



GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY
MICHIGAN OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH ADMINISTRATION
BARTON G. PICKELMAN, DIRECTOR

JEFF DONOFRIO
DIRECTOR

August 24, 2020

Complaint #: 1640977

Kathryn Wilhoff
Eastern Michigan University
206A Roosevelt Hall
Ypsilanti MI 48197

Letter sent by email only, to kwilhoff@emich.edu

Dear Ms. Wilhoff:

The Michigan Occupational Safety and Health Administration (MIOSHA) has received a complaint alleging health hazards related to **coronavirus** at your worksite located at:

206A Roosevelt Hall
Ypsilanti MI 48197

On August 24, 2020, I spoke to you by phone concerning this matter. I advised you of the complaint allegations. I informed you of the relevant sections of the Governor's Executive Orders and applicable rules and guidelines from MIOSHA, OSHA, and the CDC. I communicated to you the steps you need to take or should take if the allegations are true, so you can prevent your employees from contracting coronavirus. At this time, MIOSHA is not planning an inspection due to the low or medium exposure risk classification of the establishment and jobs by OSHA and/or the absence of any allegations indicating a violation of our regulations. However, if the exposure situation changes or the agency receives additional complaints or information that employees are at risk, the agency reserves the right to conduct an inspection in the future. We recommend you take the necessary steps to protect your employees from coronavirus.

Information about coronavirus; coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19), which is the illness caused by coronavirus; and measures you can take to prevent your employees from contracting coronavirus can be found at the following locations:

- State of Michigan COVID-19 website – www.michigan.gov/COVIDWorkplaceSafety

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- State of Michigan COVID-19 Workplace Safety Guidance website – www.michigan.gov/COVIDWorkplaceSafety
- OSHA COVID-19 website – www.osha.gov/coronavirus
- CDC COVID-19 website – www.cdc.gov/coronavirus

The above State of Michigan COVID-19 website has the latest Executive Orders from the Governor for COVID-19 that are applicable to your workplace. Please find the sections relevant to your work operations, and follow their stipulations.

Section 65 of Act 154, the Michigan Occupational Safety and Health Act, states that an employer shall not discriminate against an employee for exercising his or her rights under Act 154. If an employee believes that he or she was discharged or otherwise discriminated against as a result of filing a complaint, the employee may file a complaint with the MIOSHA Employee Discrimination Section. The complainant will be informed of their discrimination rights under Act 154. Employers with effective safety and health programs recognize that employees who raise occupational health concerns are valuable because they can alert them to potential deficiencies in their programs and lead to improvements in the health of staff.

If you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact me at 517-284-7680. Your personal support and interest in the safety and health of your employees is appreciated.

Sincerely,

Erica Funnell

Erica Funnell
Senior Safety Officer

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