber defendido su derecho a trabajar al amparo de esta ley (la ley prohíbe las represalias, según se indica en la Sección 1324b(a)(5) del Título 8 del Código de los EE. UU.) Esta ley puede ser complicada. Llame a la IER para más información sobre las protecciones existentes contra la discriminación por motivos del estatus de ciudadanía o la nacionalidad de origen.

Sección de Derechos de Inmigrantes y Empleados (IER)

1-800-255-7688 TTY 1-800-237-2515 www.justice.gov/ier IER@usdoj.gov



Departamento de Justicia de los EE. UU., División de Derechos Civiles, Sección de Derechos de Inmigrantes y Empleados, enero del 2019

Este documento de orientación no tiene como propósito ser una decisión definitiva por parte de la agencia, no tiene ningún efecto jurídicamente vinculante y puede ser rescindido o modificado a la discreción del Departamento, conforme a las leyes aplicables. Los documentos de orientación del Departamento, entre ellos este documento de orientación, no establecen responsabilidades jurídicamente vinculantes más allá de lo que se requiere en los términos de las leyes aplicables, los reglamentos o los precedentes jurídicamente vinculantes. Para más información, véase «Memorandum para Todos Los Componentes: La Prohibición contra Documentos de Orientación Impropias», del Fiscal General Jefferson B. Sessions III, 16 de noviembre del 2017.



PRINT

PAY TRANSPARENCY

NONDISCRIMINATION PROVISION

The contractor will not discharge or in any other manner discriminate against employees or applicants because they have inquired about, discussed, or disclosed their own pay or the pay of another employee or applicant. However, employees who have access to the compensation information of other employees or applicants as a part of their essential job functions cannot disclose the pay of other employees or applicants to individuals who do not otherwise have access to compensation information, unless the disclosure is (a) in response to a formal complaint or charge, (b) in furtherance of an investigation, proceeding, hearing, or action, including an investigation conducted by the employer, or (c) consistent with the contractor's legal duty to furnish information. 41 CFR 60-1.35(c)

If you believe that you have experienced discrimination contact OFCCP
1.800.397.6251 | TTY 1.877.889.5627 | www.dol.gov/ofccp

200 CONSTITUTION AVENUE NW | WASHINGTON, DC 20210 | tel: 1-800-397-6251 | TTY: 1-877-889-5627 | www.dol.gov/ofccp



WHISTLEBLOWER RIGHTS

OSHA® Fact Sheet

OSHA's Whistleblower Protection Program OSHA's Whistleblower Protection Program enforces the provisions of more than 20 federal laws protecting employees from retaliation for, among other things, raising or reporting concerns about hazards or violations of various workplace safety and health, aviation safety, commercial motor carrier, consumer product, environmental, financial reform, food safety, health insurance reform, motor vehicle safety, nuclear, pipeline, public transportation agency, railroad, maritime, securities, tax, antitrust, and anti-money laundering laws. Employees who believe that they have experienced retaliation in violation of one of these laws may file a complaint with OSHA.

Whistleblower Laws Enforced by OSHA Following is a list of statutes which OSHA enforces. Each statute has a different time frame in which a complaint can be filed.

- *Anti-Money Laundering Act (90 days)*
- *Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (90 days)*
- *Clean Air Act (30 days)*
- *Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (30 days)*
- *Consumer Financial Protection Act of 2010 (180 days)*
- *Consumer Product Safety Improvement Act (180 days)*
- *Criminal Antitrust Anti-Retaliation Act (180 days)*
- *Energy Reorganization Act (180 days)*
- *Federal Railroad Safety Act (180 days)*
- *Federal Water Pollution Control Act (30 days) International Safe Container Act (60 days)*
- *Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (motor vehicle safety) (180 days)*
- *National Transit Systems Security Act (180 days)*
- *Occupational Safety and Health Act (OSH Act) (30 days)*
- *Pipeline Safety Improvement Act (180 days)*
- *Safe Drinking Water Act (30 days)*
- *Sarbanes-Oxley Act (180 days)*
- *Seaman's Protection Act (180 days)*
- *Section 402 of the FDA Food Safety Modernization Act (180 days)*
- *Section 1558 of the Affordable Care Act (180 days)*
- *Solid Waste Disposal Act (30 days)*
- *Surface Transportation Assistance Act (180 days)*
- *Taxpayer First Act (180 days)*
- *Toxic Substances Control Act (30 days)*
- *Wendell H. Ford Aviation Investment and Reform Act for the 21st Century (90 days)*

