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# **Employee Disciplinary Action Policy**

#### **Purpose**

To establish clear procedures for addressing employee misconduct or performance issues, promoting fairness and accountability. The goal is to resolve issues constructively, with disciplinary action as a measure to reinforce Andnetics' values and standards.

### Scope

This policy applies to all employees and freelancers at Andnetics, covering issues related to workplace behaviour, performance, attendance, and adherence to company policies.

# **Policy Guidelines**

# 1. General Expectations

- All team members are expected to conduct themselves with professionalism, integrity, and respect.
- Compliance with Andnetics policies, including the Code of Conduct, Attendance Policy,
   Confidentiality Agreement, and project guidelines, is mandatory.
- Violations, misconduct, or poor performance may lead to disciplinary action.

# 2. Types of Misconduct

- Minor Misconduct: Includes tardiness, minor policy violations, unprofessional communication, and minor performance issues.
- Serious Misconduct: Includes repeated minor misconduct, unauthorized absence, breach
  of confidentiality, non-compliance with project deadlines, or misuse of company
  resources.
- Gross Misconduct: Includes harassment, discrimination, theft, fraud, assault, severe
  policy breaches, or unethical behaviour. Gross misconduct may result in immediate
  termination.

### 3. Disciplinary Action Process

#### Verbal Warning

- For minor misconduct or a first-time minor policy violation, the supervisor will provide a verbal warning.
- This informal meeting aims to address the issue constructively and clarify expectations.
- A record of the warning will be kept but will not impact the employee's file unless the behaviour is repeated.

### Written Warning

- If misconduct continues or if a serious policy violation occurs, a written warning will be issued.
- The written warning will outline the behaviour or issue, the necessary corrective action, and a timeline for improvement.
- The employee must sign the warning to acknowledge receipt, and it will be documented in the employee's file.

### Final Warning

- For repeated serious violations or continued issues after a written warning, a final warning may be issued.
- This warning emphasizes that any further violations may result in suspension or termination.
- The final warning will include specific expectations and a strict improvement timeline.

#### Suspension

- In cases where misconduct requires further investigation or when an immediate consequence is necessary, an employee may be suspended.
- Suspension can be with or without pay, depending on the severity of the issue.
- The suspension period will be used to review the incident and determine appropriate next steps.

#### Termination

- For gross misconduct or repeated violations after a final warning, termination may be pursued.
- Termination will follow a formal meeting with HR and management, ensuring all evidence is reviewed.
- Final pay and any owed benefits will be processed as per Andnetics' termination policy.

## 4. Appeal Process

- Employees have the right to appeal a disciplinary decision if they feel it is unjust or based on incorrect information.
- Appeals must be submitted in writing within 7 days of receiving the disciplinary action.
- The HR department, along with relevant management, will review the appeal and make a final decision within 14 days.

## 5. Confidentiality and Fair Treatment

- All disciplinary actions and investigations will be handled confidentially to protect the privacy of the employee.
- Andnetics is committed to fair treatment, and disciplinary actions will be based on facts, evidence, and the severity of the violation.

## 6. Guidance and Support

- Andnetics encourages employees to seek guidance if they are unsure about any policy or facing performance challenges.
- Supervisors and HR are available to discuss concerns and offer resources or support to help employees meet expectations.

### Responsibilities

- **Employees:** Expected to understand and follow Andnetics' policies, raise questions if unsure about expectations, and improve upon receiving feedback.
- **Supervisors:** Responsible for identifying misconduct, initiating corrective actions, and communicating expectations clearly.
- **HR Department:** Ensures a fair and consistent disciplinary process, provides resources for employee improvement, and maintains documentation for all disciplinary actions.

