

# LABOR LAWS

Since 1953

# **OKLAHOMA**

## **EMPLOYEE RIGHTS UNDER** THE FAIR LABOR STANDARDS ACT

## FEDERAL MINIMUM WAGE **\$7.25 PER HOUR**

## **BEGINNING JULY 24, 2009**

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

## **OVERTIME PAY**

FED

At least 1<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> times the regular rate of pay for all hours worked over 40 in a workweek.

## **CHILD LABOR**

An employee must be at least 16 years old to work in most non-farm jobs and at least 18 to work in non-farm jobs declared hazardous by the Secretary of Labor. Youths 14 and 15 years old may work outside school hours in various non-manufacturing, non-mining, non-hazardous jobs with certain work hours restrictions. Different rules apply in agricultural employment.

#### **TIP CREDIT**

Employers of "tipped employees" who meet certain conditions may claim a partial wage credit based on tips received by their employees. Employers must pay tipped employees a cash wage of at least \$2.13 per hour if they claim a tip credit against their minimum wage obligation. If an employee's tips combined with the employer's cash wage of at least \$2.13 per hour do not equal the minimum hourly wage, the employer must make up the difference.

## PUMP AT WORK

DEPARTMENT

UNITED STATES

WHO IS AN EMPLOYEE?

by an employer but shall not include:

OF LABOR

OF AMERICA

OK

(2)

(3)

(4)

(5)

(7)

(8)

(9)

(10)

(11)

(12)

OK

The FLSA requires employers to provide reasonable break time for a nursing employee to express breast milk for their nursing child for one year after the child's birth each time the employee needs to express breast milk. Employers must provide a place, other than a bathroom, that is shielded from view and free from intrusion from coworkers and the public, which may be used by the employee to express breast milk.

40 O.S. § 197.4 (e) – "Employee" includes any individual employed

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**

ENFORCEMENT

Certain occupations and establishments are exempt from the minimum wage, and/or overtime pay provisions. Certain narrow exemptions also apply to the pump at work requirements.

Special provisions apply to workers in American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico.

Some state laws provide greater employee protections; employers must comply with both.

Some employers incorrectly classify workers as "independent contractors" when they are actually employees under the FLSA. It is important to know the difference between the two because employees (unless exempt) are entitled to the FLSA's minimum wage and overtime pay protections and correctly classified independent contractors are not.

Certain full-time students, student learners, apprentices, and workers with disabilities may be paid less than the minimum wage under special

certificates issued by the Department of Labor.

WH1088

REV. 04/2023

WAGE AND HOUR DIVISION 1-866-487-9243 UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT www.dol.gov/agencies/whd OF LABOR

Department of Labor, Employment Standards Division

Your Rights Under the Oklahoma Minimum Wage Act

40 O.S. § 197.1 et seq.

are exempt

### **YOUR RIGHTS UNDER USERRA** THE UNIFORMED SERVICES EMPLOYMENT AND REEMPLOYMENT RIGHTS ACT

USERRA protects the job rights of individuals who voluntarily or involuntarily leave employment positions to undertake military service or certain types of service in the National Disaster Medical System. USERRA also prohibits employers from discriminating against past and present members of the uniformed services, and applicants to the uniformed services.

#### REEMPLOYMENT RIGHTS

FED

You have the right to be reemployed in your civilian job if you leave that job to perform service in the uniformed service and:

- you ensure that your employer receives advance written or verbal notice of your service;
- you have five years or less of cumulative service in the uniformed services while with that particular employer;
- you return to work or apply for reemployment in a timely manner after conclusion of service; and

• you have not been separated from service with a disqualifying discharge or under other than honorable conditions. If you are eligible to be reemployed, you must be restored to the job and benefits you would have attained if you had not been absent due to military service or, in some cases, a comparable job.

#### **RIGHT TO BE FREE FROM DISCRIMINATION AND RETALIATION**

If you: are a past or present member of the uniformed service;
are obligated to serve in the uniformed service; have applied for membership in the uniformed service;

then an employer may not deny you: initial employment;

reemployment;

because of this status.

 promotion; or any benefit of employment

retention in employment;

In addition, an employer may not retaliate against anyone assisting in the enforcement of USERRA rights, including testifying or making a statement in connection with a proceeding under USERRA, even if that person has no service connection.

