



## ***U.S. DOL Reminds Employers They Cannot Retaliate Against Workers For Reporting Unsafe Conditions During The Corona Virus Pandemic***

**United States Department of Labor News Release April 8, 2020**

**Washington DC:** The U.S Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) is reminding employers that it is illegal to retaliate against workers because they report unsafe and unhealthful working conditions during the coronavirus pandemic. Acts of retaliation can include terminations, demotions, denials of overtime or promotion, or reductions in pay or hours.

"Employees have the right to safe and healthy workplaces," said Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary Loren Sweatt. "Any worker who believes that their employer is retaliating against them for reporting unsafe working conditions should contact OSHA immediately."

**What to Do:** Workers have the right to file a whistleblower complaint online with OSHA (or 1-800-321-OSHA) if they believe their employer has retaliated against them for exercising their rights under the whistleblower protection laws enforced by the agency.

OSHA's Whistleblower Protection Program webpage provides valuable resources on worker rights, including fact sheets on whistleblower protections for employees in various industries and frequently asked questions

**OSH Act of 1970:** Created in 1970, the OSHA Act requires employers to provide a safe and healthful workplace for employees, including the current COVID-19 pandemic. The Department of Labor supports workers and job seekers in the United States; and endeavors to develop and foster the welfare of all wage earners.

**Additional Resources:** <https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/USDOL/bulletins/2858415>  
<https://www.dol.gov/>  
[www.osha.gov](http://www.osha.gov)  
[1-800-321-OSHA](https://www.osha-slc.gov/1-800-321-OSHA)

# SafeALERT<sup>SM</sup>



ORCIG 2020 SafeAlert Series

This material is intended to be a broad overview of the subject matter and is provided for informational purposes only. Old Republic Contractors Insurance Group, Inc. does not endorse or recommend any products or services nor does it make any representation or warranty regarding the accuracy or completeness of the information. Old Republic Contractors Insurance Group, Inc. shall have no liability or responsibility to any person or entity with respect to any loss, action or inaction alleged to be caused directly or indirectly as a result of the information contained herein.

