

■ **WHISTLEBLOWER'S PROTECTION LAW**

TERMS: Whenever a worker (1) learns of a violation of a federal or state law that his or her employer has authority to correct, and (2) reasonably believes that the violation is a criminal offense that could cause harm to people or threaten public health or safety, the worker is required to notify a supervisor of the violation.

If the employer does not correct the violation or make a reasonable and good-faith effort to do so within 24 hours, the worker may file a written report of the matter with a police officer or other appropriate public official or agency.

In general, it is illegal for an employer to discipline or retaliate in any other way against a worker for making any such report.

ENFORCEMENT: If an employer retaliates against a worker because the worker reported unlawful activity within the employer's authority to correct, the worker may take legal action against the employer in civil court for relief, using a private attorney or public legal service provider. The suit must be commenced within 180 days after the date the disciplinary or retaliatory action was taken.