



# WORKERS' COMPENSATION FRAUD



## TO REPORT WORKERS' COMPENSATION FRAUD CONTACT

Louisiana Workforce Commission  
Workers' Compensation Fraud Section  
Toll-Free Fraud Hotline: 1-800-201-3362  
(All information remains anonymous)

## Workers' Compensation Fraud is Punishable by Louisiana Law

The Louisiana Workforce Commission is working with law enforcement to find and prosecute Workers' Compensation Fraud.

## WHAT IS WORKERS' COMPENSATION FRAUD

Common forms of workers' compensation fraud include:

- Faking an injury or illness in order to collect workers' compensation benefits
- Claiming that a work-related injury or illness is more severe than it really is
- Claiming that an injury which occurred in another location happened in the workplace
- Collecting workers' compensation benefits long after an injury has healed

These actions are illegal. Under the Louisiana Workers' Compensation law [Louisiana Revised Statute (La. R.S.) 23:1208], it is unlawful:

- For any person, for the purpose of obtaining or defeating any workers' compensation benefit payment for themselves (himself) or another person, to willfully make a false statement or representation.
- For any person, either directly or indirectly, to aid and abet an employer or claimant or counsel an employer or claimant to willfully make a false statement or representation.

## What Can Happen to You?

- Any person who violates these provisions of the Workers' Compensation law will be subject to punishment based on the value of the benefits or payment obtained. [La. R.S. 23:1208(C)]
- \$10,000 or more: The person shall be imprisoned (with or without hard labor) for up to 10 years, fined up to \$10,000, or both.
- Between \$2,500 and \$10,000: The person shall be imprisoned (with or without hard labor) for up to 5 years, fined up to \$5,000, or both.
- Less than \$2,500: The person shall be imprisoned for up to 6 months, fined up to \$500, or both.

In addition to criminal penalties, any person who violates these provisions of the Workers' Compensation law may also be assessed civil penalties by the workers' compensation judge of not less than \$500 or more than \$5,000 and may be ordered to make restitution for benefits claimed or payments obtained through fraud. [La. R.S. 23:1208(D)]

Any employee who violates these provisions of the Workers' Compensation law shall, upon determination by a workers' compensation judge, forfeit any right to compensation benefits. [La. R.S. 23:1208(E)]