

DEFINING 'EMPLOYEE' – THE MANY SHADES OF GRAY IN THE EMPLOYMENT RELATIONSHIP: PRACTICES, DEVELOPMENTS, PITFALLS AND SAFEGUARDS

Laura M. Franze HUNTON & WILLIAMS LLP

Laura M. Franze

Dallas and Los Angeles

- Represents management in complex federal and state employment litigation and counseling.
- Board Certified in Labor and Employment Law by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization since 1984.
- Listed in: Chambers (Los Angeles and Dallas) since 2003-2012; Best Lawyers in America since 1995; Texas Super Lawyer since 2003; California's Top 50 Labor and Employment Lawyers, 2010; The Nation's Top 100 Most Powerful Employment Attorneys, 2009.



EH DSPITALITY LAW CONFERENCE FOCUSING ON LEGAL, SAFETY & SECURITY SOLUTIONS FEBRUARY 11-13, 2013 • HOUSTON, TEXAS

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

- 1. Defining "is."
- A. Statutory Definitions of Employee/Employer
- B. Multi-Factor Tests
- C. Control Factors
- D. Inconsistent Results





2. Major tests for employee status versus contractor, employee of contractor, co-employee, joint employer's partner, service provider.





- 3. Why important now?
 - A. Plaintiffs' Bar
 - B. DOL Initiative
 - C. IRS Focus
 - D. Courts
 - Supreme Court
 - State Court
 - E. No Where to Hide





4. What is the impact and the risks of an employee status issue?





5. Counting Who Counts

- A. Payroll Method
- B. Who Counts for Damage Thresholds
- C. Aggregating Employees
 - Affiliated Companies
 - Co-Employers
 - Joint Ventures
 - Location Issues





6. Discuss the pros of the use of temporary services' employees, workers or independent contractors in the hospitality sector.





7. What about the perennial employee and independent contractor issue?



8. What job positions are particularly at risk in hospitality industry?





9. What are the concerns in dealing with temporary services and staffing companies?





10. What is difference between Temporary Assignment on Location and Borrowed Employee?





11. What can I do to manage risk in the use of workers classified as independent contractors?





12. How can hospitality companies maintain their high level of quality and service to guests and patrons without over-managing independent contractors and transforming them into employees?





13. What are the employer's obligations to investigate and remedy workplace misconduct of or involving employees of an independent contractor if the alleged conduct occurs on the employer's property?







14. California often leads the country in "new" issues. What are the California quirks?





15. I'm worried about wage and hour issues, any special concerns?







16. YIKES, what about benefit coverage?







17. Background checks – can (and should) a company conduct background checks on nonemployees working with customers or employees?





18. Any special concerns of using independent contractors in a union house?





19. Any issues complicated by the Affordable Care Act mandates?





20. What is the best practice to convert contractors to employees?







Other Questions and Answers

