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Press Release

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Alaska Company to Pay in Whistleblower Case

JUNEAU, Alaska—The Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development has received a default judgment against Ron's Honda Center in Soldotna. The recent judgment resulted from complaints made by two former employees, who alleged that their employer retaliated against them for complaining about workplace safety and health hazards.

Department staff investigated the complaints, found evidence to support them and requested the Attorney General bring an action against the alleged violator.

Under AS 18.60.089, it is unlawful for an employer to retaliate against an employee who brings forward a safety or health complaint in the workplace. The law allows for appropriate relief, including rehiring or reinstatement and back pay.

In this case, the complainants found other jobs quickly, which reduced the employer's liability for back pay. The Alaska Superior Court awarded \$1,916 in back pay, plus attorney fees.

The department informally resolves the majority of retaliation complaints received each year, but is authorized to go to court if necessary.

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Labor Standards and Safety
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