The Labor Enforcement Task Force, under the direction of the California Department of Industrial Relations, strengthens California’s financial backbone and infrastructure by leveling the playing field to restore fairness and equal competition to all businesses, as well as by ensuring safe and fair employment practices for workers.

This brochure contains general information and should not be considered a substitute for the law. If you have questions or need further guidance, please contact the LETF or one of the partner agencies.

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Do I have to allow LETF inspectors into my business?

Yes, under California law:

- DLSE has the authority under California Labor Code section 90 to access all places of employment.
- EDD has the right under California Unemployment Insurance Code 1092 and 1085 to require employers to provide records for inspection at any time during the employing unit’s business hours.
- DOSH has the authority under California Labor Code to issue citations for serious, willful, and repeat violations of health and safety laws, and will ask permission of the owner or manager to inspect the premises during the opening conference.

If an inspection is refused, the inspectors may obtain an inspection warrant.

Why am I being inspected?

LETF performs inspections of businesses statewide in many different industries.

Businesses are chosen for inspection using a number of factors, including, but not limited to: submission of a complaint from an informant regarding the business, and a history of past violations.

Alternatively, a business may be inspected as part of a strategic sample based on compliance levels in a given industry, seasonality, and location. A business may also be found through data-sharing between agencies.

What do I need to provide during an inspection?

LETF teams include inspectors from various agencies, and those team members will enforce the laws and regulations of their respective agencies.

The inspectors will identify the records they want to review. During the interview with the employer, the inspectors will ask about the operations of the business, including management structure, employees, and other information relevant to California labor, health and safety, payroll tax, and licensing laws.

Examples of records may include:

- Time and payroll records
- Validation for appropriate licenses
- Proof of workers’ compensation insurance coverage
- Postings required by state and federal labor laws

The inspectors will also interview workers and visually inspect the job site.