#### HEALTH INSURANCE PROTECTION

- If you leave your job to perform military service, you have the right to elect to continue your existing
- employer-based health plan coverage for you and your dependents for up to 24 months while in the military. Even if you don't elect to continue coverage during your military service, you have the right to be reinstated in your employer's health plan when you are reemployed, generally without any waiting periods or exclusions (e.g., pre-existing condition exclusions) except for service-connected illnesses or injuries.

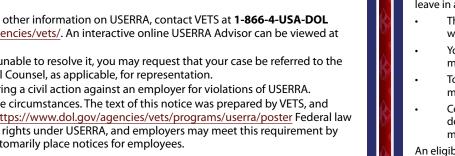
#### ENFORCEMENT

The U.S. Department of Labor, Veterans Employment and Training Service (VETS) is authorized to investigate and resolve complaints of USERRA violations

- For assistance in filing a complaint, or for any other information on USERRA, contact VETS at 1-866-4-USA-DOL or visit its website at https://www.dol.gov/agencies/vets/. An interactive online USERRA Advisor can be viewed at https://webapps.dol.gov/elaws/vets/userra
- If you file a complaint with VETS and VETS is unable to resolve it, you may request that your case be referred to the Department of Justice or the Office of Special Counsel, as applicable, for representation.

You may also bypass the VETS process and bring a civil action against an employer for violations of USERRA. The rights listed here may vary depending on the circumstances. The text of this notice was prepared by VETS, and may be viewed on the internet at this address: https://www.dol.gov/agencies/vets/programs/userra/poster Federal law requi res employers to notify employees of their rights under USERRA, and employers may meet this requirement by displaying the text of this notice where they customarily place notices for employees.

U.S. Department of Labor • 1-866-487-2365 U.S. Department of Justice Office of Special Counsel Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve • 1-800-336-4590



FEDERAL

REV. 05/2022



**NOTICE TO WORKERS UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE BENEFITS** If you lose your job or if you work less than full time and get less than

#### **EMPLOYEE RIGHTS EMPLOYEE POLYGRAPH PROTECTION ACT** The Act permits polygraph (a kind of lie detector) tests to The Employee Polygraph Protection Act prohibits ength of the test. Examinees have a number of specific rights. be administered in the private sector, subject to restrictions, most private employers from using lie detector tests to certain prospective employees of security service firms either for pre-employment screening or during the (armored car, alarm, and guard), and of pharmaceutical manufacturers, distributors and dispensers.

The Act also permits polygraph testing, subject to restrictions, of certain employees of private firms who are reasonably suspected of involvement in a workplace incident (theft, embezzlement, etc.) that resulted in economic loss to the employer

**EXEMPTIONS** 

course of employment.

PROHIBITIONS

FED

Federal, State and local governments are not affected by the law. Also, the law does not apply to tests given by the Federal Government to certain private individuals engaged in national security-related activities.

requesting any employee or job applicant to take a lie detector

against an employee or prospective employee for refusing to

The law does not preempt any provision of any State or local law or any collective bargaining agreement which is more

Where polygraph tests are permitted, they are subject to

including the right to a written notice before testing, the right to refuse or discontinue a test, and the right not to have test results disclosed to unauthorized persons.

#### **ENFORCEMENT**

The Secretary of Labor may bring court actions to restrain violations and assess civil penalties against violators. Employees or job applicants may also bring their own court actions.

THE LAW REQUIRES EMPLOYERS TO DISPLAY THIS POSTER WHERE EMPLOYEES AND JOB APPLICANTS CAN READILY SEE IT.

## **EXAMINEE RIGHTS**

restrictive with respect to lie detector tests.

numerous strict standards concerning the conduct and

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Employers are generally prohibited from requiring or

test, and from discharging, disciplining, or discriminating

take a test or for exercising other rights under the Act.

