November 26, 2007

Dear President:

The Wage & Hour Division, within the Department of Labor & Economic, enforces Michigan's Prevailing Wage Act (Act 166 of 1966, Michigan Compiled Laws 408.551 et. seq.). As an institution of higher learning that receives state funds, you are probably aware that Michigan's Prevailing Wage law has a direct impact on your construction projects.

To ensure that public educational institutions are aware of their responsibilities under the Prevailing Wage law, we conducted a series of four educational forums about prevailing wage across the state last summer. To help ensure that information about prevailing wage reached as many as possible, we also distributed to all K-12 school districts, community colleges and public universities, a prevailing wage DVD that was produced at the Detroit forum.

To further our outreach efforts, I will be making brief presentations about Michigan's Prevailing Wage law to governing boards at each of the state's community colleges and public universities.

Our intent behind these outreach efforts is to make public institutions of higher education, such as yours, aware of the important role and responsibilities that you all have with the state's Prevailing Wage law. In addition, I want to make the schools aware of a new requirement that takes effect on December 17, 2007. At that time, contracting agents, such as your school, will be obligated to require contractors and subcontractors to have available for state inspection a certified payroll record of the workers employed on any of your construction projects. Please share this letter with your appropriate staff, involved in Michigan prevailing wage eligible projects. The easiest way to comply with this directive is to place this requirement of certified payroll in your bid documents.

I look forward to my opportunity to speak before your governing board. In the meantime, if you have any questions about Michigan's Prevailing Wage law and how it may impact your institution, please feel free to contact me at your convenience by email at jhfinn@michigan.gov, by phone at 517-335-0735 or by mail at the address shown below.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

John H. Finn
Administrator

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