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On the Web: <http://dwd.wisconsin.gov/dwd/news.htm>

## **Governor Doyle Announces Additional Assistance for More Dislocated Workers at JL French Automotive Castings, Sheboygan**

### ***State secures employment, training services for temporary workers from Seek Staffing, displaced along with JL French and Labor Ready workers by foreign competition***

MADISON – Governor Jim Doyle today announced more displaced workers at JL French Automotive Castings, LLC, in Sheboygan, are eligible to apply for additional re-employment and training services under the federal Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA) program.

“I am pleased to announce the availability of this additional assistance, which will help workers increase their job skills and find new employment,” Governor Doyle said. “These employment and training services will help them re-enter the workforce and support themselves and their families.”

Last fall, the U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) determined that the JL French workers were displaced due to foreign competition in the production of aluminum die cast parts for automobiles. DOL cited a decline in sales to a major customer, resulting in layoffs by that firm and TAA certification of its workers.

At the time, DOL said all JL French workers, including Labor Ready staff, displaced on or after May 18, 2008, through November 4, 2011, are eligible to apply for assistance. The Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development asked DOL to include temporary workers provided by Seek Staffing in Sheboygan. DOL has agreed to the request. Affected workers will be notified of meetings to discuss program benefits.

The Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development (DWD) will administer the federally funded services, which are available through local Job Centers. They include retraining and re-employment services tailored to meet the needs of individual workers. These workers can now apply for the following TAA services:

- **Training** for employment in another job or career,
- **Income support**, known as trade readjustment allowances (TRA),
- **Job search allowance** to cover expenses seeking employment outside normal commuting areas, and
- **Relocation allowances** for approved relocation expenses in moving to a new area of employment.

“Working with our partners, we provide these services to displaced workers to help them get the training they need and connect with employers in search of workers with the right skills,” DWD Secretary Roberta Gassman said.

In June, Governor Doyle announced that the U.S. Department of Labor expanded the amount of TAA funds available nationwide to \$575 million from \$220 million as part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) of 2009. The additional funding will help states serve an increasing number of trade-affected workers. More information on the TAA program is available at <http://www.doleta.gov>.

Individuals interested in receiving re-employment assistance should contact a local Job Center or visit <http://www.wisconsinjobcenter.org/directory/> to find a Job Center nearby. The nearest Job Center location also can be found by calling toll free (888) 258-9966.