



MEETING NOTICE

Meeting Date: October 26th, 2023

Meeting Time: 12pm

Meeting Location (including Zoom link if applicable): In person preferred at 303 E 17th Ave Denver, CO 80203 or zoom link, <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81541467946>

Expected attendees: Towards Justice, Southwest Carpenters, House & Senate Dems

Agenda or list of items to be discussed (including any formal action to be taken):

1. Welcome - Chae (1 min)
2. Opening Remarks - Sponsors (5 mins)
3. Issue - Mark/Jordan (5 mins)
4. Impacted Workers Stories
 - Worker 1 (3-5 mins)
 - Worker 2 (3-5 mins)
 - Worker 3 (3-5 mins)
5. Coalition
 - Hispanic Affairs Project (3 mins)
 - El Centro Humanitario (3 mins)
 - Colorado Fiscal Institute (3 mins)
6. Policy - Nina (5 mins)
7. Questions/Discussion

MEETING MINUTES

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Attendees: Sen. Sullivan, Rep. Marshall, Rep. Rutinel, Rep. Epps, Rep. Weissman, Rep. Joseph, Rep. Titone, Rep. Snyder, Sen. Kolker, Rep. Hamrick, Rep. Dickson, Rep. Lieder, Rep. McLachlan, Rep. McCormick, Mark Thompson (carpenters), Nina DiSalvo (Towards Justice Policy Director), Chase Park, Caroline Nutter, Amy Le Grand (Rep. Bird aide), Drake Smith

(Rep. Kipp aide), Alsa Gartenman (Sen. Jaquez Lewis aide), Luke Doescher (Rep. Dickson aide), Corinne O'Doherety (Rep. Froelich aide), Ruby OtterPilot, Lena Long-shore (Pres. Fenberg aide), Lily Padula (Rep. Young aide), Nate Lewis (Sen. Danielson aide), Drew Smith (Rep. Woodrow's aide), Matt Voss (Rep. Brown's aide), 303-717-0247, Amadia Al-Amin, Jordan Jones (SW Carpenters), Ricardo Perez (Hispanic Affairs Project), Chase Park, Sophie Mariam (CFI), Monica Rodriguez Rafael (El Centro Humanitario)

Summary of the discussion: The discussion started with introductory remarks about wage theft in Colorado. Three different workers explained their stories of experiencing wage theft and injustices with workers including workers that are being underpaid an hour, not given their rightful wages after work, not being paid overtime, etc.. Many of the workers do not complain about this because they do not want to lose their jobs or do not know the right steps to go about recovering wages. They often are not able to meet their bills needed to survive.

The worker rights stories were followed by discussion from coalition members. The Hispanic Affairs Project spoke about how numerous workers do not receive their wages, very frequently these are immigrants. Workers deserve to be paid for their work and their needs to be a solution for working families. El Centro Humanitario who works specifically with those who are spanish speaking and need help recovering their wages. Colorado Fiscal Institute presented on wage theft statistics in Colorado. CFI estimated over \$727 million in total statewide revenue and walked through demographic breakdowns of wage theft.

Nina DiSalvo (Towards Justice Director) spoke how a changing marketplace is leading to a need to address changes like labor market intermediaries becoming involved and outsourcing. This creates barriers to wage theft recovery which requires a unique policy solution including business incentives, access to capital, and holding general contractors liable along with direct employers, etc., offer the contractor to seek indemnification. This policy would focus on getting workers paid first.

ML spoke about the importance of hearing workers stories and figuring out best ways to support workers.

The meeting ended with an opportunity for discussion and questions regarding the gaps that need to be addressed, what current laws are, and general comments of support .

Action taken: ML asked for support from legislators to join her as a co-sponsor on the legislation