Guidelines for the NLG Labor & Employment Amicus Curiae Briefs

The Labor & Employment of the National Lawyers Guild may file *amicus curiae* briefs in appropriate cases. The Steering Committee shall approve requests for *amicus curiae* briefs by members of the Committee or by others outside the Committee.

All requests for *amicus* briefs shall be submitted to the co-chairs of the Labor & Employment Committee.

The Labor & Employment Committee shall submit *amicus* briefs when doing so would contribute to the judiciary's and/or the public's understanding of an issue that is important to the Labor & Employment Committee, its members, or constituencies. An *amicus* brief is an opportunity to go beyond the confines of what a party to a case may argue, to explore the larger historic or political context or to make an argument regarding what should be the judiciary's approach to an evolving issue.

Guidelines

The following questions, among others, shall guide the Steering Committee’s decision regarding a request for an *amicus* brief:

- Is the case itself important or does it raise issues important to organized labor, unions, or workers and is it consistent with positions the Labor & Employment Committee supports?
- Can the Labor & Employment Committee contribute meaningfully to the understanding of the issues in this case?
- Does anyone have the time and is that person willing to draft the *amicus* brief or draft the statement of interest and review an *amicus* brief that someone else is drafting or has drafted?

Process

If the Steering Committee approves submission of an *amicus* brief, when the *amicus* is submitted to the Committee member for review, a copy shall be forwarded to the NLG Amicus Committee for their records. The NLG Amicus Committee strongly encourages cooperation with it regarding briefs submitted by other NLG committees or projects, and early communication may allow the national organization to join in the *amicus*. In any event, it serves consistency and institutional memory when the NLG Amicus Committee is made aware of *amicus* briefs submitted by another NLG entity. Zachary Wolfe chairs the NLG Amicus Committee and may be reached at zwolfe@plrclaw.org.

Steering Committee
NLG Labor & Employment Committee
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