Poster Compliance Audit: Is Your Business at Risk?

Presented by



Ashley H. Kaplan, Esq. Sr. Employment Law Attorney Poster Guard Compliance Protection



Why Labor Law Postings?

- Compliance isn't optional
- Government posting fines
 - Up to \$17,000 authorized by federal statutes
 - State and local fines typically range from \$100-\$1000 per violation
- Employee lawsuits are the real danger
 - Failure to post extends statute of limitations
 - Evidence of bad faith
- Posting compliance is your first line of defense



Step #1 Make Sure You Have All the Required Postings





Federal Postings



Mandatory Federal Postings for U.S. Employers

- Equal Employment Opportunity (EEOC)
- Minimum Wage (FLSA)
- Military Rights (USERRA)
- Workplace Safety (OSHA)
- Employee Polygraph Protection (EPPA)
- Family and Medical Leave (FMLA)



State Postings

- Every state makes its own laws, and no two states have the same posting requirements
- Up to 15 state postings may be required, depending on the state
- No one-stop shop for free government posters
- A worker's comp poster by itself is NEVER sufficient



State Postings: No Two Are the Same





Total Postings and Different Issuing Agencies by State

State	Total Federal & State Mandatory Posters	Total Number of Different Issuing Agencies (State and Federal)	State	Total Federal & State Mandatory Posters	Total Number of Different Issuing Agencies (State and Federal)
Alabama	11	5	Montana	11	5
Alaska	12	5	Nebraska	10	5
Arizona	17	9	Nevada	16	7
Arkansas	10	7	New Hampshire	15	6
California	21	7	New Jersey	20	6
Colorado	12	5	New Mexico	13	7
Connecticut	16	8	New York	17	7
Delaware	14	4	North Carolina	14	8
D.C.	17	7	North Dakota	9	6
Florida	11	8	Ohio	11	7
Georgia	15	7	Oklahoma	11	8
Hawaii	16	5	Oregon	14	8
Idaho	10	6	Pennsylvania	14	6
Illinois	12	8	Puerto Rico	9	4
Indiana	15	9	Rhode Island	15	6
lowa	11	5	South Carolina	13	8
Kansas	11	6	South Dakota	9	4
Kentucky	13	6	Tennessee	14	7
Louisiana	20	5	Texas	10	7
Maine	14	6	Utah	12	7
Maryland	16	7	Vermont	15	4
Massachusetts	13	7	Virginia	10	5
Michigan	15	7	Washington	11	6
Minnesota	12	6	West Virginia	11	7
Mississippi	11	6	Wisconsin	15	5
Missouri	12	5	Wyoming	11	4

Effective January 2016

City/Local Postings

- Additional posters are required in certain cities and counties
- For example:
 - CA San Francisco, San Jose, Oakland, Berkeley, Sunnyvale, Richmond, Mountain View, Emeryville
 - CO Denver
 - FL Broward County
 - IL Chicago
 - MD Montgomery County, Prince George County



City/Local Postings

- NJ Jersey City, Newark, Trenton, Montclair, Passaic, East Orange, Paterson, Bloomfield
- NM Albuquerque, Santa Fe, Las Cruces, Bernalillo
- OR Portland
- PA Philadelphia
- WA Seattle

And the list is quickly growing ...



Step #2 Make Sure Your Postings Are Current



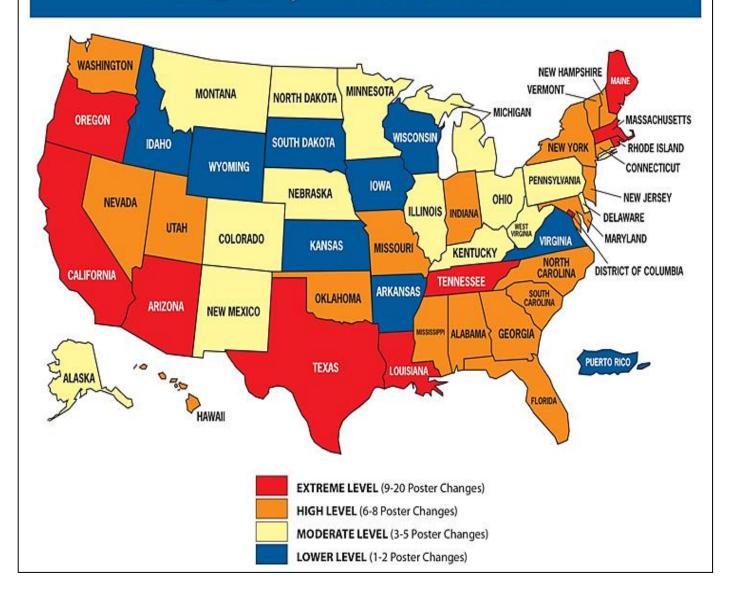


Posting Changes

- Posting changes are on the rise
- Approximately 75 mandatory state poster changes occur each year
- Government agencies do not notify you when changes occur; it's your responsibility to keep up
- Each time a mandatory change occurs, you must update your poster



