

Dear Mr. Davis,

Thank you for contacting the California Apprenticeship Council with your inquiry regarding the intent of California apprenticeship law, specifically Title 8, California Code of Regulations, section 230.1, subdivision (a). We understand the need for an interpretation of the regulation and are happy to provide you with the requested information.

Labor Code section 1777.5 and Title 8, California Code of Regulations section 230.1 indeed impose the requirement for contractors working on public works projects to hire and train registered apprentices. To fulfill this obligation, contractors must request apprentices from apprenticeship committees that are authorized to provide training in the relevant geographic area and craft, or trade associated with the contractor's work on the public works project.

Your client received a request for an apprentice to be dispatched to a public works project. The program acknowledged the request and agreed to dispatch an apprentice within 72 hours of the request, but was not able to dispatch the apprentice until more than 72 hours after receiving the request. The contractor asserts that because the dispatch was made more than 72 hours after the request, it is relieved of any obligation to hire and train apprentices on the project.

Regarding the specific provision you mentioned, we confirm that the interpretation made by the contractor is incorrect. The 72-hour provision does not mean that the contractor is automatically relieved of their obligation to hire and train apprentices if an apprentice is not dispatched within 72 hours of the committee receiving the request.

Instead, the regulation states that if a contractor requests dispatch of an apprentice and the apprenticeship committee agrees to dispatch an apprentice within 72 hours of the request, but the actual dispatch takes longer due to logistical or administrative reasons, the contractor is still obligated to hire and train the apprentice during the period of the project.

In other words, the crucial factor is the apprenticeship committee's agreement to dispatch the apprentice(s) within 72 hours of receiving the request. As long as this

agreement is transmitted within the specified timeframe, the contractor remains bound to hire and train the apprentice(s) during the course of the project.

We hope this clarification resolves the issue at hand. If you require any further information or have additional questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

Louis Ontiveros  
Chairperson, California Apprenticeship Council

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