



Class Action Law Suit Frequently Asked Questions

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What is a class action law suit?

A class action is a law suit that applies to a group of people who have the same complaint against someone. It lets one person sue on behalf of many people for similar concerns of wrongdoing. A common example is when one person sues a company for a defective product and the result applies to everyone who purchased the same product.

What class action law suit is BCPSEF supporting?

Jason Baldwin, BCPSEF Vice President, is the representative plaintiff in a class action law suit launched in October 2023 in the Supreme Court of British Columbia on behalf of all unionized BC Public Service (BCPS) employees harmed by the BC Government's 2021-2023 proof of COVID-19 vaccination mandate. BCPSEF is supporting the class action by raising awareness and funds to help cover the costs of litigation.

What class action law suit is UHCWBC supporting?

Terminated and former unionized B.C. health care workers Jed Ferguson and Terri Perepolkin, both UHCWBC members, filed [a class action law suit](#) as representative plaintiffs on behalf of the thousands of health care workers and ambulance service paramedics harmed by Provincial Health Officer Dr. Bonnie Henry's COVID-19 vaccination mandate orders. UHCWBC is supporting the class action by raising awareness and funds to help cover the costs of litigation.

Who is launching the class action law suits?

Members of the BCPSEF and UHCWBC, respectively, have launched the class action law suits, not BCSPEF or UHCWBC. The members are the representative plaintiffs in the class actions.

BCPSEF is supporting the plaintiff, Mr Baldwin, because his action is undertaken on behalf of all unionized BC Public Service employees affected by the vaccine mandate. This is the way a class action law suit works—someone serves as the representative plaintiff on behalf of a group of people affected by the same wrongdoing.

- [Read the plaintiff's Notice of Civil Claim filed October 30, 2023 \(PDF\)](#)

Who does the Baldwin action apply to?

The Jason Baldwin (plaintiff's) action applies to any unionized employee who was harmed by the B.C. Public Service's Human Resources Policy 25, and Order in Council No. 627/2021. Together, the policy and order required employees to be vaccinated, and disclose their vaccination status, to keep their jobs.

This includes unionized employees who:

- were put on leave without pay or fired because of the vaccine mandate
- retired early because of the vaccine mandate
- were put on leave without pay because of the vaccine mandate but eventually returned to work
- were on leave or STIIP (Short Term Illness & Injury Plan) when the vaccine mandate began
- were denied requested exemptions from the vaccine mandate
- had the vaccine mandate imposed on them to keep their jobs
- were affected by the vaccine mandate in other ways

BCGEU (BC General Employees Union) or PEA (Professional Employees Association) members are included.

Will the certification hearing be held just for the Baldwin case?

No. Terminated and former unionized B.C. health care workers Jed Ferguson and Terri Perepolkin, both UHCWBC members, filed [a class action law suit](#) as representative plaintiffs on behalf of the thousands of health care workers and ambulance service paramedics harmed by Provincial Health Officer Dr. Bonnie Henry's COVID-19 vaccination mandate orders.

- [Read the Civil Claim of plaintiffs' Ferguson and Perepolkin \(PDF\)](#)

The certification of the Baldwin action will be heard together with the one for Ferguson and Perepolkin in a process called joinder due to the similarities of the legal issues to be decided. If the two class actions are successful at certification, they may still be heard separately if they proceed to trial.

Who is representing the representative plaintiffs?

Legal counsel for both actions is Umar Sheikh of Sheikh Law. For more information, please visit: sheikhlaw.ca.

When and where is the certification hearing for the class action?

The certification hearing for both class actions is scheduled to start Monday, April 28, 2025 and run for five consecutive days. Additional days will be booked if needed. The hearing will be held in B.C. Supreme Court in Victoria, B.C., and the public may attend.

Dates: Monday April 28, 2025 to Friday May 2, 2025

Start Time: 9:00 a.m.

Location: BC Supreme Court, 850 Burdett Avenue, Victoria, B.C., Canada

Is it possible to watch or listen to the certification hearing remotely?

The court has options, for some proceedings, to participate remotely by phone or by Zoom. For more information, please visit https://www.bccourts.ca/frequently_asked_questions.aspx#13.

Who hears a certification hearing?

A judge will hear the arguments presented by the plaintiffs and the defendants.

What happens after the certification hearing?

The judge will make a decision on whether or not the class action law suit(s) will be certified. If yes, the law suit(s) is expected to proceed to trial. There is no set time for the judge to provide a decision.

What does it cost to be part of the class action law suit?

If the class (or classes) is certified and a person meets the definition of the class, the person is automatically included in the class action law suit. There is no cost *per se* to be included.

The litigation, however, has a cost for the representative plaintiffs. Without donations to support their legal efforts, the case(s) will not proceed through the judicial system. The legal expenses of the defendants (i.e., the government) are paid by tax payers.

I believe in bodily autonomy and medical privacy. Do I have to be a civil servant or health care worker to support this?

No. Anyone can support it.

What can I do to support this effort?

- Attend as much of the certification hearing in Victoria as possible.
 - The hearing is open to the public and will be held at BC Supreme Court, 850 Burdett Avenue, Victoria, B.C., starting Monday April 28. It is expected to run to Friday May 2.
- Reach out to your MLA to let them know about these cases and your concerns.
 - <https://www.leg.bc.ca/members>
- Help publicize these cases.
 - Tell your family, friends, neighbours, colleagues and other about them.
- Donate and encourage others to donate to help the representative plaintiffs cover their legal costs.
 - <https://bcpsforfreedom.com/donate/>

More Information

- <https://bcpsforfreedom.com/legal-action/>
 - media@bcpsforfreedom.com
- <https://unitedtogether.ca>
 - unitedhealthcareworkersBC@proton.me