



Member Update

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By Tony Burton • Jul 06, 2026

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In today's July 6, 2026 Update:

- **Registration Now Open:** [Hospitality Conference in Downtown Minneapolis September 27-29](#)
- **Minnesota Secure Choice Retirement:** [Program Enters New Phase Focusing on Mid-Size Employers](#)
- **Hoteliers:** Less than two weeks left to [Nominate Trailblazers for AHLA Awards](#)
- **July 14 - USI Insurance Webinar:** [Workplace Harrassment Allegations](#)
- **September 14 - Hospitality Minnesota Golf Tournament:** [Join Hospitality Leaders at Legends Golf Club in Prior Lake](#)
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Is your organization interested in sponsorship? [Email us](#) to learn more.



Registration Now for the 2026 Hospitality Conference

Ready for an upgrade? Registration for the [2026 Hospitality Conference](#)—headed to the Hilton Downtown Minneapolis September 27-29—is open now!

- **What to expect:** Attendees will gain actionable insights, fresh perspectives, and tools they can put to work immediately in their businesses during this high-impact, multi-day experience of learning, connection, and ideas shaping the future of the hospitality industry.

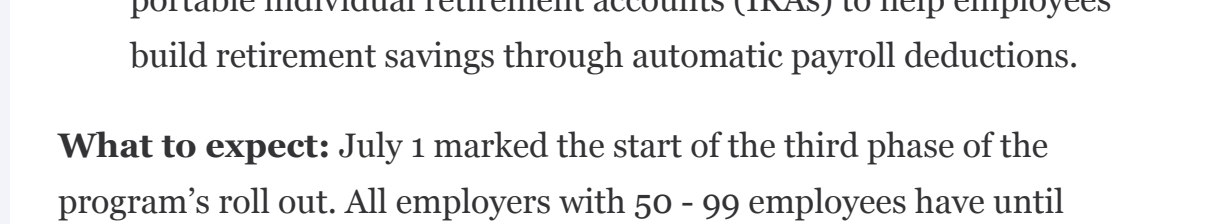
Stay where the conference happens! We've reserved a block of rooms at the host hotel at a special conference rate, making it easy to network, attend sessions, and maximize your conference experience.

- **Book before September 4** to take advantage of the discounted rate. The link will be provided in a confirmation email after registration.

[Register Now!](#)



Secure Choice Retirement Program Enters New Phase Focusing on Mid-Size Employers



Jake Macdonald/Minneapolis Fed; Getty Images

The [Minnesota Secure Choice Retirement Program](#) is a state-facilitated, employer-supported retirement program that bridges the retirement savings gap for hundreds of thousands of Minnesotans.

- **Some background:** The program offers simple, automatic and portable individual retirement accounts (IRAs) to help employees build retirement savings through automatic payroll deductions.

What to expect: July 1 marked the start of the third phase of the program's roll out. All employers with 50 - 99 employees have until December 31, 2026 to opt in or out of the program.

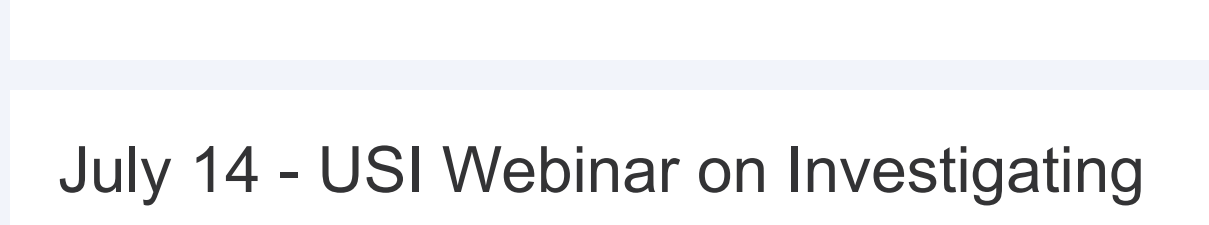
- **Yes, and:** If you select to opt out, you will be asked to indicate that you provide alternative retirement programs to all of your employees.

Stay compliant: Employers can choose to enroll or file an exemption at any time, though all must enroll by various compliance deadline (based on total employee count) as outlined below.

