

NEVADA SAFETY AND HEALTH PROTECTION ON THE JOB

The Nevada Occupational Safety and Health Act, NRS Chapter 618, provides job safety and health protection for workers through the promotion of safe and healthful working conditions throughout the State of Nevada. Requirements of the Act include the following:

EMPLOYERS:

Each employer shall furnish to each of his employees employment and a place of employment free from recognized hazards that are causing or are likely to cause death or serious physical harm to his employees; and shall comply with occupational safety and health standards adopted under the Act.

EMPLOYEES:

Each employee shall comply with all occupational safety and health standards, rules, regulations and orders issued under the Act that apply to his own actions and conduct on the job.

The Nevada Occupational Safety and Health Administration (Nevada OSHA) of the Division of Industrial Relations, Department of Business and Industry, has the primary responsibility for administering the Act. Nevada OSHA enforces occupational safety and health standards, and its Safety and Health Representatives/ Industrial Hygienists conduct jobsite inspections to ensure compliance with the Act.

INSPECTION:

The Act requires that a representative of the employer and a representative authorized by the employees be given an opportunity to accompany the Nevada OSHA inspector for the purpose of aiding the inspection.

Where there is no authorized employee representative, the Nevada OSHA Safety and Health Representative/ Industrial Hygienist must consult with a reasonable number of employees concerning safety and health conditions in the workplace.

COMPLAINT:

Employees, public or private, or their representatives have the right to file a complaint with the nearest Nevada OSHA office requesting an inspection if they believe unsafe or unhealthful conditions exist in their workplace. Nevada OSHA will hold confidential names of employees complaining.

The Act provides that employees may not be discharged or discriminated against in any way for filing safety and health complaints or otherwise exercising their rights under the Act.

An employee, public or private, who believes he has been discriminated against may file a complaint within thirty (30) days of the alleged discrimination with the nearest Nevada OSHA office or with U.S. Department of Labor/OSHA, Region IX, San Francisco Federal Building, 90 - 7th Street, Suite 18100, San Francisco, CA 94103.

CITATIONS:

If upon inspection Nevada OSHA believes an employer has violated the Act, a citation alleging such violations will be issued to the employer. Each citation will specify a time period within which the alleged violation must be corrected.

The Nevada OSHA citation must be prominently displayed at or near the place of alleged violation for three days, or until it is corrected, whichever is later, to warn employees of dangers that may exist there.

PROPOSED PENALTY:

The Act provides for mandatory penalties against employers of up to \$7,000 for each serious violation and for optional penalties of up to \$7,000 for each nonserious violation. Penalties of up to \$7,000 per day may be proposed for failure to correct violations within the proposed time period. Also, any employer who willfully or repeatedly violates the Act may be assessed penalties of up to \$70,000 for each such violation.

Criminal penalties are also provided for in the Act. Any willful violation resulting in death of an employee, upon conviction, is punishable by a fine of not more than \$20,000 or by imprisonment for not more than six months, or by both. Conviction of any employer after a first conviction doubles these maximum penalties. Penalties may be proposed for public employers.

VOLUNTARY ACTIVITY:

While providing penalties for violations, the Act also encourages efforts by labor and management, before a Nevada OSHA inspection, to reduce injuries and illnesses arising out of employment.

The Nevada Occupational Safety and Health Administration of the Division of Industrial Relations, Department of Business and Industry, encourages employers and employees to reduce workplace hazards voluntarily and to develop and improve safety and health programs in all workplaces and industries.

Such cooperative action would initially focus on the identification and elimination of hazards that could cause death, injury, or illness to employees and supervisors.

Further information and assistance will be provided by Nevada OSHA to employees and employers upon request.

MORE INFORMATION:

Additional information and copies of the Act, specific Nevada OSHA safety and health standards, and other applicable regulations may be obtained by calling or writing the nearest Nevada OSHA district office in the following locations:

Southern Nevada

1301 N. Green Valley Pkwy., Suite 200
Henderson, Nevada 89074
Telephone: (702) 486-9020
Fax: (702) 990-0358

Northern Nevada

4600 Kietzke Lane, Suite F-153
Reno, Nevada 89502
Telephone: (775) 824-4600
Fax: (775) 688-1378

NOTE:

Persons wishing to register a complaint alleging inadequacy in the administration of the Nevada Occupational Safety and Health Plan may do so at the following address:

U.S. Department of Labor/OSHA, Region IX
San Francisco Federal Building
90 - 7th Street, Suite 18100
San Francisco, CA 94103
Telephone: (415) 625-2547

EMPLOYERS: This poster must be displayed prominently in the workplace.