#### 1-866-487-9243 UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF LABOR www.dol.gov/agencies/whd

WH1462

Management or Congress.

qualifying reason,

taken leave, and

a WHD investigation.

the end of your leave.

REV. 02/2022

congressional employees are also covered by the law but

If you are eligible for FMLA leave, your **employer** must:

What does my employer need to do?

are subject to the jurisdiction of the U.S. Office of Personnel

Allow you to take job-protected time off work for a

Continue your group health plan coverage while

Allow you to return to the same job, or a virtually

Your employer cannot interfere with your FMLA rights

or threaten or punish you for exercising your rights under

against you for requesting FMLA leave or cooperating with

the law. For example, your employer cannot retaliate

eligible, your **employer must notify you in writing**:

identical job with the same pay, benefits and other

working conditions, including shift and location, at

you are on leave on the same basis as if you had not

## YOUR EMPLOYEE RIGHTS UNDER THE FAMILY AND MEDICAL LEAVE ACT

WAGE AND HOUR DIVISION

#### What is FMLA leave?

FED

The Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA) is a federal law that provides eligible employees with **job-protected** 

leave for qualifying family and medical reasons. The U.S.

Department of Labor's Wage and Hour Division (WHD) enforces the FMLA for most employees

- Eligible employees can take up to 12 workweeks of FMLA leave in a 12-month period for
- The birth, adoption or foster placement of a child with you,
- Your serious mental or physical health condition that
- makes you unable to work, To care for your spouse, child or parent with a serious • mental or physical health condition, and
- Certain qualifying reasons related to the foreign deployment of your spouse, child or parent who is a military servicemember
- An eligible employee who is the spouse, child, parent or next of kin of a covered servicemember with a serious
- injury or illness may take up to 26 workweeks of FMLA leave in a single 12-month period to care for the
- servicemember You have the right to use FMLA leave in **one block of time**. When it is medically necessary or otherwise permitted, you may take FMLA leave intermittently in separate blocks of time, or on a reduced schedule by working less
- hours each day or week. Read Fact Sheet #28M(c) for more information.
  - FMLA leave is not paid leave, but you may choose, or be required by your employer, to use any employer-provided paid leave if your employer's paid leave policy covers the reason for which you need FMLA leave.

## m I eligible to take FMLA leave?

You have at least 1,250 hours of service for your law or collective bargaining agreement that provides greater family or medical leave rights. employer during the 12 months before your leave,

- State employees may be subject to certain limitations Your employer has at least 50 employees within 75 in pursuit of direct lawsuits regarding leave for their miles of your work location. own serious health conditions. Most federal and certain
- Airline flight crew employees have different "hours of service" requirements.

#### You work for a **covered employer** if **one** of the following applies:

- You work for a private employer that had at least 50 employees during at least 20 workweeks in the current or previous calendar year,
- You work for an elementary or public or private secondary school, or
- You work for a public agency, such as a local, state or federal government agency. Most federal employees
- are covered by Title II of the FMLA, administered by the Office of Personnel Management.

