

Sec. 9-35. - Wage theft advisory committee.

(a) *Structure.*

- (1) There shall be established a wage theft advisory committee, comprised of 11 total designees, one designee submitted by the city council, one designee submitted by the mayor, and one designee from each of the following identified organizations, chosen by the city council, from a list provided respectively by each of the following identified organizations: the Greater Boston Labor Council, The Welcome Project, the Brazilian Workers Center, the Massachusetts Coalition for Occupational Safety and Health, the Somerville Chamber of Commerce, the New England Regional Council of Carpenters, the Metro Building Trades Council, Our Revolution Somerville and the Somerville Community Corporation.
- (2) Designees of the wage theft advisory committee shall be appointed for a term of three years, notwithstanding initial appointments, and must be appointed no later than the second meeting of the new year. In order to stagger the terms of the designees, the initial appointments of the designee from the city council, the mayor, and Greater Boston Labor Council shall be for one year; the initial appointments for the designee from the Brazilian Workers Center, the Massachusetts Coalition for Occupational Safety and Health, the Somerville Chamber of Commerce and the New England Regional Council of Carpenters shall be for two years. The remaining initial appointments (the designees from the Metro Building Trades Council, Our Revolution Somerville, the Somerville Community Corporation, and the Welcome Project) shall be for three years.

(b) *Duties.*

- (1) The wage theft advisory committee ("WTAC") will meet at least once every two months to review wage theft complaints and provide advice to the city council on the implementation and effectiveness of the wage theft ordinance.
- (2) In addition, each year the committee shall elect from among its members a volunteer secretary who shall receive wage theft complaints from the attorney general's office; or received by the city solicitor's office; or received by any member of the WTAC. Said secretary and/or designees of the committee shall coordinate any response to such complaint that is required by the ordinance. In addition, members of the WTAC may offer education, guidance, and referrals to employees affected by wage theft in Somerville.

- (c) *Annual report.* The city shall publish an annual report, through the wage theft advisory committee detailing all wage theft complaints received and action taken in response to

such complaints, including specifically the status or final disposition of each complaint, where available. The report shall also include civil and criminal judgments issued by the state and federal courts, administrative citations, and final administrative orders, including but not limited to debarments, against employers pursuant to M.G.L. c. 149 and M.G.L. c. 151, if known.

- (d) *Conflict of interest.* For purposes of this division no member of the wage theft advisory committee shall participate in any proceeding concerning a beneficiary, a covered vendor, or a covered employee, if the member or any member of his or her immediate family has a direct or indirect financial interest in said individual or in the award of a service contract, subcontract or assistance or the granting of relief to said individual.

(Ord. No. 2019-24, 12-12-2019)