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Navigating Unemployment & Protecting Business Owners Heather Bell, President & CEO

Navigating the termination of an employee can be a daunting task for any business owner. Whether it's due to budget constraints, performance issues, or misconduct, the process carries implications that extend beyond the immediate situation. One such concern is the potential for former employees to claim unemployment benefits, which can impact a company's bottom line through increased insurance premiums. What follows is guidance to employers on safeguarding against fraudulent claims.

Document: Maintain comprehensive documentation of employee misconduct, including: written warnings, performance evaluations, witness statements, and any other pertinent evidence.

Enforce Company Policies: Clearly communicate job expectations and define misconduct. Apply disciplinary policies consistently and document instances thereof, serving as evidence in potential appeals.

Swift Response to Claims:

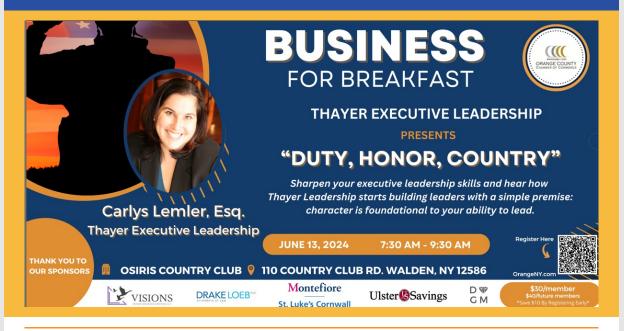
In the event of a wrongful unemployment claim, promptly and professionally respond to requests from the state agency. Providing accurate and complete information about the termination strengthens your case. Active participation in hearings and related proceedings allows for the presentation of evidence.

Legal Consultation:

Seeking counsel from a labor attorney familiar can offer invaluable guidance on navigating

unemployment benefit issues. If you can not afford an attorney, contact your chamber to assist with pro-bono legal services from your fellow members.

By adopting these proactive measures, employers can minimize the risk of encountering and addressing fraudulent unemployment claims, safeguarding their financial interests and operational integrity. YOUR Orange County Chamber of Commerce advocates for your best interests as our members. Established relationships with the Department of Labor and other strategic partnerships allows us to provide you with valuable assistance and connections.





Join us in ITALY! OPEN TO THE PUBLIC!

Accessible to everyone, this reasonably priced and inclusive tour presents the ideal chance to experience the breathtaking beauty of Italy!

CLICK HERE FOR FULL BROCHURE

And for an additional \$100, join fellow member Coach USA for transportation to/from the Airport!



Bear Mountain



Pizza & Cafe 845-977-8003





















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Ward's Bridge Inn



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DID YOU KNOW?

YOUR Orange County Chamber of Commerce membership investment is considered a Tax Deduction!

"...deductible as trade or business expenses if ordinary and necessary in the conduct of the taxpayer's business." - IRS Website

#OCNYCHAMBERMEMBER



This is a training that is required annually for all businesses, a \$1,500 value included with your membership! The EEOC has released new final guidance on workplace harassment, replacing five of its prior guidance documents and new standards that reflect a watershed 2020 Supreme Court ruling and a heightened focus on online harassment.



RESOURCES







Workforce Programs

Workforce programs help strengthen the health workforce and connect skilled health care providers to communities in need, improving the health of people who need it most.

We offer <u>scholarship</u>, <u>loan</u>, <u>and loan repayment</u> <u>programs</u> to individuals and award grants to organizations.



Division of the Budget

GOVERNOR HOCHUL ANNOUNCES

HISTORIC INVESTMENTS OF

FY 2025 NEW YORK STATE BUDGET



SMALL BUSINESS TRENDS THAT WILL IMACT YOUR SALES IN 2024



Legislation to promote job opportunities in New York State and help job seekers secure new employment opportunities - Learn more

\$10k Perseverance Grant celebrates the grit and determination of small business owners. Entrepreneurs and small business owners at all stages of business are encouraged to apply. The deadline to apply is March 31.

The Comcast Innovation Fund

provides grants to support technology and research "for the betterment of the Internet." Areas of interest for the 2024 grant year include open-source development, general and targeted research, and work that enhances the growth of the Internet. Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis until all funds for 2024 are disbursed.



DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH

Tue, May 7

Mental Health Awareness Month: Talk Saves

Lives for LatinX and Hispanic

Wed, May 8

<u>Mental Health Awareness Month: VA Operation</u>

<u>S.A.V.E</u>

Wed, May 8

MHOP Virtual Narcan Training

Thu, May 9

<u>Mental Health Awareness Month: Introduction to Supporting Those at Risk</u>

Mon, May 13 Lunch N Learn: Fostering Resilience

Orange County Executive Steve
Neuhaus presented the 2024 State of
the County address, highlighting the
county's resilience and success
despite challenges in 2023. Key
points include record-low tax rates,
reduced debt over the past decade, a
more efficient workforce, increased
protection of open space, and
recognition for the Office of
Emergency Management as one of
the best in the Northeast. Watch the
full address HERE

65 GRANTS, LOANS & PROGRAMS TO BENEFIT YOUR BUSINESS! When you know where to look, help for your business is there for the taking. CLICK HERE

The FedEx Small Business Grant is set to award over \$230,000 in grants and services to 10 U.S.-based small businesses. One grand prize winner will receive \$50,000 and nine additional recipients will be granted \$20,000 — along with various perks, including print credit, consultation services, and more. Applications open March 1 and close April 1.

More grant & program information can be found **here**.

Small Business Credit Initiative (SSBCI)

More than \$500 million in federal funding is now available to support the resurgence of small businesses across New York State through the State Small Business Credit Initiative (SSBCI), a program through the American Rescue Plan Act. Managed by the U.S. Department of Treasury, SSBCI provides funds to support programs for small businesses to recover from the economic effects of COVID-19 and allow them opportunity to succeed in the post-pandemic economy. Visit <code>esd.ny.gov/ssbci</code> for information

Veterans' Nonprofit Capital Program

\$5 million available through newly created **Read more**



GRANTS FOR BUSINESSES THAT WORK IN MENTAL HEALTH



Preparing For The Pregnant Workers Fairness Act: The Final Rule Takes Effect June 18. READ MORE **Five Essentials** for Workplace **Mental Health** & Well-Being







FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES FOR DISABLED ENTREPENUERS

Disabled entrepreneurs face challenges in the workforce. Here's a list of funding sources, programs, and resources to help them succeed.

CLICK HERE

SMALL BUSINESS GRANTS FOR

WOMEN IN

NEW YORK

The Women in Apprenticeship and **Nontraditional Occupations (WANTO)** grant program (application deadline June 10) supports community-based organizations in their efforts to recruit, train and retain more women in Registered Apprenticeships and nontraditional occupations. Apply here.

The Fostering Access, Rights and Equity grant program (application deadline May 28) funds community organizations that work with survivors and women at high risk for workplace violence and harassment. Apply here.





The Stewart Air Service Development Committee is proud to share that Breeze Airlines will offer twice-weekly roundtrip service from New York Stewart International Airport to Orlando, Fl and Charleston, S.C., starting February 15th!





The top 10 things I wish business leaders understood about IT READ MORE



On March 25, the Social Security
Administration (SSA) implemented new guidelines regarding overpayments that may affect the withholding rates from beneficiaries' monthly checks. A significant departure from the previous policy, the new rules aim to reduce the financial burden on beneficiaries who have been overpaid due to benefit miscalculations. READ MORE

The Department of Labor's (DOL's) final rule on how to analyze whether a worker is classified as an employee or independent contractor under the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA) took effect March 11. This has implications on all employers subject to the FLSA. READ MORE



All registration links & more info at TheGuidanceCenter.org/trainings

MAY 2024 • MENTAL







Upcoming webinar



Achieving employee well-being through the power of financial wellness is crucial in today's workplace. By prioritizing financial education, personalized guidance, and comprehensive benefits, organizations can reduce employee stress, improve productivity, and attract and retain top talent.

Target Audience: Plan Sponsors, CHROs, HR leaders

Register



Summer 2024 Certificate in Manufacturing Leadership begins July 17th at the Center of Excellence for Industry and Innovation at DCC @ Fishkill



For over 25 years, the Certificate in Manufacturing Leadership program has offered attendees a range of leadership skills through a series of concentrated courses. Participants who complete the required courses are presented with the Certificate in Manufacturing Leadership by the Council of Industry. Individuals who complete the full program will receive acknowledgment and a certificate at the annual huncheon

Register For Full Program



How can we empower the community around us?

