



BACKGROUND (AUGUST 2020)

LuAnn Zeigler & Am. Fed'n of State, Cty., & Mun. Emps., Council 13, et al.

THE EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Fairness Center represents LuAnn Zeigler, who works for the Pennsylvania Department of Revenue. She joined the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, Council 13 after being told by union officials that union membership would give her the right to vote, including on the contracts governing her employment with the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

Ultimately, however, as union officials have acknowledged, Ms. Zeigler was never given the opportunity to vote on the contract governing the terms and conditions of her employment when it was ratified, even though that right is guaranteed to the union's members in the AFSCME Constitution.

After learning she was denied the opportunity to vote, Ms. Zeigler resigned her union membership in January 2020, but union officials continued to take union dues from her paycheck past the date she resigned. Ms. Zeigler is bringing a lawsuit to challenge the union's representations of rights promised to her, and the ultimate failure to allow her to vote, all while taking her money in the form of union dues even after her resignation.

CASE LOGISTICS

Plaintiff

LuAnn Zeigler

Defendants

American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, Council 13
American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, District Council 84
American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, Local 1985

Court

Court of Common Pleas of Pennsylvania-Allegheny County

Judge

TBD

THE FAIRNESS CENTER LEGAL TEAM

Nathan J. McGrath is the President and General Counsel at the Fairness Center. A seasoned, federal class action litigator, Nathan provides advice and counsel to clients and directs and manages the firm. Before joining the Fairness Center, Nathan was a staff attorney with a national nonprofit legal services organization, where he developed a national practice focused on constitutional, labor, and administrative law. Nathan began his legal career as an associate attorney with a general practice firm in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

Danielle R.A. Susanj serves as Litigation Counsel at the Fairness Center, representing clients in state and federal courts and before administrative boards. Prior to joining the Fairness Center, Danielle practiced law as a litigation associate at a large international firm in Washington, D.C., and as a litigator in central Pennsylvania, representing clients in federal district and appellate courts and the United States Supreme Court.

Curtis M. Schube serves as Litigation Counsel at the Fairness Center, where he assists clients and their needs with advice, counsel, and through litigation. Prior to joining the Fairness Center, Curtis served as legal counsel with the Independence Law Center and as an assistant attorney general for the state of Missouri.