



# County of San Diego

**OFFICE OF ETHICS, COMPLIANCE AND LABOR STANDARDS**  
1600 PACIFIC HIGHWAY, ROOM 452, MAIL STOP A-6  
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## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQ)

### **What is the Workplace Justice Fund<sup>1</sup>?**

The Fund will provide financial assistance to certain workers who have won a legal judgment after winning their case and receiving an Order, Decision or Award (ODA) from the Labor Commissioner (also known as the State of California's Division of Labor Standards Enforcement). They can receive up to \$3,000 from the Fund and the County will work to recover money from employer.

### **Who is eligible?**

An eligible worker must be all the following:

- a. a County of San Diego resident or worker of an employer doing business in the County;
- b. a prevailing party in an adjudication originating from the San Diego office of the Labor Commissioner no earlier than May of 2020; and
- c. unable to recover the judgment from their employer despite multiple attempts.

### **What do I need to do?**

To participate in the program:

- You will attend a meeting with OLSE staff where we will provide information about how the program works and answer any questions you might have.
- You will need to complete an application and submit to the County of San Diego Office of Labor Standards & Enforcement.

Please send your application to [olse@sdcounty.ca.gov](mailto:olse@sdcounty.ca.gov) OR drop off at our office at 1600 PACIFIC HIGHWAY, ROOM 452, SAN DIEGO, CA 92101. If necessary, we'll follow up with you to get more information.

Should you have any questions, please contact us at 619-531-5129.

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<sup>1</sup> The Workplace Justice Fund can also assist workers who are retaliated against by their employer for filing a complaint with OLSE under an ordinance OLSE enforces.

**If my application is accepted, what's next?**

You will complete paperwork to assign the judgment to the County.

The County will send you a check for up to \$3,000.

The County's Office of Revenue and Recovery will collect payment from employer. If the County collects \$3,000 from your employer, that money will go back into the Fund to help other workers.

**Do I have to pay for these services?**

No, but a 35% cost recovery fee will be deducted from any money collected from your former employer by the Auditor and Controller. Any remaining amount collected on your behalf will be yours.

**Where does the money collected go to?**

35% is retained by the Office of Revenue and Recovery, and the rest goes back into the Fund to serve more workers.

**What type of paperwork do I need to complete?**

- A program application;
- An "Assignment of Judgment Form" that will assign the judgment to the County;
- A W-9 tax Form;
- Provide copies of California ID and Social Security Number or Individual Tax Identification Number (ITIN).

**Whatever money I receive, is it considered income?**

You should consult with a tax professional regarding this question. It is likely you will have to report this as income on your taxes, as the County will be issuing a Form 1099 for any payment issued to you by the County.