Mandatory Federal and State Poster Changes by State for 2012-2015



Step #3 Make Sure Your Postings Are Compliant





Poster Format

- Posters must meet minimum size and font requirements
- Shrinking the posters or font size compromises compliance
- Many postings have strict color and/or layout requirements that cannot be altered
- Cutting corners by shrinking postings or not printing in color can put your company at risk for noncompliance



The Problem with the "All-In-One" Fed/State Option

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Step #4 Make Sure You're Posting All Required Languages





Foreign Language Posting Requirements

- Certain postings must be displayed in Spanish regardless of your workforce demographics
- 22 States require certain Spanish postings for <u>all</u> employers: Alabama, Arizona, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Florida, Georgia, Kansas, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Mississippi, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Virginia and Washington D.C.



Foreign Language Posting Requirements

- You may have *additional* obligations if you employ workers who do not speak English
 - If you have a significant number of Spanish-speaking employees who are not proficient in English, the Federal combination poster must be posted in English and Spanish
 - For state postings, fully translated Spanish poster sets are a "best practice" to ensure proper communication in locations with a significant number of Spanish-speaking workers
 - Exception: Pennsylvania employers "with Spanish-speaking employees" <u>must</u> post fully-translated posters in Spanish



Step #5 Make Sure You Consider E-Verify





- E-Verify is an internet-based system operated by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security that allows employers to verify the employment eligibility of new employees
- E-Verify performs an electronic check of each employee's I-9 information against government records
- Employers who participate in E-Verify have mandatory posting requirements



- Who is required to participate in E-Verify?
 - Employers who operate in AL, AZ, GA, LA*, MS, NC, SC, TN*, UT*
 - Employers with federal government contracts
 - All federal agencies
 - Public sector (government) employers in FL, ID, IN, MO, NE, OK, VA
- Employers who *voluntarily* participate also must comply with E-Verify posting requirements



- Two posters are required for compliance: The E-Verify Participation poster *and* the Right to Work Poster (also known as the E-Verify Discrimination Poster)
- Both posters must be displayed in English and Spanish
- Must be posted where applicants and employees can easily view them







Step #6 Make Sure to Display Individual Postings





Individual Postings

- Don't overlook posters that must be displayed apart from your main employee posting stations
- No-smoking posters, for example, are mandatory employee notices in 31 states (and many cities/counties)
- These postings typically must be displayed near an entrance
- Often there are strict size, font and color requirements



Step #7 Make Sure You Include Industry Postings





Industry-Specific Postings

- Certain industries have additional labor law posting requirements under federal and state law
- Examples include restaurant, healthcare and public sector
- Every state has different industry-specific requirements
 up to 15 additional postings



Step #8 Make Sure You Remember Fed Contractor Requirements





Federal Contractor Postings

- Regardless of your industry, if your business has federal government contracts, you must post additional notices
- In recent years, the number of businesses with government funding/contracts has grown – especially in industries such as construction, finance, telecommunications, technology, transportation and non-profits
- Posting obligations depend on types and values of contracts



Federal Contractor Postings

The most common postings for federal contractors:

- 1. NLRA
- 2. E-Verify/Right To Work
- 3. Walsh-Healey Public/Service Contracts
- 4. ARRA Whistleblower Rights
- 5. DOD Fraud Hotline
- 6. DOD Whistleblower
- 7. DHS Fraud Hotline
- 8. Notice to Workers with Disabilities
- 9. Minimum Wage
- 10. "EEO is the Law" Supplement
- **11.** Pay Transparency Policy



Federal Contractor Postings

- For federal construction work, there are two more:
 - Davis-Bacon Act
 - DOT Federal Highway Construction
- Postings change frequently
- Penalties for non-compliance can be severe, including steep fines up to suspension or cancellation of federal contracts



