

Voters in Louisiana need to continue learning about Eddie Rispone and his shady business practices.

For decades, he's made off with more than \$500 million in corporate tax breaks, but cheated his own employees out of overtime pay and health care

ISC Constructors Benefited From Louisiana's Industrial Tax Exemption Program.

The Greater Baton Rouge Business Report reported, "But it wasn't until TBR took on the state's Industrial Tax Exemption Program in 2016 that Rispone decided to do something about the group. ISC Constructors is a beneficiary of tax exemption, but Rispone says he wasn't so much concerned about the tax break for his company. Rather, he believes in the value of the incentive in keeping the Louisiana economy thriving." [Greater Baton Rouge Business Report, [2/14/18](#)]

Between 2013 And 2016, ISC Worked As A Contractor On Industrial Projects That Received \$276 Million In Taxpayer Subsidies To Create Nineteen Jobs.

According to the Louisiana Economic Development's Commerce & Industrial Board Incentive Approvals, between 2013 and 2016, ISC was a contractor on several projects that received \$276,721,233 in estimated ten-year property tax exemptions through ITEP to create nineteen jobs. The ITEP incentive data available provides enough information to identify the specific projects within larger industrial projects, making it possible to link the specific ITEP projects with specific ISC contracting work. Therefore, the \$276,721,233 in incentives to Motiva, PCS Nitrogen, Shell, and Valero Refining are for smaller component projects that ISC worked on. [Louisiana Economic Development, C&I Board Incentive Approvals, accessed [12/12/18](#)]

Between 2008 And 2014, ISC Worked As A Contractor On Smaller Pieces Within Larger Industrial Projects By Rubicon, TOTAL Petrochemicals, Exxon Mobil, And Marathon, Whose Larger Industrial Projects Received \$239 Million In Taxpayer Subsidies To Create Zero Jobs.

According to the Louisiana Economic Development's Commerce & Industrial Board Incentive Approvals for 2008-2014, ISC was a contractor on several larger projects that received \$239,309,818 in estimated ten-year property tax exemptions through ITEP to create zero jobs. The ITEP incentive data available provides only enough information to identify the larger refinery projects and not any specific job within the larger projects. Therefore, the \$239,309,818 in incentives to Rubicon, TOTAL Petrochemicals, Exxon Mobil, and Marathon are for industrial projects that have smaller component projects within them that ISC worked on, but due to the information available, we cannot link any of the specific incentives to ISC's work. [Louisiana Economic Development, C&I Board Incentive Approvals, accessed [12/12/18](#)]

Class Action Lawsuits: "Defendant Negligently Or Willfully Failed To Pay Plaintiffs For Time Spent In Employment, As More Fully Set Forth Above, In Violation Of The FLSA."

According to the Complaints filed in *Aguirre et al v. ISC Constructors, LLC* and *Dicken et al v. ISC Constructors*, "Defendant negligently or willfully failed to pay Plaintiffs for time spent in employment, as more fully set forth above, in violation of the FLSA. Defendant negligently or willfully failed to maintain adequate records of hours worked, in violation of the FLSA. Plaintiffs are entitled to damages representing overtime wages not properly paid, as well as an additional equal amount as liquidated damages resulting from Defendant's willful violation of the FLSA. 29 USC 207, 216(b), 255(a). Plaintiffs are further entitled to recover their attorneys' fees, expert fees, pre-judgment and post-

judgment interest on all damages, and their costs of court. Plaintiffs are entitled to recover damages representing straight time and/or gap time wages for unpaid wages during weeks that were less than 40 hours.” [US District Court – Eastern District of Texas, Case No. 1:14-cv-00475-KFG, 9/17/14; Case No. 1:2014cv00067, 2/10/14]

