

# **Orange County District Attorney's Office**



## **Public Works Unit**

# OCDA PUBLIC WORKS UNIT

- The District Attorney's Office created a new Public Works Unit within our Workers Compensation Insurance Unit in June 2011.
- This unit was created to ensure that contractors bidding on Public Works projects are on an even playing field and also to protect the wages and benefits of employees working on these projects. The unit focusses on investigating and prosecuting contractors and their agents who underpay employees prevailing wages as well as commit fraud in the workers' compensation arena.
- Work with Department of Industrial Relations (DIR), Employment Development Department (EDD), California Department of Insurance (CDI), and Contractor State License Board (CSLB).

# CERTIFIED PAYROLL REQUEST

**Labor Code Section 1776(f)(1)** Notwithstanding any other provision of law, agencies that are included in the Joint Enforcement Strike Force on the Underground Economy established pursuant to Section 329 of the Unemployment Insurance Code and other **law enforcement agencies investigating violations of law shall, upon request, be provided nonredacted copies of certified payroll records.**

Any copies of records or certified payroll made available for inspection and furnished upon request to the public by an agency included in the Joint Enforcement Strike Force on the Underground Economy or to a law enforcement agency investigating a violation of law shall be marked or redacted to prevent disclosure of an individual's name, address, and social security number.(2) An employer shall not be liable for damages in a civil action for any reasonable act or omission taken in good faith in compliance with this subdivision.

# LABOR CODE 1776

1776. (a) Each contractor and subcontractor shall keep accurate payroll records, showing the name, address, social security number, work classification, straight time and overtime hours worked each day and week, and the actual per diem wages paid to each journeyman, apprentice, worker, or other employee employed by him or her in connection with the public work. **Each payroll record shall contain or be verified by a written declaration that it is made under penalty of perjury**, stating both of the following:

- (1) The information contained in the payroll record is true and correct.
- (2) The employer has complied with the requirements of Sections 1771, 1811, and 1815 for any work performed by his or her employees on the public works project.

# LABOR CODE 1776

**(c) The certified payroll records shall be on forms provided by the Division of Labor Standards Enforcement or shall contain the same information as the forms provided by the division.** The payroll records may consist of printouts of payroll data that are maintained as computer records, if the printouts contain the same information as the forms provided by the division and the printouts are verified in the manner specified in subdivision (a).



# PENALTY OF PERJURY

Each payroll record shall contain or be verified by a written declaration that it is made under penalty of perjury, stating the information contained in the payroll record is true and correct.

I, \_\_\_\_\_, the undersigned, am the  
(Name – print)

\_\_\_\_\_ with the authority to act for and on behalf of  
(Position in business)

\_\_\_\_\_, certify under penalty of perjury  
(Name of business and/or contractor)

that the records or copies thereof submitted and consisting of \_\_\_\_\_  
(Description, number of pages)

are the originals or true, full, and correct copies of the originals which depict the payroll record(s)  
of the actual disbursements by way of cash, check, or whatever form to the individual or  
individuals named.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Form can be located at: <https://www.dir.ca.gov/dlse/DLSEFormA-1-131.pdf>

# COMMON CHARGING SECTIONS

**Labor Code 1778** – Taking and receiving portion of worker's wage on Public Works

**Penal Code 115(a)** – Record false and forged Instrument

**Insurance Code 11760(a)** – Misrepresent Facts to Worker's Compensation Insurance Company

**Insurance Code 11880(a)** – Fraud against State Compensation Insurance Fund

**Unemployment Insurance Code 2117.5** – Failure to properly report payroll taxes

**Unemployment Insurance Code 2118.5** – Willful failure to pay tax



# **TAKING OR RECEIVING PORTION OF WAGES OF WORKMAN Labor Code 1778**

Every person, who individually or as a representative of an awarding or public body or officer, or as a contractor or subcontractor doing public work, or agent or officer thereof, who takes, receives or conspires with another to take or receive, for his own use or the use of any other person any portion of the wages of any workman or working subcontractor, in connection with services rendered upon any public work is guilty of a felony.

- **The defendant was a contractor doing public work;**
- **The defendant hired a worker to render service upon a public works project**
- **The defendant paid wages to the worker**
- **The defendant took a portion of the workers wages**

# **PREMIUM FRAUD**

## **Labor Code 11760(a)**

Commission of premium fraud constitutes a Felony crime under the provisions of Insurance Code §11760(a) if the insurance company defrauded is a private insurance company .

- 1. A person made, or caused to be made, any knowingly false or fraudulent statement**
- 2. The statement was made either orally or in writing;**
- 3. The statement contained a fact material to the determination of the premium, the rate, or cost of the insurance**
- 4. The person made that statement for the purpose of reducing the premium, reducing the rate, or reducing the cost of insurance.**

# ACTIVITY SINCE JUNE 2011

**Search Warrants Served: 50**

Includes business, homes, banks, etc.

**Filed: 17 Defendants**

CONTRACTOR	STATUS
General Contractor	Completed – Received 2 years prison
Subcontractor / Fire Sprinkler	Completed - Received 2 years prison
Subcontractor / HVAC	Convicted 37 counts. Sentence pending
General Contractor	Court Case pending. Co-defendant 7 years 4 months
Subcontractor / Electrician (Bookkeeper & Office Manager)	Completed – (2) defendants received 6 months jail time and 3 years probation
Landscaper	Court Case pending

**Grand Jury Indictments: 4**

**Pending Cases: 9**

# CONTACT INFORMATION

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**Investigator Randy Inman**

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**Insurance Fraud Hotline**

**(714) 648-3650**

QUESTIONS?