

PERKINScoie

COUNSEL TO GREAT COMPANIES

Labor & Employment Law Breakfast Seminar

November 14, 2017 – Bellevue, Washington

November 15, 2017 – Seattle, Washington

Presented by:

Linda Walton, Partner

Lindsay McAleer, Associate

Perkins Coie LLP

Agenda

- **Federal Law Updates**
 - Status of DOL's Obama-era Overtime Exemption Rule
 - EEOC: Use of New EEO-1 Report Delayed
- **State and Local Law Updates**
 - Washington's Paid Sick Leave law (Initiative 1433)
 - Washington's Healthy Starts Act

Agenda (contd.)

- **Upcoming U.S. Supreme Court Cases**
 - Trio of Cases Addressing Class Action Waivers in Arbitration Agreements
 - *Janus v. American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees Council 31, et al.*
- **Federal Court Decisions**
 - District Court holds that the side effects of prescribed narcotics require accommodation under the WLAD
 - Ninth Circuit says Washington school district can prohibit coaches' after-game prayers

Agenda (contd.)

- **Washington Supreme Court Decisions**
 - Court Places Heavier Burden on Employers Related to Missed Meal Periods
 - Court Clarifies *McDonnell Douglas* Framework Used for Discrimination Claims
 - Court Addresses Retaliation in Hiring
- **NLRB Updates**

Status of DOL's Obama-era Overtime Exemption Rule



granted summary judgment in favor of the
DOL regarding the DOL Overtime Final Rule:

The DOL's Final Rule is not 'based on a permissible
interpretation of the FLSA]' because by "doubl[ing] the previous
standard" the regulation "eliminates a consideration of
whether the employee performs 'bona fide executive, administrative, or
professional duties.'"

Department of Labor, No. 4:16-CV-731 (E.D. Tex. Aug. 31,

2017), the DOL asked the Fifth Circuit to
dismiss its appeal while it promulgates a new rule.

EEOC: Use of New EEO-1 Report Delayed



- Use of revised EEO-1 report has been suspended indefinitely
- Revisions included new requests for data on wages and hours worked from employers with 100+ employees and from federal contractors with 50+ employees
- This year, covered employers do not have to report the wages and hours worked of employees, but are still required to comply with the original EEO-1 form's reporting requirements concerning sex, race, and ethnicity

Washington's Paid Sick Leave Law (Initiative 1433)

- Effective January 1, 2018
- Minimum wage will increase to \$15.00 per hour
- Paid Sick Leave
 - ✓ 1 hour of paid sick leave per year
 - ✓ Unused paid sick leave will carry over to the following year
- Washington Department of Social & Health Services currently engaged in rulemaking
- Seattle, SeaTac, Tacoma have local paid sick leave ordinances



Washington's Healthy Starts Act



- Became effective July 23, 2017
- Applies to employers with 15 or more employees
- Requires two categories of accommodations:
 1. Employer may not claim undue hardship
 - *E.g., Longer bathroom breaks*
 2. Employer may refuse if accommodation would cause undue hardship
 - *E.g., Job restructuring, schedule changes*
- “Undue hardship” = additional financial expense
- Sets forth 4 acts that are prohibited



Trio of Cases Addressing Class Action Waivers in Arbitration Agreements

Nos. 16-285, 16-300, and 16-307

In the Supreme Court of the United States

EPIC SYSTEMS CORPORATION, PETITIONER

v.

JACOB LEWIS

ERNST & YOUNG LLP, ET AL., PETITIONERS

v.

STEPHEN MORRIS, ET AL.

NATIONAL LABOR RELATIONS BOARD, PETITIONER

v.

MURPHY OIL USA, INC., ET AL.