## How do I request FMLA leave?

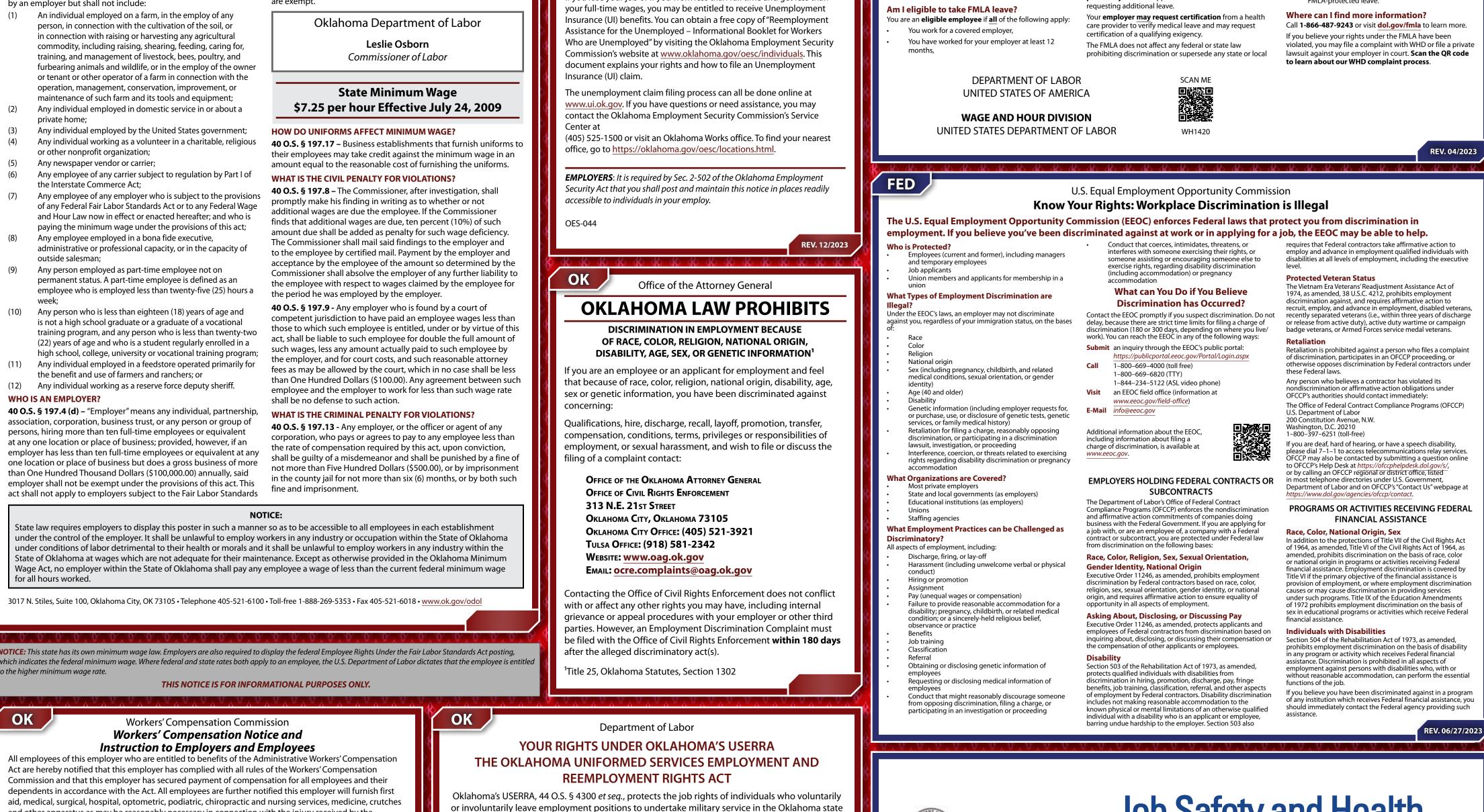
Generally, to request FMLA leave you must Follow your employer's normal policies for requesting leave

as possible.

- Give notice at least 30 days before your need for FMLA leave, or
  - After becoming aware that your need for leave is for a If advance notice is not possible, give notice as soon reason that may qualify under the FMLA, your **employer** must confirm whether you are eligible or not eligible for FMLA leave. If your employer determines that you are

You **do not have to share a medical diagnosis** but must provide enough information to your employer so they can etermine whether the leave qualifies for FMLA protection.

About your FMLA rights and responsibilities, and You must also inform your employer if FMLA leave was How much of your requested leave, if any, will be previously taken or approved for the same reason when FMLA-protected leave.



employee, as well as payments of compensation to any injured employee or the employee's dependents as provided in the Act.

and other apparatus as may be reasonably necessary in connection with the injury received by the

Any employee who has suffered a compensable injury covered by the Administrative Workers' Compensation Act is entitled to vocational rehabilitation services, including retraining and job placement, if, as a result of the injury, the employee is unable to perform work for which the person has previous training or experience.

The Oklahoma Workers' Compensation Commission has a Counselor Division to provide information to injured workers, employers, and other interested persons.	Signature of Employer
Mediation is available to help resolve certain workers' compensation disputes.	Insurer Name and Address
For information, call the Counselor Division at 405-522-5308 or In-State Toll Free 855-291-3612.	Date of Expiration of Insurance Policy (Not applicable to employers authorized to self-insure.)

