# Washington Healthcare News

wahcnews.com

Articles, Interviews and Statistics for the Healthcare Executive

VOLUME 4, ISSUE 8 AUGUST 2009

## Foster Pepper PLLC Announces New Labor and Employment Service

Foster Pepper PLLC, one of the largest law firms in the Pacific Northwest, recently announced an innovative new service targeted to healthcare clients.

The new service, called **Your Employment Services** (**YES!**), provides a guaranteed number of employment and/or labor related hours of legal services per quarter at a fixed price. In addition, each **YES!** client receives access to an individualized extranet.

Why launch YES!? Julie Kebler, Member and Labor and Employment Attorney with Foster Pepper PLLC explains, "We work with all types of healthcare clients who have experienced and knowledgeable human resources staff. They have the frequent need to run issues by outside counsel but are concerned about the predictability of costs. With YES! we can offer predictable costs. They are also lower overall."

#### When to Use YES!

Most employment/labor legal issues don't involve litigation. However, many should be discussed with an attorney.

Examples include:

- An employee handbook needs to be updated or a sample policy is needed.
- A problem previously discussed with counsel has gone in a different direction. A new strategy is needed.
- A union representative is setting up shop in the hospital's cafeteria. What should be done?
- Developing strategies for untangling an employee's ADA, FMLA and Worker's Compensation claims.

#### What YES! Includes

YES! includes six hours of legal services per quarter. Clients receive four hours of direct attorney consultation with an experienced attorney on any employment or labor matter. Litigation services are excluded.

It also includes two hours of updated information each quarter on the Client's personalized extranet. Extranet services are unlimited.

The extranet service includes access to Foster Pepper PLLC sam-

ple policies, checklists, listings of effective dates of new laws, red flag memos, direct links and alerts. Security is enabled so clients have the ability to designate tabs on their extranet for separate matters that only designated persons will be able to view, discuss online and post related documents. This limits the use of email.

### What YES! Costs

According to Kebler, "A flat fee payment is due each quarter. If a client does not use the four hours of direct consultation during one quarter then it rolls over into the next quarter. The cost per hour of these services are significantly lower than our regular hourly rates."

#### To Learn More

Prospective clients can contact Julie Kebler at 206-447-6404 or keblj@foster.com or contact Rosa Fruehling-Watson at 206-447-7907 or fruer@foster.com to learn more.

Julie or Rosa will show you a sample extranet, provide a full explanation of **YES!** and present specific cost information.

Reprinted with permission from the Washington Healthcare News. To learn more about the Washington Healthcare News visit wahcnews.com.