EMPLOYEE RIGHTS

UNDER THE FAIR LABOR STANDARDS ACT

FEDERAL MINIMUM WAGE

$7.25 PER HOUR

BEGINNING JULY 24, 2009

STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES

OVERTIME PAY

At least 1½ times the regular rate of pay for all hours worked over 40 in a workweek.

Law enforcement and fire protection personnel: You may be paid overtime on the basis of a "work period" of between 7 and 28 consecutive days in length, rather than on a 40-hour workweek basis.

COMPENSATORY TIME

Employees may receive compensatory time off instead of cash overtime pay, at a rate of not less than 1½ hours for each overtime hour worked, where provided pursuant to an agreement or understanding that meets the requirements of the Act.

EXEMPTIONS

The Act does not apply to persons who are not subject to the civil service laws of State or local governments and who are: elected public officials, certain immediate advisors to such officials, certain individuals appointed or selected by such officials to serve in various capacities, or employees of legislative branches of State and local governments. Employees of legislative libraries do not come within this exclusion and are thus covered by the Act.

Certain types of workers are exempt from the minimum wage and overtime pay provisions, including bona fide executive, administrative, and professional employees who meet regulatory requirements.

Any law enforcement or fire protection employee who in any workweek is employed by a public agency employing less than 5 employees in law enforcement or fire protection activities is exempt from the overtime pay provisions.

YOUTH EMPLOYMENT

16 years old is the minimum age for most occupations. An 18-year old minimum applies to hazardous occupations. Minors 14 and 15 years old may work outside school hours under certain conditions. For more information, visit the YouthRules! website at www.youthrules.gov

ENFORCEMENT

The Department has authority to recover back wages and an equal amount in liquidated damages in instances of minimum wage, overtime, and other violations. The Department may litigate and/or recommend criminal prosecution. Employers may be assessed civil money penalties for each willful or repeated violation of the minimum wage or overtime pay provisions of the law. Civil money penalties may also be assessed for violations of the FLSA's child labor provisions. Heightened civil money penalties may be assessed for each child labor violation that results in the death or serious injury of any minor employee, and such assessments may be doubled when the violations are determined to be willful or repeated. The law also prohibits retaliating against or discharging workers who file a complaint or participate in any proceeding under the FLSA.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- Some state laws provide greater employee protections; employers must comply with both.
- Employees under 20 years of age may be paid a youth minimum wage of not less than $4.25 an hour during their first 90 consecutive calendar days after initial employment by an employer.
- Employers are required to display this poster where employees can readily see it.

The law requires employers to display this poster where employees can readily see it.

WAGE AND HOUR DIVISION
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