

Kentucky Equal Justice Center-Employment Law Project Update

Board Meeting-December 10, 2015
McKenzie Cantrell-Employment Law Attorney

Community Education

- Monthly workers' rights presentations at Goodwill Power of Work in Louisville
- Upcoming presentations with Kentucky Refugee Ministries
- Spreading the word about the Louisville wage claim clinic
- Wage claim clinic in Lexington going strong
- Employment law training at the 17th Annual Ending Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence Conference

Networking and Coalition Building

- Last Workers' Rights Task Force Meeting November 19th was a big success.
 - Legislative roundtable session with several other organizations represented
- Next task force event will be a meeting during the 2016 General Assembly.
- Attended Mayors Innovation Project meeting on local control in Washington D.C. December 7th
 - Preemption strategies to protect local minimum wage ordinances that have been passed
- Partnering with KFTC for lobbying training session for General Assembly

Policy

- Discussions on 2016 General Assembly legislation
 - Kentucky Pregnant Workers Fairness Act
 - UI eligibility for domestic violence survivors
 - Met with outgoing Secretary Larry Roberts of the Labor Cabinet to discuss efforts to combat misclassification
- Ongoing discussions with KCEP regarding other campaigns for raising the minimum wage
- Raising the minimum wage in Louisville
 - Lawsuit challenging the ordinance being heard by Kentucky Supreme Court
 - Two *amicus curiae* briefs submitted this week
 - Enforcement of ordinance and encouraging complaints-possible open records request for complaint information
- Raising the minimum wage in Lexington
 - Ordinance passed on November 19th
 - Op-ed published in *Lexington Herald Leader* "Lexington must guard against employer 'wage theft'"
 - Enforcement conversations with two council members interested in taking action next year

Litigation

- Human trafficking litigation: discovery phase stayed pending outcome of criminal case
- Collaborating with the Workplace Justice Project in New Orleans in collecting a judgment for wages against a Kentucky company-judgment registered and asset discovery pending
- Collecting wages for Cave City small claims judgment/wage theft case
- Co-counseling three wage theft/H-2A cases in federal court with Southern Migrant Legal Services in Nashville