On-line Training Program on New Immigration Law Available

A free training program on the state immigration law that goes into effect on July 1, 2010, for all employers in the state is available at the South Carolina Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation's website.

"You don't have to leave your office to participate in the training session," said Jim Knight, administrator for LLR's Office of Immigrant Worker Compliance. "Simply go on the Internet to our website and watch from your desk. The seminar will provide an overview of the state immigration law, and a question and answer segment.

"There are no passwords required to access the website," he added. "Participants need only to go on-line to the following address: <u>http://scllr.granicus.com/MediaPlayer.php?view_id=2&clip_id=248</u>."

The "Illegal Aliens and Private Employment" chapter of the South Carolina Illegal Immigration Reform Act takes effect on July 1, 2010, for employers who employ less than 100 workers. The law is already in place for employers who hire 100 or more workers.

The law requires every employer to verify the work authorization of new hires beginning July 1 and afterward. Failure to do so will result in a civil penalty from \$100 to \$1,000 per violation. Employers may not knowingly or intentionally have in their employ an illegal alien. Violators can have their imputed license to employ workers in South Carolina suspended from 10 to 30 days on a first time violation.

LLR investigators will begin conducting audits and responding to complaints at businesses that employ less than 100 workers starting July 1.

To learn more about the new immigration law, go to the program's website at www.llronline.com/immigration.