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PRESS RELEASE

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Attorney General Brown Wins Temporary Block on Mass Firings of Federal Probationary Employees and Gets Fired Employees Their Jobs Back

Federal Judge Orders 18 Federal Agencies to Give Employees Their Jobs Back by Monday

BALTIMORE, MD (March 14, 2025) – Attorney General Anthony G. Brown issued the following statement after a federal judge in the United States District Court for Maryland issued a [temporary restraining order \(TRO\)](#) for 18 federal agencies, ordering them to stop the illegal mass layoffs of federal probationary employees and to reinstate fired workers by 1:00pm on Monday, March 17, 2025.

President Trump blindsided Maryland when he fired thousands of federal probationary employees without giving us the 60-day notice required by law. He jeopardized these employees' financial security, threatened Maryland's economy, and risked overwhelming our State's ability to help those who were out of work.

This ruling not only requires the Trump Administration to stop these indiscriminate and unlawful layoffs but also orders it to undo the harm inflicted on Maryland by restoring the jobs of hardworking federal employees.

These mass firings reflect a disregard for both the law and the essential role of the civil service in maintaining government stability. Our Office is committed to upholding the rule of law and will take every necessary legal step to ensure compliance with this court order.

The TRO order comes seven days after Attorney General Brown led a coalition of 20 attorneys general on March 6, 2025, in suing numerous federal agencies for causing irreparable injuries to Maryland and the other plaintiff states. The lawsuit sought immediate relief. The TRO stops the unlawful mass firings, orders the agencies to give those employees their jobs back and applies to the following 18 federal agencies:

Department of Agriculture
Department of Commerce
Department of Education
Department of Energy
Department of Health and Human Services
Department of Homeland Security
Department of Housing and Urban Development
Department of Interior
Department of Labor

Department of Transportation
Department of Treasury
Department of Veterans Affairs
Consumer Financial Protection Bureau
Environmental Protection Agency
Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation
General Services Administration
Small Business Administration
United States Agency for International Development

To learn more about the original lawsuit, please read [here](#).

Attorney General Brown was joined by the attorneys general of Minnesota, the District of Columbia, Arizona, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Hawai'i, Illinois, Massachusetts, Michigan, Nevada, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, Oregon, Rhode Island, Vermont, and Wisconsin.

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<https://www.marylandattorneygeneral.gov/press/2025/031425.pdf>