

## Filing a Safety Complaint with the Washington State Department of Labor and Industries (L&I)

**Overview:** The Washington Industrial Safety and Health Act (WISHA), Chapter 49.17 RCW, requires employers to provide safe and healthy working conditions, as far as reasonably possible, for **workers** in this state.

**If you see a worker in immediate danger, call 1-800-423-7233 right away.**

**Purpose:** To provide a guide to assist RN's with completing L&I Safety Complaints when a **worker safety issue** is identified and not resolved by the organization in a timely manner.

### Ways to report a worker's safety complaint with L&I:

- **By phone:** Call L&I at 1-800-423-7233
- **On line:** Fill out a Department of Occupational Safety and Health (DOSH) Form and submit the form including photos, videos, and documents, via secure file upload at [lni.wa.gov/workers-rights/workplace-complaints/safety-complaints](http://lni.wa.gov/workers-rights/workplace-complaints/safety-complaints)
- **Mail or Fax:** Mail or fax the L&I complaint to your local Labor and Industries office.

### Reporting Tips:

- **You and all other employees that work in Washington state have the right to a safe and health workplace.**
- Before filing a workers safety complaint, consider asking your employer, supervisor/manager, the safety committee, or a union representative to address the worker safety issue.
- When reporting, the reporter may choose to remain anonymous or, if contact information is provided, may request that information remain confidential.
- Providing contact information helps ensure follow up with the reporter if additional information is needed. It allows the reporter to be kept informed of any action taken as a result of the report.

### Worker rights:

- Participate in a DOSH inspection
- Participate in your company's safety committee
- Know how to work safely around hazardous chemicals
- Refuse dangerous work when certain conditions are met
- Have limited access to injury, illness, and exposure records
- Be protected from discrimination resulting from exercising your rights
- File a complaint about workplace safety or health hazards with DOSH
- Investigation to determine if you have been discriminated against for exercising this right

### Information:

Note: Federal employees and employees working for tribal employers on tribal lands are covered by the federal Occupational Safety and Occupational Health Administration (OSHA).

### What to expect after you report:

Once L&I receives a report, it is reviewed, and appropriate action determined.  
L&I will inform the reporter of any action taken if they have contact information.  
When an inspection occurs, the reporter may request a copy of inspection results.

### Resource: Report a Safety Hazard

<https://www.lni.wa.gov/workers-rights/workplace-complaints/safety-complaints>