# **Topics Regarding Ratio Problem in Massachusetts**

### Section 8 states:

Electricians regularly employed by persons, firms or corporations other than holders of certificate A, may install such electrical wiring, conduits and appliances or make such repairs as may be required only on the premises and property of such persons, firms or corporations; provided that such electricians hold journeymen's licenses, and have otherwise complied with this chapter. Any such person, firm or corporation may employ learners or apprentices to work with and under the direct personal supervision of electricians referred to in this paragraph in said installation and repair work, provided that no such journeyman electrician shall have more than one learner or apprentice working with him and under his supervision as aforesaid; but not more than one such learner or apprentice shall be so employed for each journeyman electrician.

Violating the Ratio 1:1 Law MGL 141 s 8 is a Crime!

## Make a difference! Please share:

Wow! The first Ratio 1:1 video has been produced for the electrical industry in Massachusetts!

This law helps an electrician keep a job!

You can learn more about state hearings, criminal hearings, state attorneys, court fees, and penalties. Get the information you need to become a professional electrician without all the headaches!

Video available from We Are Electricians

## How people are affected by MGL 141 s. 8 Ratio 1:1 law in Massachusetts:

- Electricians are out of work!!
- Apprentices are NOT receiving the training necessary to become a qualified electrician!
- Apprentices are putting the taking of the electrical test at risk and the becoming an electrician at risk!
- Master electricians and journeymen are putting their electrical license at risk!
- What will insurance companies say?

#### How the Electrical Ratio 1:1 affects the electrical industry! Could this be a crime?

The Electrical Industry is affected by the Ratio 1:1 Law MGL 141 section 8 in many ways. The apprentice's electrical exam could be at risk, the electrician's job could be at risk, the electrical company owner's Master Electrician License or Journeyman License could be at risk! The state gets thousands of complaints a year, and Ratio is one of them. If you are the lucky one to get caught, you could be faced with long state board and county criminal court hearings in addition to court costs. It is a double whammy. People who have been caught will let you know this is NO joke!!

#### A story illustrating the importance of MGL 141 section 8:

Recently we had an electrical company working on a multi-million dollar job take advantage of the law. The electrical company decided to hire students from a vocational school and pay them only ten dollars per hour. The company then went on to make a million dollars. The Inspector of Wires called the electrical company owner once. Without going down to the job site, he reminded the electrical owner to comply with the 1:1 ratio law. However, the electrical company continued to hire the students and make money by using inexpensive labor. This is what happens when the inspector of wire doesn't investigate the job site. The inspector of wires has to stop this kind of unlawful behavior! Thank you for helping!

Is there a benefit of a town's or city's Inspector of Wires conducting more frequent inspections on larger job sites once a week for Ratio 1:1? If the master license or journeyman license is out of Ratio, go back a random day and time that same week and check the Ratio 1:1 again. If they are still out of Ratio a second time, send them to the state and let them take care of it!

#### Ratio job check:

No phone calls please! Go to the large job site and look for the general contractor or foreman on the job (there might be more than one electrical contractor on the site). Ask that all electricians (of one company) report to the front of the job site (job trailer). Then ask each one to show you an electrical license and driver's license. Call the state at 617-727-7406 if you need assistance. Make sure the ratio is 1:1. If it is not, ask people to leave the job site until the ratio is correct. You will need to do this again about three or four days later. If you see anyone violating this law, please call 617-727-7406. This is a crime and must be reported right away!

File a complaint!

#### Steps to dealing with out of ratio compliance:

- 1. Call the local Inspector of Wires
- 2. Call the State Investigation office at 617-727-7406
- 3. File a complaint with the State Investigation Office Website: https://www.mass.gov/how-to/file-a-co...
- 4. File report with the county criminal court Website: https://www.mass.gov/how-to/file-a-cr...

It's hard to believe, but, YES, this is a Crime! This is a violation of MGL 141 section 8. It puts the job site in a hazardous situation, and the job safety is at high RISK! The critical safety importance of ensuring ratios are met for safety and quality. Please file a complaint!

