



State of Utah

Department of Commerce

GARY R. HERBERT
Governor

FRANCINE A. GIANI
Executive Director

THOMAS A. BRADY
Deputy Director

DANIEL O'BANNON
Director, Division of Consumer Protection

SPENCER J. COX
Lieutenant Governor

January 23, 2014

MEDIA ALERT

Division of Consumer Protection cites Labor Regulatory Compliance Office for deceptive mailer that targeted Utah businesses over fraudulent poster fees

"Unregistered St. George entity sent unsolicited mailers to companies demanding \$285 for labor posters that are available free of charge to businesses from the Utah Labor Commission"

(For immediate release...)

SALT LAKE CITY, Utah - Francine A. Giani, Executive Director of the Utah Department of Commerce, announced today that the Utah Division of Consumer Protection cited an unregistered entity, Labor Regulatory Compliance Office, for violating the *Utah Consumer Sales Practices Act*. Division investigators report the St. George entity sent unsolicited letters to Utah companies with text suggesting it was a billing statement and directed recipients to pay a \$285.00 fee that was "due now". The Division discovered Labor Regulatory Compliance Office is not a registered business with the State of Utah and does not hold a valid St. George business license.

"This group is clearly out to scam consumers and businesses by stealing their profits for something the State provides to the public for free," stated Francine A. Giani, "This letters' deception is so egregious our Citation has not attached a final fine amount as our Division continues to receive complaints from the community."

The Administrative Citation alleges that the unregistered entity committed deceptive acts by intentionally sending mailers to at least 80 confirmed recipients statewide and could face a potential fine of \$2500.00 per violation.

According to the Utah Labor Commission, businesses can access required labor posters at the following link free of charge;

<http://laborcommission.utah.gov/divisions/UOSH/RequiredPosters.html>

If you are a business or consumer who has received one of these mailers and

would like to file a complaint with the Division of Consumer Protection, log on;
<http://consumerprotection.utah.gov/complaints/index.html>
or call (801) 530-6601 for more information.

For media enquiries contact:

Jennifer Bolton

Public Information Officer

Utah Department of Commerce

(801) 530-6646 office

(801) 652-8322 cell

jenniferbolton@utah.gov

Follow us on Twitter @UtahCommerce