



ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Pat Quinn
Governor

Catherine M. Shannon
Director

REPORT TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY ON THE ACTIVITIES AND ENFORCEMENT OF THE CHILD LABOR LAW - FY09

Dear Members of the General Assembly:

The Illinois Department of Labor administers and enforces the Child Labor Law, which regulates the employment of workers under the age of 16 and prohibits most work by children under the age of 14. In accordance with 820 ILCS 205/18.2, the Department is required to file a report with the General Assembly by January 1 each year summarizing its activities regarding administration and enforcement of this Act for the preceding fiscal year.

Compliance and enforcement is achieved through field investigations prompted by complaints or initiated through special targeted investigations. In Fiscal Year 2009, ten Compliance Officers investigated 950 establishments and cited 485 violations of the Child Labor Law.

Our continuing outreach educational efforts have helped ensure compliance by providing information and instruction to a variety of individuals and organizations. In FY09, presentations were given to groups of educators, business people, employer associations and employees. We continue to work with the State Board of Education to ensure that the work-study programs are in compliance with the state and federal Child Labor Law. An additional source of investigations is a quarterly report provided by the Illinois Workers' Compensation Commission, which indicates all reported injuries or fatalities for minors.

Throughout FY09, we received requests for waiver of hour restrictions for children working in motion pictures or related entertainment productions. We received and approved requests from motion picture production companies and theatrical productions at various theaters.

The 24-hour toll-free hotline remains in place and is used primarily by the Issuing Officers in schools to obtain assistance when issuing certificates, as well as to receive complaints and provide information to the general public. The hotline number is prominently displayed on our Labor Law Poster, which is to be posted in all businesses throughout the state.

In FY09, 14,605 employment certificates were issued, down from the 16,809 certificates reviewed last fiscal year. Copies of these certificates are sent to our office where they are reviewed and filed. The Department suspended and revoked 379 incorrectly issued certificates for various reasons including, alcohol served on the premises, hazardous occupation, and exposure to hazardous chemicals, etc.

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Violations cited in the field by Compliance Officers totaled 485 this fiscal year, with the greatest portion of these violations cited in the area of working hours. (Please see the summary of violations cited below.)

Penalties collected through our informal settlement conferences totaled \$9,585, which was deposited into the Child Labor and Day and Temporary Labor Enforcement Fund to fund enforcement activities. Settlement amounts are determined by the size of the business and the gravity of the violation. Most of the cases continue to be with first time offenders and smaller businesses.

FY 09 CHILD LABOR LAW VIOLATIONS BY CITATION SECTION

Regulation Section #	Explanation	Law Total:
205/1	- minors under the age of 14 years	17
205/3a	- more than six consecutive days	0
205/3b	- over 48 hours in one non-school week	26
205/3c	- over eight hours per day	0
205/3d	- before 7am or after 7pm (9pm, June 1st - Labor Day)	178
205/3e	- over three hours per day on a school day	24
205/3f	- over eight hours combining school and work	0
205/3g	- over 24 hours per school week	18
205/4	- no 30-minute meal period in 5 hour work period	0
205/5	- no posting of scheduled hours	0
205/6	- no time record maintained	16
205/7	- working in hazardous occupation	76
205/8	- theatrical hours restriction	0
205/8.1	- television and motion picture hours restriction	0
205/9	- no valid employment certificate	73
205/13	- no employment certificate on the premises	49
205/19	- willful refusal to access records or premises	0
215/3	- no valid employer permit (Street Trades)	0
215/4	- no minor's permits (Street Trades)	0
250.500c	- failure to make, maintain, or provide time records	8
TOTAL VIOLATIONS:		485