#### **Employee's Responsibilities In Case of Work Related Injury**

If accidentally injured or affected by cumulative trauma or an occupational disease arising out of and in the course of employment, however slight, the employee should notify the employer immediately. If this employer is a partnership, notice shall be given to any partner. If this employer is a corporation, notice shall be given to any agent or officer of the corporation upon whom legal process may be served. Notice shall also be given to the person in charge of business at the location of operations where the injury occurred. Unless oral or written notice is given to the employer within thirty (30) days, the claim for compensation may be forever barred.

The employee may file a claim for compensation with the WORKERS' COMPENSATION COMMISSION for an accidental injury, death, cumulative trauma or occupational disease or illness occurring **ON OR AFTER** February 1, 2014. Forms to file a compensation claim should be furnished by this employer and also are available from the Workers' Compensation Commission. The forms are posted on the Commission's website, www.wcc.ok.gov.

A claim for compensation must be filed with the Commission within the time specified by law, or be forever barred. Based on law effective May 28, 2019, a claim for compensation for any accidental injury must be filed with the Commission within one (1) year of the date of injury or, if the employee has received benefits under Title 85A for the injury, six (6) months from the date of the last issuance of such benefits; a death claim must be filed within two (2) years of the date of death; a claim for compensation for occupational disease or illness must be filed within two (2) years of the last injurious exposure; and a claim for compensation for cumulative trauma must be filed within one (1) year of the date of injury.

Claims for compensation for accidental injury, death, cumulative trauma or occupational disease or illness occurring BEFORE February 1, 2014 may be filed with the WORKERS' COMPENSATION COURT OF EXISTING CLAIMS and are subject to different notice of injury requirements and claims filing deadlines than those for accidental injury, death, cumulative trauma or occupational disease or illness occurring on or after February 1, 2014. Failure to comply with applicable notice requirements and deadlines may operate to forever bar the claim. Contact the WORKERS' COMPENSATION COURT **OF EXISTING CLAIMS for additional information.** 

#### Employer's Responsibilities

The employer must provide employees with immediate first aid, medical, surgical, hospital, optometric, podiatric, chiropractic, and nursing services, medicine, crutches and other apparatus as may be reasonably necessary in connection with the injury received by the employee. This applies to care for all injuries and illnesses arising out of and in the course of employment, regardless of their character. Within ten (10) days after the date of receipt of notice or knowledge of death or injury that results in the loss of time beyond the shift or medical attention away from the work site, the employer or the employer's representative MUST send a report thereof to the Workers' Compensation Commission via Electronic Data Interchange as specified in Commission rules.

No agreement by any employee to pay any portion of the premium paid by the employer to a carrier or a benefit fund or department maintained by the employer for the purpose of providing compensation or medical services and supplies as required by the workers' compensation laws, shall be valid. Any employer who makes a deduction for such purposes from the pay of any employee entitled to benefits under the workers' compensation laws shall be guilty of a misdemeanor.

No agreement by any employee to waive workers' compensation rights and benefits shall be valid.

Any person who commits workers' compensation fraud, upon conviction, shall be guilty of a felony punishable by imprisonment, a fine or both.

WORKERS' COMPENSATION COMMISSION **1915 NORTH STILES AVENUE O**KLAHOMA **CITY**, **O**KLAHOMA **73105-4918** TELE. 405-522-5308 (OKC) • 918-295-3732 (TU) • IN-STATE TOLL FREE 855-291-3612 military forces. USERRA also prohibits employers from discriminating against past and present members of the Oklahoma state military forces, and applicants to the Oklahoma state military forces.

Oklahoma state military forces include the National Guard of the State of Oklahoma, which includes an army component and an air force component; the Oklahoma State Guard; and any other military force organized under the Constitution and laws of the State of Oklahoma when not in a status placing them under exclusive federal jurisdiction. Unless otherwise established by Oklahoma law, the unorganized militia or any other state military force that does not meet this definition shall not be considered part of the "state military forces."

