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Whistleblowers Protection Act: Protection of Employees Who Report or Refuse to Commit Illegal Acts, May. 2002

Labor/Labor Standards

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WHISTLEBLOWERS' PROTECTION ACT

Protection of Employees Who Report or Refuse to Commit Illegal Acts



All employers are required by Title 26 MRSA, Section 839 to prominently post this notice in their places of business so that employees are informed of their protections and obligations under this subchapter. Failure to post this notice is a civil violation which could result in a fine.

SUMMARY OF THE "WHISTLEBLOWERS' PROTECTION ACT"

(This is a brief summary in plain language and should not be taken as the exact law. The actual law can be found in Title 26 MRSA, Chapter 7, Subchapter V-B)

It is illegal for your boss to fire, threaten or treat you differently because:

1. You reported a violation of a law;
2. You reported something that risks someone's health or safety;
3. You have refused to do something that will endanger your life or someone else's life and you have asked your employer to correct it; or
4. You have been involved in an investigation or hearing held by the government.

You are protected by this law **ONLY** if:

1. You tell your boss about the problem and allow a reasonable time for it to be corrected; or
2. You have good reason to believe that your boss will not correct the problem.

To report a violation, unsafe condition or practice or an illegal act in your workplace, contact:

(This information should be filled in by the employer)

| | | |
|--------|---------|---------------------|
| | | |
| (Name) | (Title) | (Location or Phone) |

To file a complaint under this law contact:

The Maine Human Rights Commission
51 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333
TEL: (207) 624-6050
TTY: (207) 624-6040

Useful information in the following areas may be obtained by contacting:

Federal Wage & Hour:
U.S. Department of Labor
Wage & Hour Division
P.O. Box 554
Portland, Maine 04112
TEL: (207) 780-3344

Federal Workplace Safety and Health:
U.S. Department of Labor/OSHA
100 Middle Street, Suite 410 West
Portland, Maine 04112
TEL: (207) 780-3178

202 Harlow Street Room 211
Bangor, Maine 04401
TEL: (207) 941-8177

State Wage & Hour & Child Labor Laws:
Maine Department of Labor
Bureau of Labor Standards
Wage and Hour Division
45 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333
TEL: (207) 624-6400
TTY: 1-800-794-1110

State Workplace Safety & Health Laws & Consultation Services:
Maine Department of Labor
Bureau of Labor Standards
Workplace Safety & Health Division
45 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333
TEL: 1-877-SAFE-345 or (207) 624-6400
TTY: 1-800-794-1110

Additional copies of this poster may be obtained by contacting the Bureau of Labor Standards or from the following website: <http://www.state.me.us/labor/blsmain.htm> (click on required posters). This poster may be reproduced.

State of Maine, Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Standards
45 State House Station, Augusta, Maine 04330-0045
TEL: (207) 624-6400 TTY: 1-800-794-1110
Visit our website at: <http://www.state.me.us/labor/blsmain.htm>
E-mail: webmaster.blis@state.me.us

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