Drug Testing in the Workplace: June 15 Seminar Provides Guidelines to Businesses

WETHERSFIELD, May 30, 2017 – With changes to state laws regarding recreational and medical marijuana use, increasingly, businesses and human resource professionals have questions on how to address drug testing policies and ensure a safe workplace for all employees.

To help with these questions, the Connecticut Department of Labor’s Office for Workforce Competitiveness, in partnership with the Connecticut Employment and Training Commission, will host an informational breakfast workshop on June 15 titled “Drug Testing in the Workplace.” The three-hour workshop and discussion will be held from 8 to 11 a.m. at the Labor Department’s Central Office, 200 Folly Brook Boulevard, Wethersfield.

Stephen Lattanzio, an attorney with the agency’s Office of Program Policy, will cover a variety of topics, including general health and safety, state and federal laws, and drug testing and policies. The goal is to provide participants with the information they need to ensure a productive and safe workplace that complies with privacy rights.

The workshop also offers a practical component, with participants exploring hypothetical scenarios that could easily arise, and practical advice on how to address these situations. Time will be allotted for a question and answer session, and potential topics include the right way to address pre-employment and random drug testing, handling reasonable suspicion, drug testing employees after an accident, and the Labor Department’s role in drug testing.

“This can be a rather complex issue, so we’ll take a close-up look at the various aspects and try to answer everyone’s questions,” Lattanzio said. “The goal is to help employers feel confident that they are in compliance while taking privacy rights into consideration.”

Seminar fee is $25 and online registration can be accomplished by visiting https://www.eventbrite.com/e/business-breakfast-seminar-drug-testing-in-the-workplace-tickets-34323696099. Questions can be addressed to Mark Stankiewicz at mark.stankiewicz@ct.gov or (860) 263-6518.

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**Media Contact:** Nancy Steffens, Communications Director  
200 Folly Brook Boulevard, Wethersfield, CT 06109-1114  
Phone: (860) 263-6535 – Fax: (860) 263-6536 – [www.ct.gov/dol](http://www.ct.gov/dol)  
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