
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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

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DWD Secretary Frostman releases Statement on additional Shopko closures

MADISON – The Department of Workforce Development (DWD) today received a Worker Adjustment and Retraining Notices (WARN) from Shopko Stores Operating Company, LLC, showing that 1,715 hardworking Wisconsinites will lose their employment at 39 Shopko stores statewide.

These 39 stores are in addition to the 11 closures announced Feb. 13 impacting 578 workers, the two closures announced Jan. 18 impacting 63 workers and the closure of the Shopko Store Support Center Feb. 18 impacting 140 workers. In total Shopko's closure is impacting 2,496 workers statewide.

The announcement of the additional closures has also caused the closure of Spectrum Transportation Services LLC & Spectrum America Supply Chain Solutions Inc., whose sole customer was Shopko, impacting 225 workers at that company.

DWD Secretary-Designee Caleb Frostman released the following statement in response to the announced closures:

"Shopko has been an integral economic fixture in many Wisconsin towns and cities. The changes resulting from these closures will be felt by hard-working Wisconsinites in many communities.

The Department of Workforce Development has and will continue to support local communities by partnering with local workforce development boards to create rapid response teams that will help get affected workers back to work.

We at DWD will continue working with our partners to enact and enhance programming that provides Wisconsin workers the opportunity to re-train and pivot to new job prospects in this ever-changing retail landscape."

The DWD Dislocated Worker Program provides transition assistance to workers and companies affected by permanent worker layoffs. The Program's local Rapid Response Teams help companies and worker representatives develop and implement a practical transition plan based on the size of the layoff event. Types of services include:

- pre-layoff workshops on a variety of topics such as resume writing and interviewing, job search strategies, and budgeting
- provision of information about programs and resources through written materials and information sessions
- career and resource fairs.

Workers affected by permanent layoff may also access basic re-employment services at no charge through the state's Job Centers. Some services, including training assistance, may be an option for some workers after enrolling in one or more of DWD's workforce development programs. While all companies faced with permanent

worker layoffs are encouraged to seek assistance from the local Rapid Response Teams, some companies may be required to give 60 days notice before a mass layoff or closing under federal and/or state law. More information about advance notice requirements is available at <https://dwd.wisconsin.gov/dislocatedworker/>.

The WARN notices received today can be accessed on DWD's WARN Notice [Webpage](#).

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