## **REEMPLOYMENT RIGHTS**

You have the right to be reemployed in your civilian job if you leave that job to perform service in the Oklahoma state military forces and:

you ensure that your employer receives advance written or verbal notice of your service;

you have five years or less of cumulative service in the uniformed services while with that particular employer;

you return to work or apply for reemployment in a timely manner after conclusion of service;

you have not been separated from service with a disgualifying discharge or under other than honorable conditions.

If you are eligible to be reemployed, you must be restored to the job and benefits you would have attained if you had not been absent due to military service or, in some cases, a comparable job.

### **RIGHT TO BE FREE FROM DISCRIMINATION AND RETALIATION**

- If you:
- are a past or present member of the Oklahoma state military forces;
- have applied for membership in the Oklahoma state military forces; or
- are obligated to serve in the Oklahoma state military forces;
- Then an employer, including a state agency, may not deny you:
- initial employment;
- reemployment;
- retention in employment;
- promotion; or
- any benefit of employment

because of this status. In addition, an employer may not retaliate against anyone assisting in the enforcement of USERRA rights, including testifying or making a statement in connection with a proceeding under USERRA, even if that person has no service connection.

## **HEALTH INSURANCE PROTECTION**

If you leave your job to perform military service in the Oklahoma state military forces, you have the right to elect to continue your existing employer-based health plan coverage for you and your dependents for up to 24 months while in the service of the Oklahoma state military forces.

Even if you don't elect to continue coverage during your service in the Oklahoma state military forces, you have the right to be reinstated in your employer's health plan when you are reemployed, generally without any waiting periods or exclusions (e.g., pre-existing condition exclusions) except for service-connected illnesses or injuries.

## **ENFORCEMENT**

The Oklahoma Commissioner of Labor is authorized to investigate and resolve complaints of Oklahoma USERRA violations.

For assistance in filing a complaint, or for any other information on USERRA, contact the Oklahoma Department of Labor's Wage & Hour Division at 1-405-521-6100 or visit its website at http://www.ok.gov/Labor.

If you file a complaint with the Oklahoma Department of Labor ("ODOL") against a state government employer and ODOL is unable to resolve it, you may request that your case be referred to the District Attorney with relevant jurisdiction for representation.

You may also bypass the ODOL complaint process and bring a civil action against an employer for violations of Oklahoma's USERRA.

The rights listed here may vary depending on the circumstances. 44 O.S. § 4334 requires employers to



## **Job Safety and Health IT'S THE LAW!**

## All workers have the right to:

- A safe workplace.
- Raise a safety or health concern with your employer or OSHA, or report a workrelated injury or illness, without being retaliated against.
- Receive information and training on job hazards, including all hazardous substances in your workplace.
- Request a confidential OSHA inspection of your workplace if you believe there are unsafe or unhealthy conditions. You have the right to have a representative contact OSHA on your behalf.
- Participate (or have your representative) participate) in an OSHA inspection and speak in private to the inspector.
- File a complaint with OSHA within 30 days (by phone, online or by mail) if you have been retaliated against for using your rights.
- See any OSHA citations issued to your employer.
- Request copies of your medical records, tests that measure hazards in the workplace, and the workplace injury and illness log.

This poster is available free from OSHA.

## Contact OSHA. We can help.

## **Employers must:**

- Provide employees a workplace free from recognized hazards. It is illegal to retaliate against an employee for using any of their rights under the law, including raising a health and safety concern with you or with OSHA, or reporting a work-related injury or illness.
- Comply with all applicable OSHA standards.
- Notify OSHA within 8 hours of a workplace fatality or within 24 hours of any work-related inpatient hospitalization, amputation, or loss of an eye.
- Provide required training to all workers in a language and vocabulary they can understand.
- Prominently display this poster in the workplace.
- Post OSHA citations at or near the place of the alleged violations.

On-Site Consultation services are available to small and medium-sized employers, without citation or penalty, through OSHA-supported consultation programs in every state.



1-800-321-OSHA (6742) • TTY 1-877-889-5627 • www.osha.gov

