

Compliance Order

A Compliance Order (oral or written) addresses a contravention of the law. It will explain what is non-compliant and what the legislation requires to comply. It will also state the date by which the issue must be resolved.

Warning

Warnings may also be issued for non-compliance. However, a warning does not have a specified time frame for compliance but allows you to remedy the issue prior to a re-inspection. Warnings are typically issued for minor offenses.

Stop Work Order

If OHS officers observe an imminent hazard, they can order work to stop immediately until the hazard is appropriately dealt with. The Stop Work Order remains in place until an OHS Officer removes or lifts it.

Administrative Penalties

An officer may issue an administrative penalty for a compliance order. Generally, an administrative penalty will be issued within 14 days of receiving an order.

Compliance with an OHS officer's order is required and does not prevent the issuance of a penalty.

Appeal Process

If you do not agree with a compliance order or an administrative penalty that was issued, you have the right to appeal it. You must submit a Notice of Appeal to the Labour Board within 30 days from when the compliance order or the administrative penalty was received.

For more information

Occupational Health and Safety Division
Department of Labour, Skills and
Immigration

Telephone: 902-424-5400 or

Toll-free: 1-800-9-LABOUR
(1-800-952-2687)

Fax: 902-424-5640

safetybranch@novascotia.ca

novascotia.ca/lae/healthandsafety/

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Occupational
Health and Safety

**WHEN AN
OCCUPATIONAL
HEALTH & SAFETY
OFFICER VISITS
A WORKPLACE**



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NOVA SCOTIA

DEPARTMENT OF LABOUR, SKILLS AND IMMIGRATION

WHO ARE OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY (OHS) OFFICERS?

The OHS Officers play an important role in promoting workplace health and safety across Nova Scotia by verifying compliance with the OHS Act and Regulations, and any Orders made under the OHS Act.



An OHS Officer may:

- provide information, awareness and advice on the OHS Act and Regulations
- review employer's practices and policies as well as supervision and training
- provide guidance on the development and improvement of systems in place to deal with the risk of injury and illness
- monitor compliance with OHS Act and Regulations



OHS Officer Workplace Visits - YouTube



Powers of an OHS Officer

- enter and inspect a workplace, at any reasonable time, where work is taking place
- conduct interviews and ask questions
- take photographs, recordings, measurements or samples
- gather information, ask for, examine and make copies of documents, drawings or records
- ask a member of the Joint Occupational Health and Safety Committee (JOHSC), or the Health and Safety Representative to join them when they visit a workplace
- issue compliance orders
- require an unsafe working condition be remedied at a specified time
- can issue a stop work order



What to expect from an OHS Officer?

- protect the rights of workers
- encourage co-operation between management and employees
- educate on identifying, assessing and controlling workplace hazards

