Workplace Investigations

Contributing Editors

Phil Linnard at Slaughter and May Clare Fletcher at Slaughter and May

19. What if the employee under investigation raises a grievance during the investigation?



Belgium

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This will depend on where the employee raises a grievance and the content of the grievance. If it is against the employer, the investigation can take this into account and continue from there. If the grievance is raised against the authorities, it will depend on the steps taken by the authorities.

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Switzerland

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In the context of private internal investigations, grievances initially raised by the employee do not usually have an impact on the investigation.

However, if the employer terminates the employment contract due to a justified legal complaint raised by an employee, a court might consider the termination to be abusive and award the employee compensation in an amount to be determined by the court but not exceeding six months' pay for the employee (article 336 paragraph 1 (lit. b) and article 337c paragraph 3, Swiss Code of Obligations). Furthermore, a termination by the employer may be challenged if it takes place without good cause following a complaint of discrimination by the employee to a superior or the initiation of proceedings before a conciliation board or a court by the employee (article 10, Federal Act on Gender Equality).

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Vietnam

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The employer should require the employee to raise any grievance under the company's existing policy on grievance reporting, disciplinary, and investigation processes, so that it can determine if the grievance is relevant to the current investigation. The grievance can be investigated together with the ongoing investigation. It can also be dealt with separately and independently from the existing investigation.

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