



State of Nevada
Department of Business & Industry

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Labor Commissioner Begins 2011-12 Prevailing Wage Survey

CARSON CITY — Nevada Labor Commissioner Michael Tanchek has commenced the 2011–2012 Construction Wage Survey for contractors throughout the state.

State law requires the Commissioner to survey contractors who have performed construction work during the past year in order to determine the prevailing wage rates. Prevailing wage rates are required to be paid on all Nevada public works construction projects — such as schools, libraries, roadways and government buildings — costing more than \$100,000.

The surveys are due July 15, 2011, in order for the new rates to be calculated and posted by October 1, 2011, as required by Nevada law. *“The deadline is critical,”* said Tanchek, *“If the survey has not been received in either our Carson City or Las Vegas office by 5:00 pm on July 15, it won’t be counted in the survey. It is the contractor’s responsibility to make sure the survey has been received.”*

Contractors wishing to participate in the survey can go online to <http://www.laborcommissioner.com>, to access the necessary forms. Participants can complete the form and print a hard copy for submission. Surveys cannot currently be filed electronically. Browsers will also find convenient links to Nevada's prevailing wage laws, as well as state-required posters and other useful information on that site.

Contractors who do not have access to the Internet can still request a hard copy by calling the Office of the Labor Commissioner toll-free at 1-800-992-0900, in Las Vegas at (702) 486-2795, or in Carson City at (775) 687-4850.

All contractors who have worked on construction projects may participate in the survey, even if they are not required to have contractors' licenses. *"Temporary employment agencies and engineering firms often have employees who work on construction projects,"* Tanchek said, *"Since they have to pay prevailing wages on public works projects, they can participate in the survey."* The information obtained from the surveys is loaded into a computer program, which determines how the prevailing wage rates on a county-by-county, job-classification basis will be set.

Commissioner Tanchek encourages all contractors, particularly those working in rural areas, to participate as precisely as possible in the prevailing wage survey to ensure that the rates established accurately reflect the rates that are being paid in a particular community. If no rates are reported for a craft in a county, the Commissioner must rely on wage rates as reported for the nearest county that has a rate. Many times a low-population county can end up with the same rate as established in Clark County for a particular craft, because no rural numbers were reported. Participation by all contractors is the key.

Contractors should keep several important facts in mind when completing the survey:

- **All data from all contractors will be considered.** However, the information must be within survey requirements. For example, work must be done within the specified dates and must be for a classification included in the survey.
- **Surveys should include wages paid on private and commercial projects.** To establish a rate reflective of what's been paid, the survey should include wages paid on **all** construction projects, not just publicly-funded projects.
- **Rural projects should be included.** The size of a project is not important. Where the work was performed and what rate contractors paid a specific classification in a given locale are the important factors.

For more information, please contact Paula Scotland at mail1@laborcommissioner.com or (775) 684-4850.

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