*ON WRITS OF CERTIORARI
TO THE UNITED STATES COURTS OF APPEALS
FOR THE FIFTH, SEVENTH, AND NINTH CIRCUITS*

BRIEF FOR THE UNITED STATES AS AMICUS CURIAE
SUPPORTING PETITIONERS IN NOS. 16-285 AND 16-300
AND SUPPORTING RESPONDENTS IN NO. 16-307

JEFFREY B. WALL
*Acting Solicitor General
Counsel of Record*

MALCOLM L. STEWART
Deputy Solicitor General

ALLON KEDEM
*Assistant to the Solicitor
General*

*Department of Justice
Washington, D.C. 20530-0001
SupremeCtBriefs@usdoj.gov
(202) 514-2217*

When parties agree to arbitrate employment-related claims bilaterally, the FAA requires enforcement of those agreements..... 12

A. The NLRA does not preclude enforcement of an agreement to arbitrate employees' work-related claims bilaterally..... 14

1. Bilateral arbitration agreements should be enforced absent a specific congressional command to the contrary..... 15

2. The NLRA does not contain a specific congressional command precluding enforcement of plaintiffs' bilateral arbitration agreements..... 18



Janus v. American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees Council 31

No. 16-___

IN THE
Supreme Court of the United States

MARK JANUS,
Petitioner,

v.

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF STATE, COUNTY, AND
MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES, COUNCIL 31, ET AL.,
Respondents.

On Petition for Writ of Certiorari to the
United States Court of Appeals
for the Seventh Circuit

PETITION FOR WRIT OF CERTIORARI

DAN K. WEBB
JOSEPH J. TORRES
LAWRENCE R. DESIDERI
WINSTON & STRAWN LLP
35 West Wacker Drive
Chicago, IL 60601
(312) 558-5600

JACOB H. HUEBERT
JEFFREY M. SCHWAB
LIBERTY JUSTICE CENTER
190 South LaSalle Street
Suite 1500
Chicago, IL 60603
(312) 263-7668

WILLIAM L. MESSENGER
Counsel of Record
AARON B. SOLEM
c/o NATIONAL RIGHT TO
WORK LEGAL DEFENSE
FOUNDATION, INC.
8001 Braddock Road
Suite 600
Springfield, VA 22160
(703) 321-8510
wlm@nrtw.org

Counsel for Petitioner

This case presents the same question presented in *Friedrichs*: should *Abod* be overruled and public-sector agency fee arrangements declared unconstitutional under the First Amendment?



District Court Says Side of Effects of Prescribed Narcotics Require Accommodation

“The Court again expresses its concern that the question of narcotics in the workplace should be approached carefully. In reaching the conclusions herein, the Court does not intend to hold that any use of prescription narcotics in the workplace is automatically protected. However, on these circumstances, the Court finds it appropriate to extend the WLAD’s protection to Stewart’s medication symptoms. To afford citizens with disabilities sufficient protection, circumstances like this must be appreciated.”

