

# WAGE THEFT

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DELAWARE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR  
DIVISION OF INDUSTRIAL AFFAIRS

## WAGE THEFT

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### An employer may not do any of the following:

- Employ an individual without reporting the individual's employment to all appropriate government agencies and paying all applicable taxes and fees for the individual.
- Fail to properly withhold state and federal taxes from an employee.
- Fail to forward money withheld from an employee's wages to the appropriate state or federal agency within 7 days of the applicable pay period.
- Pay an employee wages that are less than the minimum wage established under state and federal law for the work performed.
- Misclassify a worker as an independent contractor for purposes of avoiding wage, tax, or workers' compensation obligations under this title.
- Knowingly conspire to assist, advise, or facilitate a violation of this section.

### PENALTIES

- Following an investigation in which the Department makes an initial determination that an employer has violated one or more provisions of subsection (a) of this section, the Department may decide to impose a civil penalty.
- An employer who violates this section is subject to a civil penalty of not less than \$2,000 and not more than \$20,000 for each violation.
- Each instance of a violation of subsection (a) of this section per employee is a separate violation.
- The Department may also refer cases to the Department of Justice for criminal prosecution consistent with § 841D of Title 11

### RETALIATION

An employer is subject to a civil penalty of not less than \$20,000 and not more than \$50,000 for each violation if the employer discharges or in any manner retaliates or discriminates against an individual because that individual does any of the following under this section:

- a. Made a complaint or provided information to the Department.
- b. Caused, or is going to cause, an investigation to be instituted.
- c. Testified, or is going to testify, in a hearing.

It is unlawful to retaliate against an employee because (s)he has made a complaint or given information to the Dept of Labor about possible labor law violations.

Employers Are Required By Law To Display  
This Official Poster In A Place Accessible To Employees And Where They Regularly Pass  
Violations of Delaware Labor Laws could result in fines of up to \$20,000 per violation.



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## 11 Delaware Labor Laws

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