Settlement Negotiations and Collections

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Settlement

Guiding Principles:

- ➤ Discuss it early and often
- Complete remedy to workers
- > Consider creative alternatives



Settlement, cont'd

Steps:

- > Case facts
- > Remedies due to workers
- > Remedy package including penalties
- ➤ Negotiate with parties



Settlement, cont'd

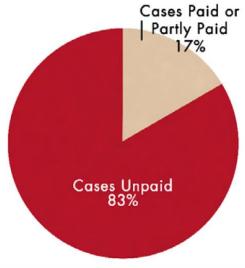
Settlement Terms:

- > Violation
- ➤ Complete compliance
- > Financial remedies and notice to employees
- Policy changes
- > Proof of compliance and Compliance monitoring
- > Employer training (employee too)
- > General final terms



Collections: Challenges

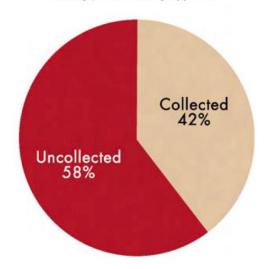
Figure 4. Number of Cases Where Workers Recovered Any Payment After Prevailing with the DLSE, 2008-2011



Total Cases	18,683
Cases Paid or Partly Paid	3,084 (17%)
Cases Remaining Unpaid	15,999 (83%)

Source: Division of Labor Standards Enforcement Judgment Collections Data, 2008-2011, all offices. Data set available upon request.

Figure 6. Amount of Unpaid Wages
Collected, All Claims
(Includes Collections After Settlement Conferences,
Hearings, and Hearing Appeals)



Total Claimed Wages	\$390,045,972
Collected	\$164,687,907 (42%)
Uncollected	\$225,358,066 (58%)

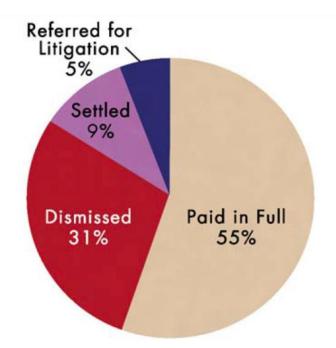
Source: Division of Labor Standards Enforcement Case Data 2008-2011, all offices.

Data set available upon request.



Collections, cont'd: Replicable Examples of Success

Wisconsin Wage Claim Outcomes 2007-2012



Source: Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development Wage Claim Data 2007-2012, all offices. Data set available upon request.

Municipal Wage Claim Outcomes

S.F.	Seattle	L.A.
FY '13 - '14	FY '16	FY '15 - '16
Paid in Full 83% 2 delinquent payment plans	83% MW and OT collected 100% Paid Sick amount due collected	Paid in full 90+% 1 outstanding settlement



Collections, cont'd: Replicable Examples of Success

Stronger Legal Tools

- 1. Name every person you can:
 - a. individuals
 - b. joint employers
 - c. shareholders, officers, etc.
- 2.Hefty penalties/fines with flexibility to waive
- 3. Liens as early as possible (pre-judgment)
- 4.Bonds
- 5.Mail levies
- 6.Revoke licenses, permits, debar

Stronger Processes

- 1. Smart strategies
 - a. Never settle for < full back wages
 - b. Negotiate & monitor pymnt. plans
 - c. Name every defendant you can
- 2. Asset research + Speed: Nonpayment happens when employers go out of business
- 3. Partnerships
 - a. CBO
 - b. State/DOL
 - c. City Attorney, County Counsel
 - d. Department of Public Health

Tremendous Impact of the Worker Rights Community Collaborative

Recoveries by Source of the Complaint

