

CITY OF LOS ANGELES
SERVICE CONTRACTOR WORKER RETENTION ORDINANCE
(Los Angeles Administrative Code Section 10.36 et seq.)

1. What is the Service Contractor Worker Retention Ordinance?

The Service Contractor Worker Retention Ordinance (SCWRO), effective May, 1996, requires a successor contractor and its subcontractors to retain for a 90-day period certain employees who worked for the terminated contractor or its subcontractors for at least 12 months. (See also Question #7 regarding which employees are covered.)

2. What is a successor contractor?

A successor contractor is one who has been awarded an agreement to provide services to or for the City that are similar to those that were provided under a recently terminated agreement.

3. What types of agreements are covered by the Ordinance?

The SCWRO covers the following types of agreements:

- For services in an amount over \$25,000.00 and for at least three months.
- In which the primary purpose is to provide services to or for the City (including leases and licenses).
- In which the City provides financial assistance for the purpose of promoting economic development or job growth.

4. What does the Ordinance require a terminated contractor to do?

The SCWRO requires the terminated contractor to provide the awarding authority with the names, addresses, dates of hire, hourly wage, and job classes of each employee who worked on the City agreement for that terminated contractor or its subcontractor. The awarding authority will provide the information to the successor contractor.

5. What does the Ordinance require a successor contractor to do?

The Ordinance requires the successor contractor to:

- Offer employment and retain for a 90-day period the employees who worked for at least 12 months for the terminated contractor or its subcontractors.
- Not discharge the employees retained under the SCWRO without cause during the 90-day period.
- Perform a written performance evaluation of each employee retained under the SCWRO at the end of the 90-day period.

6. Do the employees retained under the Ordinance receive any additional protection?

Employees retained under the SCWRO are employed under the terms and conditions of the successor contractor or as required by law. However, if the agreement the employees are working under is subject to Living Wage Ordinance (LWO), the employees must be paid the wage rate and be provided the benefits required by LWO.

7. Does the successor contractor have to retain all the prior contractor's employees?

The SCWRO covers only employees who meet all of the following requirements:

- Earn less than \$15.00 per hour.
- Primary job is in the City working on or under the City agreement.
- Worked for the terminated contractor or its subcontractor for the preceding 12 months or longer.
- Not a managerial, supervisory, or confidential employee; or an employee required to possess an occupational license.

8. What if the successor contractor determines that fewer employees are required to provide the services than were required by the prior contractor?

The names of the affected employees will be placed in order by seniority within each job classification. The successor contractor is required to retain employees based on seniority. The names of employees not retained will be placed on a preferential hiring list from which the successor contractor must use for subsequent hires.

9. What happens if an employee is discharged in violation of the Ordinance?

The employee may bring a lawsuit against the successor contractor. The employee can also submit a complaint to the Department of Public Works, Bureau of Contract Administration, Office of Contract Compliance which will investigate the complaint.

10. What if a contractor is found to be in violation of the Ordinance?

The City may terminate the agreement or pursue other legal remedies.

11. Who is responsible for administering and enforcing the Ordinance?

The Department of Public Works, Bureau of Contract Administration, Office of Contract Compliance, located at 1149 S. Broadway Street, 3rd Floor, Los Angeles, CA 90015. For additional information, please call (213) 847-1922, or go to the Office of Contract Compliance web site at www.lacity.org/bca/.