Number of employees at covered employer	Phase duration
Soft launch and voluntary enrollment for any size covered employer	Jan. 19, 2026 to March 30, 2026
100 or more	April 1, 2026 to June 30, 2026
50 to 99	July 1, 2026 to Dec. 31, 2026
25 to 49	Jan. 1, 2027 to June 30, 2027
10 to 24	July 1, 2027 to Dec. 31, 2027
5 to 9	Jan. 1, 2028 to June 30, 2028

[Learn More!](#)

Hoteliers: Nominate Industry Trailblazers For AHLA Awards



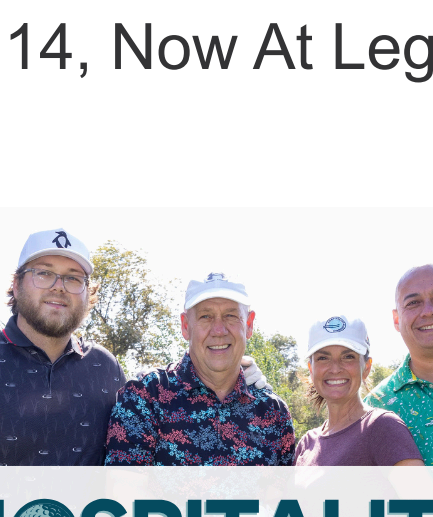
Time to recognize industry trailblazers! The hotel industry is powered by exceptional leaders. Now through July 17, [hoteliers can nominate top talent for national recognition](#) across two prestigious programs:

- **The GM Awards (Powered by AHLA):** Exclusively honors General Managers.
 - **Categories include:** *GM of the Year* (across five property types), *Lifetime Achievement*, and two new categories: *Rising Star* and *Community Ambassador*.
- **Stars of the Industry Awards (Powered by AHLA Foundation):** Recognizes outstanding staff and students.
 - Categories include: *North Star Award* (Lodging Employee of the Year), *Emerging Leader Under 30*, *Hotel Hero*, and *Scholar of the Year*.

Go deeper: Review the full criteria and submit your properties' standouts on the [AHLA Nominations Portal](#).

[Nominate Your Peers!](#)

July 14 - USI Webinar on Investigating and Responding to Workplace Harassment Allegations



July USI Employer Solution Webinar: [Investigating and Responding to Workplace Harassment Allegations](#)

- **Join the practical discussion:** One of the steps in reducing your organization's legal liability in connection with harassment claims is conducting a prompt and thorough investigation from which you draw reasonable conclusions, take appropriate action, and ensure there is no retaliation.

Join us for this webinar in which we will discuss:

- The difference between "illegal" and "legal" harassment
- When and how to conduct a formal investigation
- Interviewing and documentation
- Drawing conclusions and taking appropriate action

[Register Here!](#)

HM Golf Tournament Returns September 14, Now At Legends Golf Club



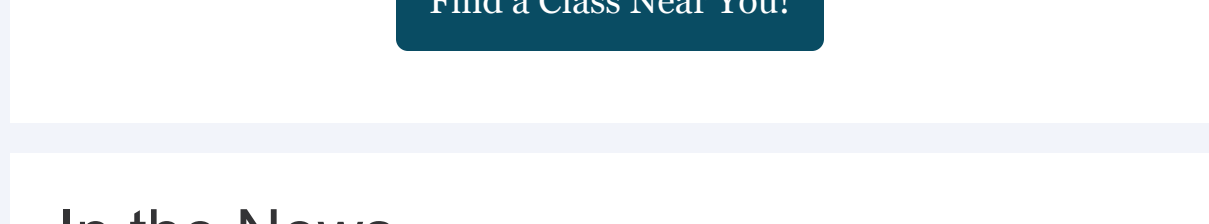
Secure your spot today: Join Minnesota's hospitality leaders at the [2026 Hospitality Minnesota Golf Tournament](#) on September 14 at the [Legends Golf Club](#) in Prior Lake.

- **Why it matters:** The [Hospitality Minnesota Golf Tournament](#) is all about connection, collaboration, and community. It's a chance to strengthen relationships, meet new peers, and enjoy a day of relaxed networking with fellow hospitality professionals in a beautiful outdoor setting.

How to participate: [Register your foursome](#) or individual slot early—spots fill quickly. Consider sponsoring a hole, beverage cart, or a Bloody Mary bar to showcase your company and engage with members of Minnesota's vibrant hospitality industry.

[Register Today!](#)

ServSafe Classes Near You



Did you know: Minnesota law requires at least one certified food manager on staff at nearly every food establishment.

[Check this calendar](#) for all upcoming ServSafe classes!

- [Winona - July 13](#)
- [Minneapolis - July 14](#)
- [Windom - July 15](#)
- [Marshall - July 17](#)
- [Mankato - July 20](#)
- [Plymouth - July 21](#)
- [St. Cloud - July 22](#)

[Find a Class Near You!](#)

In the News

- [Restaurant news: 6 Minnesota brands are expanding](#) | Star Tribune
- [Coffee Talk: Dinner du Nord is back for a second course](#) | Foodservice News
- ["Taste of Minnesota" festival brings music, food, and fun to downtown Minneapolis July 3-4](#) | Kare 11
- [Brooklyn Park restaurant owner from Venezuela describes moments after hearing of deadly earthquakes](#) | CBS News
- [Hilton Minneapolis/Bloomington's Belle Madsen Becomes First Food and Beverage Apprentice Graduate](#) | Hospitality Minnesota Education Foundation

See you back here next week!

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