



# So You Think Your Job Is Safe?

**Lie  
# 1**

*"I work for the state; I'm under the merit system; I can't lose my job."*

**Truth:** Yes you can. Hundreds of employees are being furloughed each month, more are losing their jobs to VOBOs and hundreds are being RIF'd. How long will your job last?

**Lie  
# 2**

*"Furloughs and RIFs will never hit my agency."*

**Truth:** Oklahoma's budget situation continues to worsen, and more agencies are being forced into cutting staff to balance their budget. Since July 2009, eight state agencies have already done this to employees, with more considering starting the process every week.

**Lie  
# 3**

*"I have been here too long" or "I am brand new – they can't get rid of me!"*

**Truth:** Both long-term and new employees are at the greatest risk – older employees because their salary and benefits are higher; new employees because they are still on probation and not yet eligible for the merit system or RIF and severance packages.

**Lie  
# 4**

*"The economy will improve. What's the big deal?"*

**Truth:** The state is still losing money on budget estimates each month. Legislators warn that deeper cuts to agency budgets could be on the way. The simple fact is that each agency is under the gun and the budget cuts WILL AFFECT YOU!

**Lie  
# 5**

*"If I'm going to lose my job, there's nothing I can do about it."*

**Truth:** There is strength in numbers. 10,000 OPEA members at the Capitol will be seen. But all 36,000 state employees joining OPEA will not only be seen at the Capitol, they will be heard – loud and clear. You can start protecting your job by becoming a member today. OPEA has been your watchdog for 35 years, and there's never been a more important time to join.

**Don't believe the lies - start protecting your job - join OPEA today!!!**

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