What Is Retaliation? Retaliation is an adverse action against an employee because of activity protected by one of these whistleblower laws. Retaliation can involve several types of actions, such as:

- Firing or laying off
- Demoting
- Denying overtime or promotion
- Disciplining

carrier, or in-person filing at an OSHA office is considered the date filed.

To file a complaint electronically, please visit: www.osha.gov/whistleblower/WBComplaint.

To contact an OSHA area office, employees should call 1-800-321-OSHA (6742) to be connected to the closest area office or visit www.osha.gov/contactus/bystate to find local OSHA office address and contact information.

When OSHA receives a complaint, OSHA will first review it to determine whether certain basic requirements are met, such as whether the complaint was filed on time. If so, the complaint will be investigated in order to determine whether the employer retaliated against the employee for engaging in activity protected under one of OSHA's whistleblower laws. OSHA may also attempt to assist the employer and employee in reaching a settlement of the case.

Private-sector employees throughout the United States and its territories and employees of the United States Postal Service (USPS) who suffer retaliation because of occupational safety or health activity are covered by section 11(c) of the OSH Act. In addition, private-sector employees are also covered by laws in States which operate their own comprehensive occupational safety and health programs approved by Federal OSHA ("State Plans"). For information on the whistleblower provisions of the 22 State Plan States which cover private-sector employees, visit www.osha.gov/stateplans.

With the exception of employees of the USPS, public-sector employees (those employed as municipal, county, state, territorial, or federal workers) are not covered by the OSH Act. State and local government employees are covered by the whistleblower provisions of all the States with State Plans, including six States which cover only State and local government employees.

A federal employee who is not a USPS employee who wishes to file a complaint alleging retaliation due to disclosure of a substantial and specific danger to public health or safety or involving a violation of an occupational safety or health standard or regulation should contact the Office of Special Counsel (www.osc.gov). Such federal employees are also covered by their own agency's procedures for remedying such retaliation.

WHISTLEBLOWER RIGHTS (Continued)

- Denying benefits
- Failing to hire or rehire
- Intimidation or harassment
- Making threats
- Reassignment to a less desirable position or affecting promotion prospects
- Reducing pay or hours
- More subtle actions, such as isolating, ostracizing, mocking, or falsely accusing the employee of poor performance
- Blacklisting (intentionally interfering with an employee's ability to obtain future employment)
- Constructive discharge (quitting when an employer makes working conditions intolerable due to the employee's protected activity)
- Reporting the employee to the police or immigration authorities

Filing a Complaint Employees who believe that their employers retaliated against them because they engaged in protected activity should contact OSHA as soon as possible because they must file any complaint within the legal time limits.

An employee can file a complaint with OSHA by visiting or calling their local OSHA office, sending a written complaint to the closest OSHA office, or filing a complaint online. No particular form is required and complaints may be submitted in any language.

Written complaints may be filed by fax, electronic communication, hand delivery during business hours, U.S. mail (confirmation services recommended), or other third-party commercial carrier.

The date of the postmark, fax, electronic communication, telephone call, hand delivery, delivery to a third-party commercial

Public-sector employees who are unsure whether they are covered under a whistleblower law should call 1-800-321-OSHA (6742) for assistance, or visit www.whistleblowers.gov.