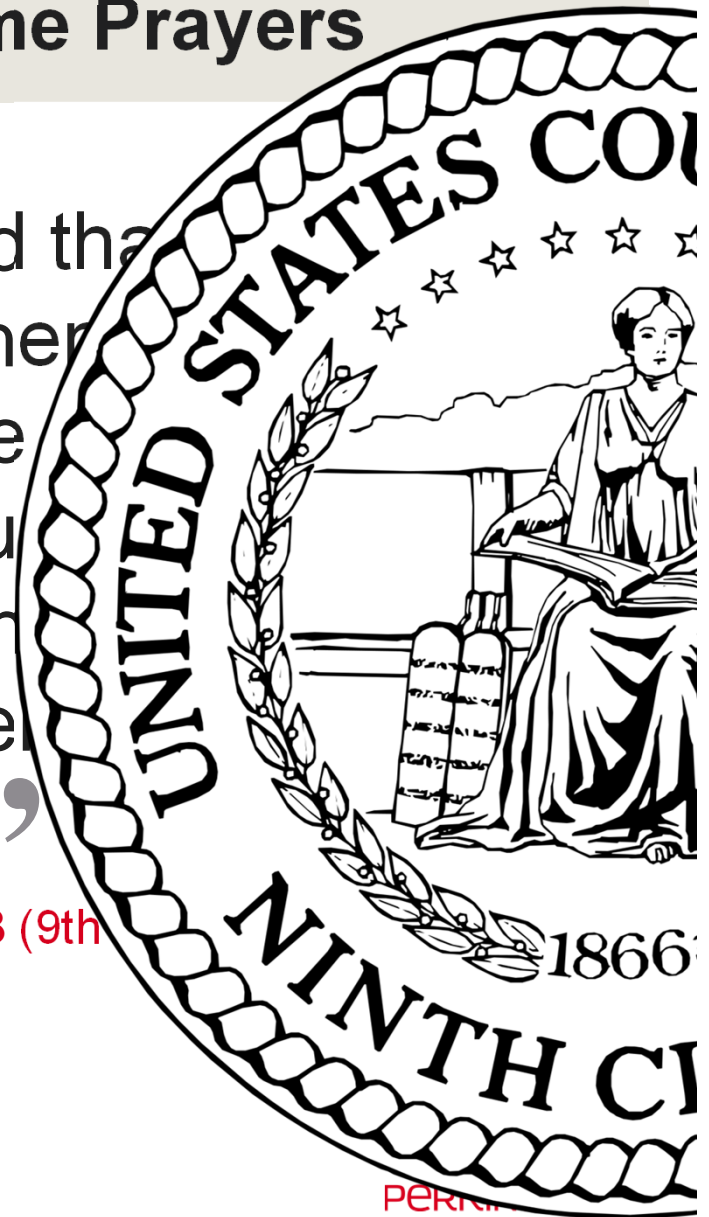
Stewart v. Snohomish County PUD No. 1, C16-0020-JCC, 2017 WL 2665105 (W.D. Wash. June 21, 2017).



Ninth Circuit Says Washington School District can Prohibit Coaches' After-game Prayers

“As for the task at hand, we hold that Kennedy spoke as a public employee when he prayed on the fifty-yard line after games while in view of students and parents. Kennedy therefore cannot succeed on the merits of his First Amendment retaliation claim.”

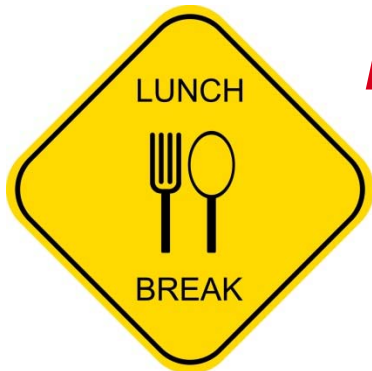
Kennedy v. Bremerton School District, 869 F.3d 813 (9th Cir. 2018)



Washington Supreme Court: Heavier Burden on Employers for Missed Meal Periods

“ [A]n employee asserting a meal break violation under WAC 296-126-020 can rebut his or her prima facie case by providing evidence that he or she did not receive a timely meal break. The employer may rebut this by showing that interference occurred or a valid waiver existed.”

Brady v. Autozone Stores, Inc., 180 Wash.2d 1576 (2014)



Washington Supreme Court Clarifies *McDonnell Douglas* Framework for Discrimination Claims

“We . . . clarify that the McDonnell Douglas framework does not require a plaintiff to prove that she was rejected by a person outside her protected group to establish a prima facie case of discrimination.”

“[The *McDonnell Douglas* framework] requires only that a plaintiff prove membership in a protected class, termination from a job for which she was qualified, and that the employer continued to seek candidates for the position.”

Mikkelsen v. Pub. Utility District No. 1 of Kittitas County, No. 2017 WL 4682306 (Wash. Oct. 19, 2017).



