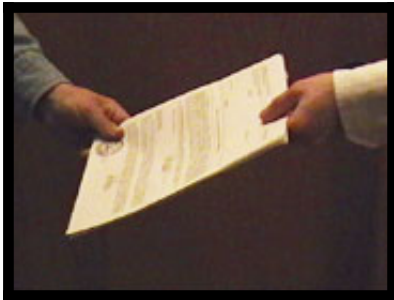


File Created by [Blogging Rebirth](#) WP Plugin

Great Workplaces Less Likely to Receive Complaints, Come Under Investigation

Be a **workplace hero** ...
ReTweet this post on **twitter**



In the wake of high profile investigations into the likes of Toyota for its hybrid vehicle brakes issue, and more recently Massey Energy for its safety violations that may have contributed to the deaths of 29 of its employees from a mine explosion on April 5, I thought it would be relevant to review one of the questions Winning Workplaces asks in our Top Small Company Workplace award application:

Has the company or organization been the subject of any investigation by a government body or a civil or criminal complaint?

We include this question to assist in the rigorous due diligence process we undertake to help us determine our group of finalists for the award. Our final panel of judges also take this into consideration when determining the winners (the winners for 2010 will be announced in Inc. Magazine in June).

What we see this year, consistent with previous years, is that a very low percentage of the organizations that apply answer "Yes" to this question. **Only 25 (5%) of our 497 award applicants this year said they had ever been the subject of a complaint or investigation.** This is all the more significant since the majority (58%) of applicant organizations were founded before 2000 – the oldest having begun in 1900 – which means long timeframes for complaints or investigations to arise, on average.

The low risk for complaints or investigations among these organizations should not be a surprise to longtime readers of this blog. As with threats to cash flow and IT infrastructure, legal or potentially legal issues brought forth by customers, governmental authorities, or other parties can be curbed substantially when leaders engage employees in trust building activities and take a Golden Rule approach to all stakeholders in their business.

Related: One of the threats small business owners worry about most is a legal one by current or former workers. In this article on our website, Workplace Fairness' Paula Brantner shares tips to help prevent employee lawsuits.

View full post on [Winning Workplaces](#)

You can also find this article published on [Great Workplaces Less Likely to Receive Complaints, Come Under Investigation](#), and on the tag pages [come](#), [Complaints](#), [Great](#), [Investigation](#), [Less](#), [Likely](#), [Receive](#), [Under](#), [Workplaces](#).