

# ATTENTION EMPLOYEES

**The Michigan Whistleblowers' Protection Act (469 P .A. 1980) creates certain protections and obligations for employees and employers under Michigan law.**

## **PROTECTIONS:**

It is illegal for employers in Michigan to discharge, threaten or otherwise discriminate against you regarding your compensation, terms, conditions, location or privileges of employment because you or a person acting on your behalf reports or is about to report a violation or a suspected violation of federal, state or local laws, rules or regulations to a public body.

It is illegal for employers in Michigan to discharge, threaten or otherwise discriminate against you regarding your compensation, terms, conditions, location or privileges of employment because you take part in a public hearing, investigation, inquiry or court action.

## **OBLIGATIONS:**

The Act does not diminish or impair either your rights or the rights of your employer under any collective bargaining agreement.

The Act does not require your employer to compensate you for your participation in a public hearing, investigation, inquiry or court action.

The Act does not protect you from disciplinary action if you make a report to a public body that you know is false.

## **ENFORCEMENT:**

If you believe that your employer has violated this Act you may bring civil action in circuit court within 90 days of the alleged violation of the Act.

## **PENALTIES:**

Persons found in violation of this Act may be subject to a civil fine of up to \$500.00.

If your employer has violated this Act the court can order your reinstatement, the payment of back wages, full reinstatement of fringe benefits and seniority rights, actual damages, or any combination of these remedies. The court may also award all or a portion of the costs of litigation, including reasonable attorney fees and witness fees to the complainant if the court believes such an award is appropriate.

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