



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRIES

Prevailing Wage
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December 21, 2006

Mr. Richard H. Robblee
Rinehart and Robblee P. L. L. P.
1620 Metropolitan Park BLDG.
1100 Olive Way
Seattle, WA 98101

Dear Mr. Robblee:

Thank you for contacting me on behalf of the Northwest Regional Council of Carpenters and their question concerning the clean-up of debris resulting from the work of drywall applicators.

I appreciate your assessment and evaluation of the situation. As you accurately note, labor classifications do clean-up work. Significantly, one of the labor classifications is carpenter tender. Carpenter tender meets the requirements noted in being able to clean-up after drywall applicators.

In this instance, the carpenter tenders clearly perform the work in question. You suggest that carpenter tenders work is limited to wooden structures and fixtures. This is incorrect. Carpenter tenders assist carpenters with various duties which may include materials other than wood (see WAC 296-127-01310 and WAC 296-127-01312.) Therefore, as a designated classification under the carpenter trade, their clean-up falls under the carpenter classification and carpenters have tenders, carpenter tenders do the clean-up for both.

You suggest that the Department should recognize industry practice and that the scopes should reflect them. That is of course one factor that we consider under WAC 296-127-013 when creating the scopes. Once, however, a scope is in rule, industry must follow the rule.

Here, the carpenter tender scope covers the clean-up work of a drywaller. I believe that creating another scope or even a wage rate under an existing scope is not needed. Therefore, I see no need to establish either another scope or a "line-item rate" under the drywall applicator's scope.

The Department appreciates all of the information provided as well as the time and effort invested by everyone involved.

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I hope this serves to address your request. If you have additional questions or need further clarification, please contact my office at (360) 902-5330.

Sincerely,

David J. Soma
Industrial Statistician
360 902-5330

Cc: Rob Van Alstyne, Pacific Northwest Regional Council of Carpenters
Joe Baca, Pacific Northwest Regional Council of Carpenters
Roger Daignault, Pacific Northwest Regional Council of Carpenters
Pete Savage, Pacific Northwest Regional Council of Carpenters
Rudy Guillen, Lathers Local 1144