Step #9 Make Sure You Have Enough Posting Stations





Posting Stations

- Postings must be displayed in "conspicuous locations" accessible to all employees throughout your business
- Most companies require multiple posting display sites to comply (front vs. back of the house)
- Specific posting locations depend on your facility size and layout



Posting Stations

- Consider posting in break rooms, in locker rooms, at employee entrances, in the HR department and in applicant areas
- Four of the six mandatory federal postings must be displayed to prospective employees during the application process
 - EEOC
 - USERRA
 - EPPA
 - FMLA



Step #10 Make Sure You Cover Your Remote Workers





Remote Workers and Telecommuters

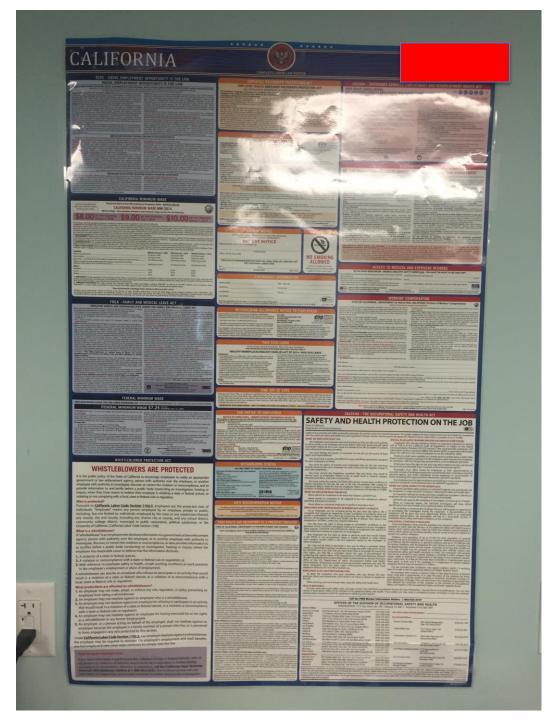
- By law, you must provide the mandatory federal and state notices to all your employees
- If an employee regularly reports into the office (e.g., several times a month), physical posting locations in the business are sufficient
- Best practice is to use an online system that includes tracking and employee acknowledgments

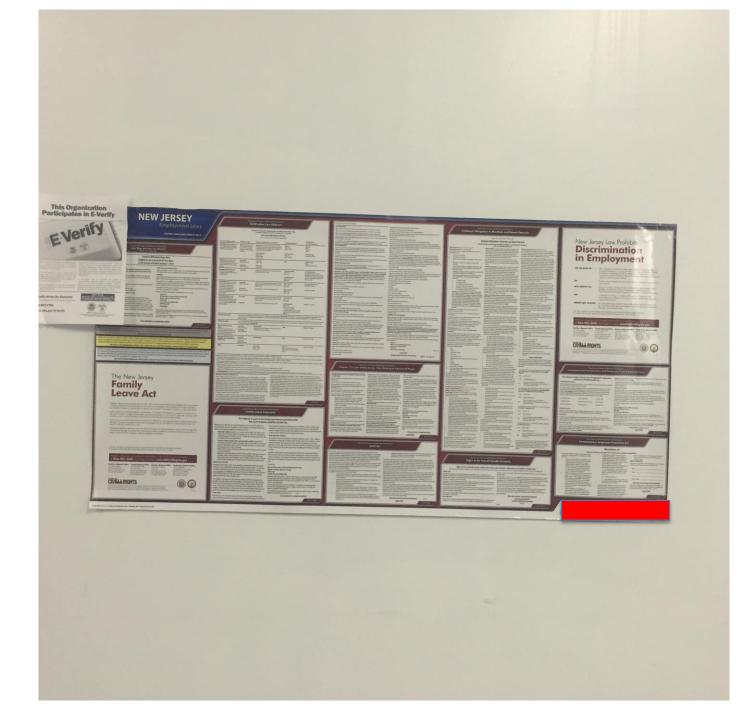


Posting Station Reviews













Thank you!

Poster Guard[®] **Compliance Protection** service gets your business up to date with all required federal, state **and** local labor law postings.

You receive:	Other solutions available:		
 A complete up-to-date poster set A new or replacement poster anytime there is a mandatory change 100% compliance guarantee Any mandatory Spanish postings, E- Verify posters, no smoking notices and wage orders 	 Federal contractor Healthcare facilities Public sector Restaurants Remote employees Canada subscriptions 		

Call Toni Beadle at **954.970.5686** or email at abeadle@hrdirect.com



