

## JOINT INFORMATION CENTER

State of Louisiana News Desk #: 225.358.5361

### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Job Seekers Cautioned About Companies Seeking Placement Fees for Oil Spill Jobs**

BATON ROUGE - The Louisiana Workforce Commission (LWC) reminds job seekers to use caution when applying for any job, including those related to the oil spill, which requires payment of a fee as a condition of employment.

In Louisiana, only Private Employment Services licensed by the LWC are authorized to charge an applicant a fee for job placement.

Louisiana R.S. 23:111 prohibits an employment service from charging or collecting any fee from an applicant except for employment procured from the efforts of the employment service. This must be done in accordance with the terms of a written contract approved by the LWC. No employment service shall charge a fee for the registration of applicants or candidates for employment or for assistance or job referrals.

Employment agencies are required by law to display their license and a schedule of fees for service. Job seekers should not pay fees to any employer without first ensuring that they are licensed. If the license is not on display, applicants should ask to see it before entering into a contract for services with the agency.

Job seekers who believe they have encountered an unlicensed Private Employment Service should call the LWC's Labor Programs office at 225-342-7690.

For more information related to the oil spill, visit [www.emergency.louisiana.gov](http://www.emergency.louisiana.gov). Connect with us on [www.facebook.com/GOHSEP](http://www.facebook.com/GOHSEP) and on Twitter @GOHSEP. View photos from the state's response efforts at [www.flickr.com/photos/lagohsep](http://www.flickr.com/photos/lagohsep).