



The Office of the Minnesota Attorney General

helping people afford their lives and live with dignity, safety, and respect

Attorney General's Advisory Task Force on Worker Misclassification *Government Investigation & Enforcement Recommendations – Adopted Feb. 7, 2024*

- To ensure an effective and efficient whole of government approach to misclassification enforcement, the state should create an interagency misclassification enforcement and education partnership made up of Department of Labor and Industry, Department of Revenue, Department of Employment and Economic Development, Department of Commerce and the Attorney General's Office.
- With the goal of strengthening the communication and collaboration amongst the government partner entities, the partnership should:
 - set goals to maximize Minnesota's efforts to detect, investigate, and deter employee misclassification;
 - adopt a statement that the policy of the State of Minnesota is to prevent employers from misclassifying their workers;
 - share data and make referrals amongst the partner entities;
 - serve as the primary point of contact for workers, businesses and the public impacted by misclassification;
 - engage in public outreach and education; and
 - coordinate with other relevant government entities.
- Modify Minnesota's construction independent contractor statute (Minn. Stat. § 181.723) to promote enforcement efficiency, strengthen enforcement authority for Dept. of Labor and Industry, and enhance available remedies and penalties to disincentivize misclassification and systemic noncompliance.
- Update Minnesota's construction misclassification law to provide for individual and successor liability to address the issue of individuals or successor entities avoiding legal liability for violating the law.
- Modify the penalties and enforcement provisions in the misclassification statute (Minn. Stat. § 181.722) to promote enforcement efficiency, strengthen enforcement authority for Dept. of Labor and Industry and enhance available remedies and penalties to disincentivize misclassification and systemic noncompliance.

- Provide a private right of action by employees who have been misclassified.
- Explore strengthening incentives and protections for whistleblowers from misclassification.
- Modify the contractor registration system (326B.701) to:
 - simplify the registration application process by streamlining requirements and making them applicable to all persons required to register;
 - prohibit employers from requiring an individual, who is the person's employee, to register in the contractor registration system; and
 - change the connection between the contractor registration system and the Independent Contractor multi-factor analysis in Minn. Stat. § 181.723, to clarify the relationship and documentation required for an independent contractor relationship in the construction industry to exist.

Task Force Members:

Rod Adams, Executive Director, The New Justice Project, *Co-Chair*

Commissioner Nicole Blissenbach, Commissioner, Department of Labor and Industry

Octavio Chung Bustamante, Marketing Representative, LIUNA Minnesota and North Dakota

Representative Emma Greenman, Member of the Minnesota House of Representatives, *Co-Chair*

Melissa Hysing, Legislative Director, MN AFL-CIO

Burt Johnson, General Counsel, North Central States Regional Council of Carpenters

Briana Kemp, Policy Lead, Centro de Trabajadores Unidos en la Lucha (CTUL)

Amir Malik, Compliance Manager, City of Bloomington City Attorney's Office

Commissioner Paul Marquart, Commissioner, Department of Revenue

Senator Clare Oumou Verbeten, Member of the Minnesota Senate

Evan Rowe, Deputy Commissioner, Workforce Services and Operations, Department of Employment and Economic Development (DEED)

Aaron Sojourner, Senior Researcher, W. E. Upjohn Institute for Employment Research

Brittany VanDerBill, Owner, B. VanDerBill Consulting LLC

Kim Vu-Dinh, Associate Professor, Mitchell Hamline School of Law

Jonathan Weinhagen, President & CEO, Minneapolis Regional Chamber of Commerce

Advisory Task Force on Worker Misclassification

“Misclassifying workers hurts not only those who are misclassified and their families, it hurts all Minnesotans, including businesses who do the right thing by their employees by playing by the rules, and every Minnesota taxpayer who has to make up the slack for law breaking employers,” Attorney General Ellison said.

“I’ve created this task force to gather the best thinking about the problem and make practical, workable recommendations to the Legislature, State agencies, other levels of government, industry, nonprofit organizations, and advocates about how we can put an end to the problem. It’s another way we can help create a more level playing field and a fairer economy, which helps all Minnesotans better afford their lives and live with dignity, safety, and respect.”

Section I: Task Force Members

Task Force Co-Chairs

Co-Chairs: Representative Emma Greenman and Second Co-Chair to be Elected at First Meeting

Core Task Force Members:

1. Rod Adams, Executive Director, The New Justice Project
2. Commissioner Nicole Blissenbach, Commissioner, Department of Labor and Industry
3. Octavio Chung Bustamante, Marketing Representative, LIUNA Minnesota and North Dakota
4. Representative Emma Greenman, Member of the Minnesota House of Representatives
5. Melissa Hysing, Legislative Director, MN AFL-CIO
6. Burt Johnson, General Counsel, North Central States Regional Council of Carpenters
7. Briana Kemp, Policy Lead, Centro de Trabajadores Unidos en la Lucha (CTUL)
8. Amir Malik, Compliance Manager, City of Bloomington City Attorney’s Office
9. Commissioner Paul Marquart, Commissioner, Department of Revenue
10. Senator Clare Oumou Verbeten, Member of the Minnesota Senate
11. Evan Rowe, Deputy Commissioner, Workforce Services and Transformation, Department of Employment and Economic Development (DEED)
12. Aaron Sojourner, Senior Researcher, W. E. Upjohn Institute for Employment Research
13. Brittany VanDerBill, Owner, B. VanDerBill Consulting LLC
14. Kim Vu-Dinh, Associate Professor, Mitchell Hamline School of Law
15. Jonathan Weinhausen, President & CEO, Minneapolis Regional Chamber of Commerce

Ex Officio Members of the Task Force:

1. Lindsey Lee, Assistant Attorney General, Minnesota Attorney General's Office
 2. Brian Elliott, Executive Director, SEIU State Council
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Section II: Meetings and Events

Upcoming Meetings

Friday, March 15th, 10-noon

- In Person: Mitchell Hamline School of Law, 875 Summit Ave, St. Paul
- Virtually: [Online via Teams](#)

Friday, April 26th, 10-noon (Location TBD)

Past Meetings

September 13, 2023

- [Video Recording of the Meeting](#)
- [Agenda](#)
- [Minutes](#)
- [Overview Presentation Slides](#)
- [Open Meeting Laws Presentation Slides](#)

October 25, 2023

- [Video Recording of the Meeting](#)
- [Agenda](#)
- [Minutes](#)
- [Presentation from Department of Labor and Industry](#)
- [Presentation from Department of Employment and Economic Development](#)
- [Presentation from Department of Revenue](#)
- [Current MN statutes regarding worker misclassification](#)

November 20, 2023

- [Video Recording of the Meeting](#)
- [Agenda](#)
- [Minutes](#)
- [Subsidizing Abuse: How Public Financing Fuels Exploitation in Affordable Housing Construction](#)

December 13, 2023

- [Video Recording of the Meeting](#)
- [Agenda](#)
- [Minutes](#)
- [DoorDash Presentation](#)
- [DoorDash Terms of Service](#)
- [Task Rabbit Terms of Service](#)

January 8th, 2024

- [Video Recording of the Meeting](#)
- [Agenda](#)
- [Minutes](#)
- [PowerPoint Presentation on Misclassification Policies, National Employment Law Project](#)
- [National Federation of Independent Business – MN Letter](#)
- [Data on Independent Contractors](#) submitted by Brittany VanDerBill
- [Impact Stories of California AB5](#) Compiled by Freelancers Against AB5
- [List of Professions Impacted by AB5](#) Compiled by Freelancers Against AB5

Tuesday, January 23rd, 2024

- [Video Recording of the Meeting](#)
- [Agenda](#)
- [Policy Proposals](#) from Commissioner Nicole Blissenbach, Department of Labor and Industry

Wednesday, February 7th, 2024

- [Video Recording of the Meeting](#)
- [Agenda](#)
- [Policy Proposal](#) - Adopted Feb 27

Section III: Resources

Task Force Materials

- [By-Laws of Advisory Task Force on Worker Misclassification](#)
- [Virtual Meeting Norms](#)

Press

- **July 6, 2023:** [Attorney General Ellison forms Task Force on Worker Misclassification](#)
 - **September 7, 2023:** [Attorney General Ellison announces members of Worker Misclassification Task Force](#)
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Section IV: Participate

Community input is an important part of this Task Force, we encourage members of the public interested in this work to sign up for updates and stay engaged with this work.

If you would like to participate, please email Carin Mrotz at Carin.Mrotz@ag.state.mn.us

Public Comment Submission Form

This form is for Minnesotans to share their experiences with employment classification in order to inform the advisory task force. The Minnesota Attorney General's Office cannot respond to all comments or testimony it receives but may use information shared to help the task force study the issue of worker misclassification and make recommendations, which may include public policy or educational initiatives.

NOTICE: Task Force members and AGO staff will attend the meetings in person or via video conferencing or telephone. Under Minnesota Statutes section 13D.021, subdivision 3, if telephone or interactive technology is used to conduct a meeting the AGO shall allow a person to monitor the meeting electronically from a remote location. Public participants may monitor the meeting in person or via Zoom or by phone as stated above and may provide comments at the discretion of the co-chairs.

It is the policy of the Office of the Minnesota Attorney General to comply with the provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act, 42 U.S.C.A. Section 12101, et. seq. ("ADA"). The ADA provides, in part, that qualified individuals with disabilities shall not be excluded from participating in or be denied the benefits of any program, service or activity offered by the Office of the Minnesota Attorney General. If you require special accommodations to participate in the meeting, please email Carin Mrotz at Carin.Mrotz@ag.state.mn.us prior to the meeting.