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The Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals Will Hear the Court Challenge to OSHA's Vax-or-Test Rule

By Morris L. Hawk

Yesterday afternoon, the Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals was selected to determine the fate of OSHA's "vaccine or test" rule for large employers. The Court will decide whether or not the rule, adopted as an emergency temporary standard, is a valid exercise of OSHA's regulatory powers. The Court will also have the authority to lift the Fifth Circuit's stay of the rule or keep it in place while it decides the issue.

Under the federal rules for multidistrict litigation, the Sixth Circuit (which is located in Cincinnati and covers the states of Kentucky, Michigan, Ohio and Tennessee) was chosen by random draw out of the 12 courts of appeal in which challenges to the rule were filed and its decision will apply nationwide. The consolidated case will be heard by a three-judge panel of the Court. No matter what the Sixth Circuit decides, the dispute will likely end up before the U.S. Supreme Court.

Roetzel will keep you apprised of further developments in this matter.

Doug Spiker

Practice Group Manager Employment Services 216.696.7125 | dspiker@ralaw.com

Aretta Bernard

Practice Group Manager
Employment Litigation & Counseling
330.849.6630 | abernard@ralaw.com

Susan Keating Anderson

Chair, Education Law Group 216.232.3595 sanderson@ralaw.com

Karen Adinolfi

330.849.6773 | <u>kadinolfi@ralaw.com</u>

Bob Blackham

216.615.4839 bblackham@ralaw.com

Michael Brohman

312.582.1682 mbrohman@ralaw.com

Helen, S. Carroll

330.849.6710 hcarroll@ralaw.com

G. Frederick Compton, Jr.

330.849.6610 <u>fcompton@ralaw.com</u>

Monica Frantz

216.820.4241 <u>mfrantz@ralaw.com</u>

Barry Freeman

216.615.4850 bfreeman@ralaw.com

Morris Hawk

216.615.4841 <u>mhawk@ralaw.com</u>

Philip Heebsh

419.708.5390 pheebsh@ralaw.com

Paul Jackson

330.849.6657 | <u>pjackson@ralaw.com</u>



Adrienne Kirshner

216.456.3850 akirshner@ralaw.com

Jonathan Miller

419.254.5273 | <u>JDMiller@ralaw.com</u>

Stephanie Olivera Mittica 330.849.6671 | solivera@ralaw.com

Nancy Noall

216.820.4207 | nnoall@ralaw.com