Results of the Investigation If OSHA determines that retaliation in violation of the OSH Act, *Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act*, or the International Safe Container Act has occurred, the Secretary of Labor may sue in federal district court to obtain relief. If OSHA determines that no retaliation has occurred, it will dismiss the complaint.

Under the other whistleblower laws, if the evidence supports an employee's complaint of retaliation, OSHA will issue an order requiring the employer, as appropriate, to put the employee back to work, pay lost wages, and provide other possible relief. If the evidence does not support the employee's complaint, OSHA will dismiss the complaint. After OSHA issues a decision, the employer and/or the employee may request a full hearing before an administrative law judge of the Department of Labor. The administrative law judge's decision may be appealed to the Department's Administrative Review Board (ARB); in significant cases the Secretary of Labor may review the ARB decision. Aggrieved parties may seek review of final DOL decisions by the courts of appeals.

Under some of the laws, an employee may file the retaliation complaint in federal district court if the Department has not issued a final decision within a specified number of days (180, 210 or 365 depending on the law).

To Get Further Information To obtain more information on whistleblower laws, go to www.whistleblowers.gov.

This is one in a series of informational fact sheets highlighting OSHA programs, policies or standards. It does not impose any new compliance requirements. For a comprehensive list of compliance requirements of OSHA standards or regulations, refer to Title 29 of the Code of Federal Regulations. This information will be made available to sensory-impaired individuals upon request. The voice phone is (202) 693-1999; teletypewriter (TTY) number: (877) 889-5627.



Occupational
Safety and Health
Administration

DWPP FS-3638 08/2022

EEOC | KNOW YOUR RIGHTS: WORKPLACE DISCRIMINATION IS ILLEGAL



Know Your Rights: Workplace Discrimination is Illegal

The U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) enforces Federal laws that protect you from discrimination in employment. If you believe you've been discriminated against at work or in applying for a job, the EEOC may be able to help.

Who is Protected?

- Employees (current and former), including managers and temporary employees
- Job applicants
- Union members and applicants for membership in a union

What Organizations are Covered?

- Most private employers
- State and local governments (as employers)
- Educational institutions (as employers)
- Unions
- Staffing agencies

What Types of Employment Discrimination are Illegal?

Under the EEOC's laws, an employer may not discriminate against you, regardless of your immigration status, on the bases of:

- Race
- Color
- Religion
- National origin
- Sex (including pregnancy, childbirth, and related medical conditions, sexual orientation, or gender identity)
- Age (40 and older)
- Disability
- Genetic information (including employer requests for, or purchase, use, or disclosure of genetic tests, genetic services, or family medical history)

- Retaliation for filing a charge, reasonably opposing discrimination, or participating in a discrimination lawsuit, investigation, or proceeding
- Interference, coercion, or threats related to exercising rights regarding disability discrimination or pregnancy accommodation

What Employment Practices can be Challenged as Discriminatory?

All aspects of employment, including:

- Discharge, firing, or lay-off
- Harassment (including unwelcome verbal or physical conduct)
- Hiring or promotion
- Assignment
- Pay (unequal wages or compensation)
- Failure to provide reasonable accommodation for a disability; pregnancy, childbirth, or related medical condition; or a sincerely-held religious belief, observance or practice
- Benefits
- Job training
- Classification
- Referral
- Obtaining or disclosing genetic information of employees
- Requesting or disclosing medical information of employees
- Conduct that might reasonably discourage someone from opposing discrimination, filing a charge, or participating in an investigation or proceeding

- Conduct that coerces, intimidates, threatens, or interferes with someone exercising their rights, or someone assisting or encouraging someone else to exercise rights, regarding disability discrimination (including accommodation) or pregnancy accommodation

What can You Do if You Believe Discrimination has Occurred?

