# THE CONSTRUCTIVE DISMISSAL GUIDE

Understanding Constructive Dismissal: Your Rights and Remedies



## THE FIRST STEP

If you have been constructively dismissed do not sign anything, including a severance agreement or release.

You may be entitled to **money**, including **statutory pay in lieu of notice**, **severance** or **common law notice**.

When it comes to constructive dismissal, timing is key.



# TABLE OF CONTENTS

٦

# INTRODUCTION TO CONSTRUCTIVE DISMISSAL

UNDERSTANDING CONSTRUCTIVE DISMISSAL: YOUR RIGHTS AND REMEDIES

2

# **MATERIAL CHANGES TO EMPLOYMENT**

IDENTIFYING MATERIAL CHANGES: WHAT CONSTITUTES CONSTRUCTIVE DISMISSAL?

3

#### **BREACH OF IMPLIED DUTY**

UNDERSTANDING BREACH OF THE IMPLIED DUTY: ESTABLISHING CONSTRUCTIVE DISMISSAL

4

# **EMPLOYEE'S RESPONSE AND LEGAL RECOURSE**

RESPONDING TO CONSTRUCTIVE DISMISSAL: EMPLOYEE OPTIONS AND LEGAL RECOURSE

5

# **OUR APPROACH TO CONSTRUCTIVE DISMISSAL**

OUR APPROACH:
CLIENT-CENTERED REPRESENTATION FOR
YOUR CONSTRUCTIVE DISMISSAL CLAIM

6

#### **CONTACT US**

GET STARTED TODAY: CONTACT KALSI LEGAL SERVICES





# INTRODUCTION TO CONSTRUCTIVE DISMISSAL

UNDERSTANDING CONSTRUCTIVE DISMISSAL: YOUR RIGHTS AND REMEDIES

# WHAT IS CONSTRUCTIVE DISMISSAL?

 Constructive dismissal occurs when an employer makes significant changes to the terms or conditions of employment without the employee's consent, leading to a fundamental breach of the employment contract. These changes may include demotions, reductions in pay or hours, or creating a hostile work environment.

 Due to these changes, an employee is forced to resign from their position. Due to the employer's actions, the employee is effectively fired or

wrongfully dismissed.



#### THE ISSUE WITH TIMING

- Timing is key in cases of constructive dismissal to prevent the waiver of your rights. If an employee continues to work under the adverse conditions that sparked their constructive dismissal, they will be condoning the conduct.
- Condonation means the employee accepts the changes made to their work conditions and thus loses the right to take action against their employer.
- Timing is also important for collecting evidence and remembering important and relevant details.



## **ELEMENTS OF CONSTRUCTIVE DISMISSAL**

- There are key elements necessary to establish constructive dismissal, including:
  - Material changes to the employment contract
  - Breach of the implied duty of good faith and fair dealing
  - An employee's protest to the changes
  - A repudiation of the employment contract

# HOW KALSI LEGAL SERVICES CAN HELP

Kalsi Legal Services is **committed to protecting employees' rights** in constructive dismissal cases. Our experienced team can **assess your situation**, determine if **constructive dismissal** has occurred, and **guide** you through the legal process. We provide **personalized legal representation** and **strategic advocacy** to help you achieve a favorable outcome.





# MATERIAL CHANGES TO EMPLOYMENT

IDENTIFYING MATERIAL CHANGES: WHAT CONSTITUTES CONSTRUCTIVE DISMISSAL?

# **IDENTIFYING MATERIAL CHANGES**

- Material changes that may constitute constructive dismissal include:
  - Reductions in salary or benefits
  - Changes in job responsibilities or duties
  - Relocation of workplace
  - Hostile work environment or harassment
  - Changes in working conditions or hours

## **EXAMPLES OF CONSTRUCTIVE DISMISSAL**

- **Demotion** to a lower position without justification
- Imposition of a significant pay cut without consultation
- Transfer to a different location without reasonable notice
- Continuous harassment or discrimination leading to a hostile work environment





# BREACH OF IMPLIED DUTY

UNDERSTANDING BREACH OF THE IMPLIED DUTY: ESTABLISHING CONSTRUCTIVE DISMISSAL

# DUTY OF GOOD FAITH AND FAIR DEALING

 Within every employment relationship exists an implied duty of good faith and fair dealing. This means that the employer has an obligation to act honestly, fairly, and in good faith towards the employee.

# REPUDIATION OF EMPLOYMENT CONTRACT

 Constructive dismissal constitutes a repudiation of the employment contract by the employer byway of their breach of the implied terms of the employment agreement. This breach justifies the employee's resignation and forms the basis for a constructive dismissal case.





