

Prevailing Wage Jobs Targeted for Violations

By Frank L. Carrabba

Some of our members have been targeted for investigation of potential violations for not paying the proper prevailing wage for electricians on State jobs. As you know, when you are asked to bid on a prevailing wage job, the original contract documents will contain the appropriate prevailing wages to be paid for electricians on that job. The term **“wages”** or **“prevailing wages”** includes (1) the basic hourly rate, and (2) contractor contributions irrevocably made to a trustee or third party pursuant to a bona fide fringe benefit fund, plan, or program.

The contractor’s obligation to pay the **“prevailing wages”** may be satisfied by (1) paying the basic hourly rate and fringe benefits in cash, (2) contribution payments to a bona fide plan, and (3) any contribution of the two. Examples of fringe benefits are Life Insurance, Health Insurance, Pension, Vacation, Holiday and Sick Leave.

Hopefully, the foregoing answers some of the questions you may have as to the proper payment of prevailing wages.

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