

■ **WHISTLEBLOWER LAW**

**TERMS:** It is illegal for employers of 10 or more workers to fire, suspend, demote, or punish a worker in any other way, for giving information to a government agency about an activity, policy or practice of the employer that violates federal, state or local law. It is also unlawful for an employer to retaliate against a worker who has testified or provided information to a governmental agency conducting an investigation, hearing or inquiry into an employer's alleged violation of a law or regulation.

Before a worker can claim damages for reporting an employer's unlawful activity, policy or practice, the worker must first report the alleged violation to a supervisor or to the employer, in writing, and give the employer a reasonable opportunity to correct the activity, policy or practice.

**ENFORCEMENT:** A worker who has suffered retaliation in violation of this law may take action in civil court against the employer involved, using a private attorney or public legal service provider. The suit must be filed within 2 years after the worker discovers the retaliatory action, or within 4 years after the action was taken, whichever is earlier.