# EMPLOYEE'S RESPONSE AND LEGAL RECOURSE

RESPONDING TO CONSTRUCTIVE DISMISSAL: EMPLOYEE OPTIONS AND LEGAL RECOURSE

# **EMPLOYEE'S RESPONSE**

- The **options** available to employees facing constructive dismissal, including:
  - Protesting to the changes to their employer
  - Resigning from their position, depending on the severity of the breach
  - Seeking legal advice before taking any action to understand your rights and options

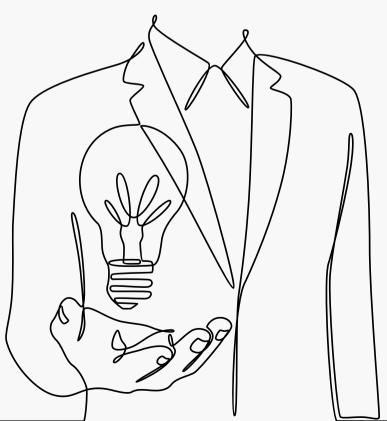
# LEGAL RECOURSE AND REMEDIES

- Legal options and remedies available to employees in constructive dismissal cases:
  - Filing a constructive dismissal claim
  - Seeking damages for constructive dismissal, including lost wages and benefits
  - Negotiating a severance package or enhanced compensation, including common law reasonable notice

# WHAT IS COMMON LAW REASONABLE NOTICE?

- Common law reasonable notice refers to the amount of pay in lie of notice an employee may be entitled to based on factors like how long you've worked, your age, the type of job, and what other jobs are available.
- For further explanation, refer to <u>The Wrongful</u>
   <u>Dismissal Guide</u>.

# COMMON LAW REASONABLE NOTICE OFTEN RESULTS GREATER PAY IN LIEU OF NOTICE THAN STATUTORY ENTITLEMENTS

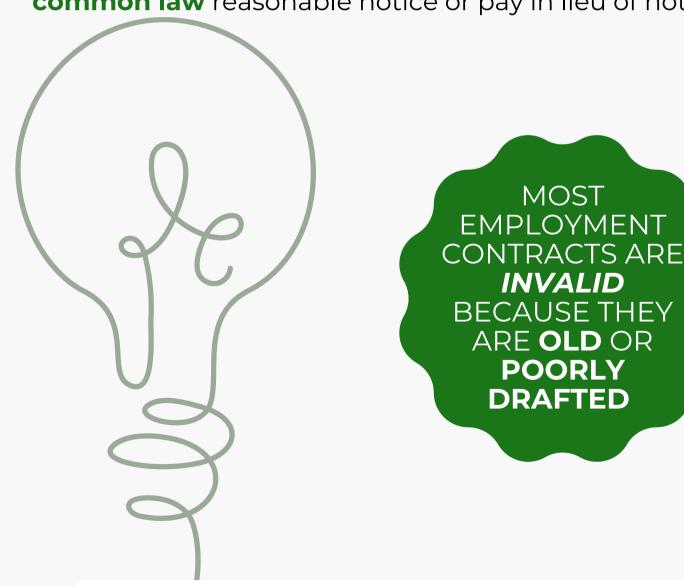


## **BONUS MATERIAL**

Although your **employment contract** may try to limit your pay and severance, it may be **invalid**.



This means you may be entitled to **more money** from **common law** reasonable notice or pay in lieu of notice.







# OUR APPROACH TO CONSTRUCTIVE DISMISSAL CASES

OUR APPROACH: CLIENT-CENTERED REPRESENTATION FOR YOUR CONSTRUCTIVE DISMISSAL CLAIM

## PERSONALIZED LEGAL STRATEGY

- At Kalsi Legal Services, we understand that every constructive dismissal case is unique. That's why we develop personalized legal strategies tailored to your specific circumstances and goals.
- We investigate your matter fully and consider all relevant factors in order to determine if you have been constructively dismissed. Our goal is to pursue a strategy that could increase your settlement, by:
  - Fighting for common law reasonable notice
  - Including damages for your employer's bad faith conduct
  - Considering your experience with discrimination, harassment or a toxic work environment
  - Factoring in any potential damage to your reputation, good name and public image
  - Leveraging your loss of benefits and bonuses
  - And much more

## **EXPERIENCED ADVOCACY**

 Our experienced team has a proven track record of success in constructive dismissal cases. We'll leverage our knowledge, skills, and resources to advocate fiercely on your behalf and pursue the best possible outcome.

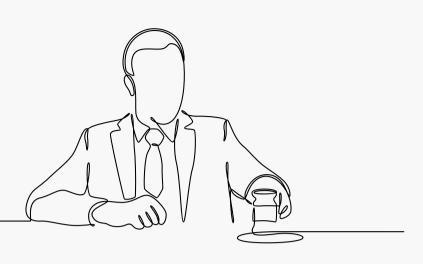
# **COMPASSIONATE SUPPORT**

 Dealing with constructive dismissal can be emotionally challenging. We're here to provide compassionate support and guidance every step of the way, ensuring you feel empowered and informed throughout the legal process.



# **CONTACT US**

Have questions?
Contact us for your
free case analysis
or a consultation.







(416) 626-5338

jkalsi@jkpclaw.com

100 King Street West, Suite 5700 Toronto