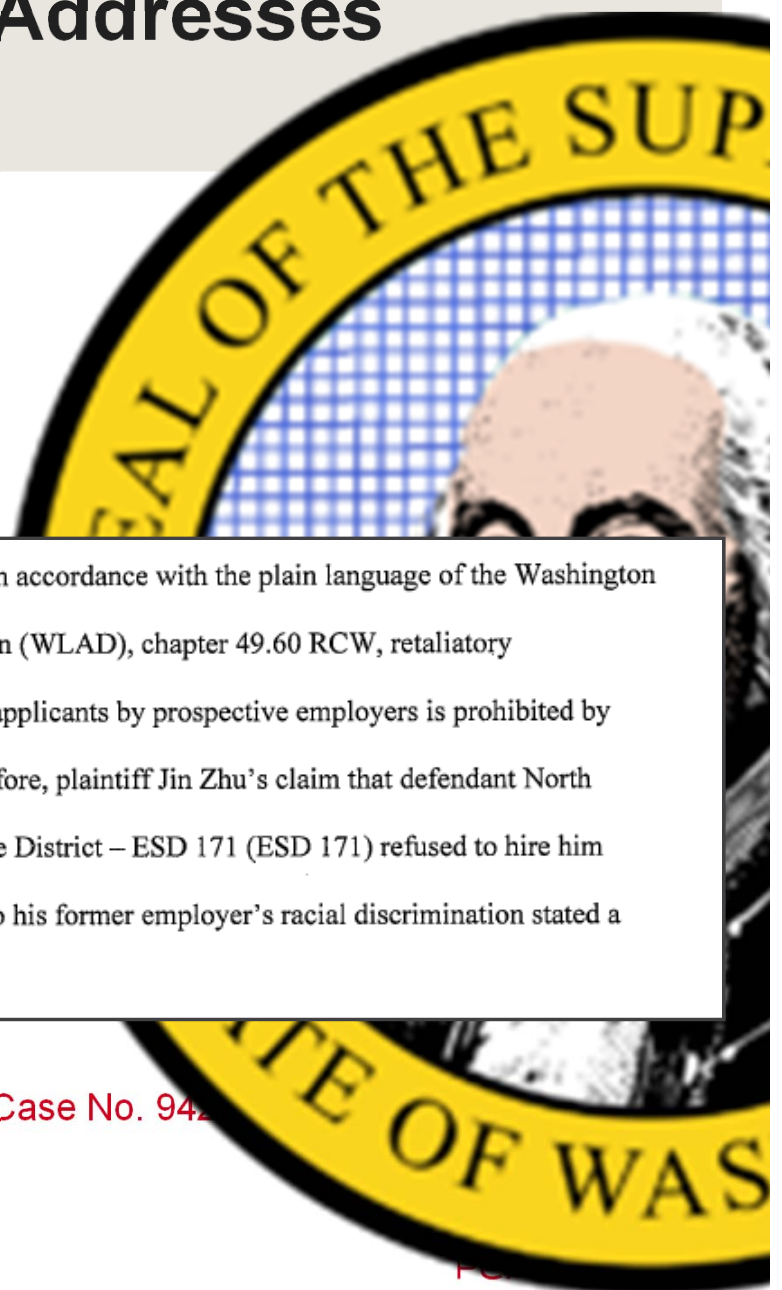
Washington Supreme Court Addresses Retaliation in Hiring

“Does RCW 49.60.210(1) create a cause of action for job applicants who claim a prospective employer refused to hire them in retaliation for prior opposition to discrimination against a different employer?” Order Certifying Local Law



The answer is yes. In accordance with the plain language of the Washington Law Against Discrimination (WLAD), chapter 49.60 RCW, retaliatory discrimination against job applicants by prospective employers is prohibited by RCW 49.60.210(1). Therefore, plaintiff Jin Zhu’s claim that defendant North Central Educational Service District – ESD 171 (ESD 171) refused to hire him because of his opposition to his former employer’s racial discrimination stated a valid cause of action.¹

Zhu v. North Central Educational Service District ESD 171, Case No. 942 (2017).



National Labor Relations

Recent Trends:

- First Republican major
- Republican General C
- Proposed federal legi
- Local Businesses Act
- Board's definition of j



Questions

