

Effective May 9, 2016, the Wage and Hour Division, another agency within LARA, was transferred from MIOSHA to work alongside the Bureau of Employment Relations. The move, for operational efficiency, provides Wage and Hour Division greater visibility, but will not change the mission of BER as the administrative arm of MERC. The Wage and Hour Division will remain separate and apart from MERC. Over-all supervision of Wage & Hour will be handled by Ruthanne Okun, Bureau Director and Jim Spalding, Mediation Supervisor. BER routinely receives inquiries concerning Wage and Hour matters so this will provide an avenue for all of us to better service our constituents – the goal of all Michigan agencies.

The dedicated staff at the Wage and Hour Division enforces Act 390, the Michigan Payment of Wage and Fringe Benefits Act; Act 138, the Workforce Opportunity Wage Act; and Act 166, Prevailing Wage on State Funded Construction Projects. Wage and Hour will continue under its capable manager, Jennifer Fields who may be reached at (517) 284-7802.

For more information concerning Wage and Hour functions, call the Wage and Hour Division toll free at (855) 464-9243 or visit the website www.michigan.gov/wagehour. A link to the Wage and Hour Division can also be found here on the MERC/BER webpage in the side panel.