Breathe and Stay Grounded
Harness the power of your breath to stay in this moment. Feel the energy in your body.
Remember how powerful you are, and the strength that comes from vulnerability and connection. Breathe.

Take the Lead
Be bold. Be brave. Be the person who says hello first. Ask the first genuinely curious question that goes beyond formalities. Focus on asking questions. Demonstrate vulnerability by sharing about your own life, but then loop it around to the person you're speaking to and return to the curiosity mindset.

Stay luned for live streamed empowering conversations with our grief counselors!

MHY INSIDER





2024 PROFESSIONAL ADVISORS BREAKFAST

Ensuring Client Legacy by Rethinking the Estate Planning Process

EDUCATION SESSION PRESENTED BY:

Matt Lee, JD and Alexa Broida, CAP of Wilmington Trust

Emerald Family Office & Advisory

Together Matt and Alexa will provide strategic transition planning and solutions to this crucial topic. *

registration

\$30 (includes breakfast)

register by email megan@cfosny.org

or scan QR code



*CLE and CPE credits pending



MEMBER OF THE M&T FAMILY

The Real Property Taxable Status of New York Limited Liability Companies

The taxable status of New York limited liability companies (LLCs) for Real Property Tax Law (RPTL) sections 420-a and 462 exemptions raises concerns due to a lack of guidelines, particularly regarding New York LLCs claiming nonprofit status. While RPTL §420-a permits real property owned by entities organized or conducted exclusively for exempt purposes to qualify for the exemption, it is doubtful whether LLCs, especially those formed in New York, can meet the criteria, as they are, by definition, created for profit. Although federal tax treatment may regard LLCs as pass-through entities, RPTL §420-a mandates scrutiny of the owning entity itself for exemption eligibility, necessitating, at the very least, a sole nonprofit member also eligible for the exemption and evidence of strict limitation to that nonprofit member's purposes and exempt activities in the LLC's governing documents. Additionally, LLCs cannot qualify for RPTL §462 exemptions, which are expressly reserved for religious corporations under New York law.

If you have questions regarding eligibility of LLC's for exempt status, please reach out to **Kara Cavallo**.



Read Article



Contributed by #ocnychambermember AlignLife click photo for article





REGISTER NOW



MAY 2024 EVENTS



HAMBER OF COMMERCE MO

Ribbon Cultings
5/14 THE STRETCH ARTIST

5/16 GEORGE THOMPSON INSURANCE

5/21 THE RAD COLLECTION

5/29 HERITAGE FINANCIAL

VISIT ORANGENY.COM FOR ADDITIONAL RIBBON CUTTING DATES.

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSOR:



VIRTUAL SPEED

FRI. MAY 10.

Maximizing Your Membership @ 12:00 PM-1:00 PM

MON. MAY 20.

Breakfast Brief - American Cancer Society @ 9:00PM-10:00 PM 68 N Plank Rd 2nd floor, Newburgh, NY 12550

WED, MAY 22.

Business Essentials Series: Sexual & Workplace Harassment Training @ 5:30PM-7:30 PM Virtual: Zoom with usl

WED. MAY 29.

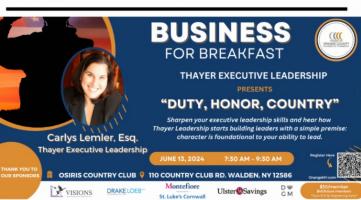
Virtual Speed Networking @ 12:00 PM-1:00 PM

Virtual: Zoom with us!

THURS. MAY 30. MEMBERS ONLY

Member Appreciation Mixer @ Bellvale Bruderhof Community 5:30PM - 7:30 PM 359 Gibson Hill Rd. Chester, NY, 10918





FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO RSVP FOR ANY OF THESE EVENTS, VISIT ORANGENY, COM OR CALL 845-294-1700













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PLATINUM



































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SILVER

Interact Marketing | Garnet Health | Montefiore St. Luke's Cornwall Visions Human Resources | WALL Radio & WDLC Country







Orange County Chamber of Commerce | 68 North Plank Road, Newburgh, NY 12550

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