At Least Two ISC Employees Filed A Class Action Lawsuit Against ISC For Unpaid Wages. According to the complaint in *Whittington V. Industrial Specialty Contractors LLC*, “NOW INTO COURT, comes plaintiff, ELVIN WHITTINGTON (hereinafter ‘Whittington’), by and through his attorneys, who files this original class action complaint against the defendant, Industrial Specialty Contractors, LLC pursuant to the Fair Labor Standards Act, 29 USC 201, et seq. (referred to hereinafter as the ‘FLSA’) and La. R.S. 23:631, et seq. In support, plaintiff respectfully submits the following: [...] Plaintiff brings this action on behalf of himself and other similarly situated employees of Industrial Specialty Contractors, LLC, located in Louisiana and nationwide. [...] As of the filing of this suit, Randy Godso, a citizen of Louisiana and a resident of Ascension Parish, chooses to opt into this suit as a party plaintiff. [...] This is an action to recover unpaid overtime compensation and unpaid wages for time worked under the Fair Labor Standards Act, 29 USCS 201 et seq and to address the defendant's alleged violations of the FLSA record-keeping provisions, 29 USC S 211 (c), as well as any amounts due after the termination of any plaintiffs under La. R.S. 23:631, et. seq. to which this court has supplemental jurisdiction. [...] At all times relevant and material herein, plaintiff was an employee to the defendant within the meaning of the Act 29 USC 203(e)(1). Plaintiff has consented to the participation in this suit. (See Exhibit 1 attached, consent form of Elvin Whittington and Exhibit 2, consent form of Randy Godso).” [US District Court – Middle District Of Louisiana, Case No. 3:05-cv-01186-JJB-DLD, 10/11/05]

Oprex Lawsuit: “Pertinent To The Healthcare Claims Forming The Basis For This Action, [Oprex Surgery] Operated Out-Of-Network Ambulatory Surgical Centers That Furnished Healthcare Goods And Services To Members And Beneficiaries Covered Under The Plan.” According to the Complaint in *Oprex Surgery LP et al. vs. ISC Constructors LLC et al.*, “Pertinent to the healthcare claims forming the basis for this action, Plaintiffs operated out-of-network ambulatory surgical centers that furnished healthcare goods and services to members and beneficiaries covered under the Plan. As an out-of-network provider, Plaintiffs had no written contracts with Defendants or BCBS, and are therefore not subject to any of the contractual limitations included in such contracts.” [US District Court For The Southern District Of Texas, 4:17-CV-03205, 10/23/17]

Oprex: The Plaintiffs Were Told By The Defendants That The “Plan Covered The Specific Medical Services To Be Rendered By Plaintiffs, And That Plaintiffs Would Directly Receive Payment For These Medical Services.” According to the Complaint in *Oprex Surgery LP et al. vs. ISC Constructors LLC et al.*, “Defendants were well aware of the facts and circumstances surrounding Plaintiffs’ requests to provide services to covered members and beneficiaries. When Plaintiffs called Defendants or their agents to verify insurance coverage, they asked Defendants or their agents if the Plan provided out-of-network benefits for the scheduled medical services. Defendants’ representatives confirmed and represented that the patients were members or beneficiaries of the Plan, that the Plan covered the specific medical services to be rendered by Plaintiffs, and that Plaintiffs would directly receive payment for these medical services.” [US District Court For The Southern District Of Texas, Case No. 4:17-CV-03205, 10/23/17]

And when Louisiana's unemployment was at record levels, Eddie Rispone hired foreign labor instead of Louisiana workers.

February 2016: ISC Constructors Applied For One Certificate For A H1B Visa For An Estimation And Construction Project Coordinator Position. According to H1B Salary Database, ISC Constructors had one certification for a H1B visa in 2016 for the position of an “Estimation & Construction Project Coordinator with a base salary of \$56,000.” [H1B Salary Database, accessed [12/11/18](#)]

February 2016: ISC Services LLC Applied For Two Certificates For H1B Visas For An Estimation And Construction Project Coordinator And Management Analyst Positions. According to H1B Salary Database, ISC Services LLC had two certifications for H1B visas in 2016 for an “Estimation & Construction Project Coordinator” and “Management Analyst” position with base salaries of \$56,000. [H1B Salary Database, accessed [12/11/18](#)]

That Atlantic: H-1B Visas Help “American Employers Hire Foreign Workers With Specialized Skills That They Claim They Can’t Find In The United States.” The Atlantic reported, “Last year, Walt Disney World caused a scandal when it let go of more than 200 IT workers and hired an outsourcing firm to replace them with foreign workers on H-1B visas—a program that helps American employers hire foreign workers with specialized skills that they claim they can’t find in the United States (a claim that makes little sense when laying off people already doing those jobs).” [The Atlantic, [12/6/16](#)]

In February 2016, Louisiana Had The Ninth Worst Unemployment Rate In The Country. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, Louisiana had the ninth highest unemployment rate of 5.90%, seasonally adjusted, in February 2016, with no statistically significant change in unemployment rate compared to 12 months prior. [Bureau of Labor Statistics, Change in Unemployment Rates for States February 2015 to February 2016, [3/30/16](#)]

Eddie Rispone is only looking out for one person - himself. And he's got no business being our Governor.