

OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY REPORTS FOR WORKPLACE SEXUAL HARASSMENT COMPLAINTS: OVERVIEW

How can a WorkSafeBC Prevention Officer help me?

Your employer is responsible for keeping your workplace safe and free of sexual harassment. This includes having a policy, providing training, and dealing with complaints appropriately. If your employer is not keeping the workplace safe, you can call a Prevention Officer at WorkSafeBC. The Officer can ensure your employer complies with occupational health and safety standards.

How do I contact WorkSafeBC Prevention Officers?

The WorkSafeBC Prevention line is 1-888-621-7233 (1-888-621-SAFE) or 604-276-3100. You will be asked to provide a name and number for a call back.

What are the possible solutions (remedies) available through the Prevention Office?

WorkSafeBC can investigate your employer to find out if they have the **right policies and procedures** in place, and they can make orders and issue fines. They do not investigate harassment claims.

What if I don't feel safe at the workplace?

If your employer is asking you to work and you don't feel safe, you have the right to refuse unsafe work. This can include working in a situation where you are at risk of sexual harassment.

You can find more information here: <https://www.worksafebc.com/en/health-safety/create-manage/rights-responsibilities/refusing-unsafe-work>

Further information and free legal advice

Detailed process guides on Occupational Health and Safety and other topics are available at: [Stand Informed Resources](#).

You can get free legal advice at:

Access Pro Bono: This program provides free summary advice (15 minutes) from a lawyer, as well as several other legal assistance programs. Call: 604-878-7400 or 1-877-762-6664; Email: appointments@accessprobono.ca; Website: <https://accessprobono.ca>

Workers' Advisors Office BC: The Workers' Advisors Office (WAO) advises, assists and represents workers anywhere in BC and their dependents on workers compensation issues, including Occupational Health and Safety matters such as Prohibited Actions. The WAO is independent from WorkSafeBC and WAO's services are **free of charge**. Call: 604-335-5931 or 1-800-663-4261; Website: <http://www.gov.bc.ca/workersadvisers>

Law Students' Legal Advice Program (LSLAP): This program provides free legal advice and representation (by supervised law students) in the Lower Mainland. Call: 604-822-5791; Website: <https://www.lslap.bc.ca>

University of Victoria - The Law Centre: This program provides free legal advice and representation (by supervised UVic law students) in Victoria, BC. Call: 250-385-1221; Email: reception@thelawcentre.ca; Website: <https://www.uvic.ca/law/about/centre/services/humanrightsclinic.php>

Find an Advocate: You can also **find advocates** across BC by using PovNet's "Find an Advocate" Tool, available online: <https://www.povnet.org/find-an-advocate>.