



SCHOOL OF LAW

UNIVERSITY of CALIFORNIA • IRVINE

Worker Center Lawyer Program
UC Irvine School of Law
February 23, 2013

A growing cadre of public interest lawyers at non-governmental organizations and law school clinics have provided legal support for workers' rights campaigns led by low-wage and immigrant labor activists. Although some of these campaigns are now collaborative efforts with established unions, the advocacy originated outside of the union movement amongst once-excluded workers.

Lawyers collaborating with worker centers bring a set of assumptions about law and legal action that depart from professional norms, even as compared with traditional worker-side employment and labor lawyers. We will use this day together to discuss common approaches, challenges in lawyer-client relationships and in court and agency settings, the unique features of immigrant advocacy, and to brainstorm potential collaborations and networks.

7:30 Breakfast

8:00 – 8:15 Welcome

Sameer Ashar, UCI Immigrant Rights Clinic

8:15 – 9:00 Discussion with Organizers – Strategic Vision and Legal Capacity Needs

Pablo Alvarado, National Day Laborer Organizing Network*
Neidi Dominguez, CLEAN Carwash Campaign*
Ai-jen Poo, National Domestic Workers Alliance
Moderator: An Le, Asian Pacific American Legal Center

9:15 – 10:30 Best Practices for Lawyers Advancing Worker Organizing

Co-facilitators:
Fran Ansley, University of Tennessee
Betty Hung, Asian Pacific American Legal Center

10:45 – 12:00 Defense of Organizing in Litigation Contexts

- Organizational Privilege
- Standing
- Lawyer-Client Privilege
- Settlement Confidentiality

Co-facilitators:
Chris Williams, Workers' Law Office, P.C.
Haeyoung Yoon, National Employment Law Project

- 12:15 – 1:15 Lunch – Organizational Defense
- Compliance Auditing
 - Employment Policies
 - Misclassification as Labor Organization
- Dan Clifton, Lewis, Clifton & Nikolaidis, P.C.
Brian Glick and Rachel Spector, Fordham CED Clinic
Moderator: Tsedeye Gebreselassie, National Employment Law Project
- 1:30 – 2:45 Organizing Around Immigration Status
- Legal Counseling on Status Issues
 - Collectivizing Individual Defense in Deportation Proceedings
 - Immigration Enforcement as Workers' Rights
 - Criminal/Immigration
 - Impact of Comprehensive Immigration Reform
- Facilitator:
Chris Newman, National Day Laborer Organizing Network
- 3:00 – 5:00 Future Collaborations
- Facilitator:
Scott Cummings, UCLA School of Law

*Invited, not yet confirmed