Contact the EEOC promptly if you suspect discrimination. Do not delay, because there are strict time limits for filing a charge of discrimination (180 or 300 days, depending on where you live/work). You can reach the EEOC in any of the following ways:

Submit an inquiry through the EEOC's public portal: <https://publicportal.eeoc.gov/Portal/Login.aspx>

Call 1-800-669-4000 (toll free)
1-800-669-6820 (TTY)
1-844-234-5122 (ASL video phone)

Visit an EEOC field office (information at www.eeoc.gov/field-office)

E-Mail info@eeoc.gov

Additional information about the EEOC, including information about filing a charge of discrimination, is available at www.eeoc.gov.



EMPLOYERS HOLDING FEDERAL CONTRACTS OR SUBCONTRACTS

The Department of Labor's Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs (OFCCP) enforces the nondiscrimination and affirmative action commitments of companies doing business with the Federal Government. If you are applying for a job with, or are an employee of, a company with a Federal contract or subcontract, you are protected under Federal law from discrimination on the following bases:

Race, Color, Religion, Sex, Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity, National Origin Executive Order 11246, as amended, prohibits employment discrimination by Federal contractors based on race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, or national origin, and requires affirmative action to ensure equality of opportunity in all aspects of employment.

Asking About, Disclosing, or Discussing Pay Executive Order 11246, as amended, protects applicants and employees of Federal contractors from discrimination based on inquiring about, disclosing, or discussing their compensation or the compensation of other applicants or employees.

Disability Section 503 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, protects qualified individuals with disabilities from discrimination in hiring, promotion, discharge, pay, fringe benefits, job training, classification, referral, and other aspects of employment by Federal contractors. Disability discrimination includes not making reasonable accommodation to the known physical or mental limitations of an otherwise qualified individual with a disability who is an applicant or employee, barring undue hardship to the employer. Section 503 also requires that Federal contractors take affirmative action to employ and advance in employment qualified individuals with disabilities at all levels of employment, including the executive level.

Protected Veteran Status The Vietnam Era Veterans' Readjustment Assistance Act of 1974, as amended, 38 U.S.C. 4212, prohibits employment discrimination against, and requires affirmative action to recruit, employ, and advance in employment, disabled veterans, recently separated veterans (i.e., within three years of discharge or release from active duty), active duty wartime or campaign badge veterans, or Armed Forces service medal veterans.

Retaliation Retaliation is prohibited against a person who files a complaint of discrimination, participates in an OFCCP proceeding, or otherwise opposes discrimination by Federal contractors under these Federal laws. Any person who believes a contractor has violated its nondiscrimination or affirmative action obligations under OFCCP's authorities should contact immediately:

The Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs (OFCCP)
U.S. Department of Labor
200 Constitution Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20210
1-800-397-6251 (toll-free)

If you are deaf, hard of hearing, or have a speech disability, please dial 7-1-1 to access telecommunications relay services. OFCCP may also be contacted by submitting a question online to OFCCP's Help Desk at <https://ofccphelpdesk.dol.gov/s/>, or by calling an OFCCP regional or district office, listed in most telephone directories under U.S. Government, Department of Labor and on OFCCP's "Contact Us" webpage at <https://www.dol.gov/agencies/ofccp/contact>.

PROGRAMS OR ACTIVITIES RECEIVING FEDERAL FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Race, Color, National Origin, Sex In addition to the protections of Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended, Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended, prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color or national origin in programs or activities receiving Federal financial assistance. Employment discrimination is covered by Title VI if the primary objective of the financial assistance is provision of employment, or where employment discrimination causes or may cause discrimination in providing services under such programs. Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 prohibits employment discrimination on the basis of sex in educational programs or activities which receive Federal financial assistance.

Individuals with Disabilities Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, prohibits employment discrimination on the basis of disability in any program or activity which receives Federal financial assistance. Discrimination is prohibited in all aspects of employment against persons with disabilities who, with or without reasonable accommodation, can perform the essential functions of the job. If you believe you have been discriminated against in a program of any institution which receives Federal financial assistance, you should immediately contact the Federal agency providing such assistance.

(Revised 6/27/2023)

PRINT

14 Federal Labor Laws

LaborLawCenter.com Questions? Learn more by calling 1-800-745-9970

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