

New Feature: Preventing Lawsuits

From the Associated Press, via *The Seattle Times*, comes this:

“Mexican workers sue Washington fruit company over wages.”

“YAKIMA — Nine farmworkers recruited from Mexico last year by a Selah fruit company have filed suit in federal court, claiming the company failed to disclose tougher work requirements in their employment contract, which lowered their wages below federal minimums.”¹

In U.S. District Court in Yakima, against Zirkle Fruit Company, a lawsuit was filed for workers under the federal H-2A program. The action is being taken because the company increased its quota of apples picked from one year to the next without prior notification to the workers.

"Zirkle's failure to disclose to (the Department of Labor) that its 2007 production standards were higher ... was a significant nondisclosure," the lawsuit states.²

Both sides are currently seeking a settlement to the dispute.

**If you do not want extraneous lawsuits directed at YOU when you use the H-2A program, call or e-mail H2AUSA.com today at:
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**We are available assist you with all your H-2A problems and disputes.
H2AUSA.com—If you need 1 or 1,000 workers, we can help!**

¹ By The Associated Press, Reprinted on Seattle Times Website, “*Mexican workers sue Washington fruit company over wages*,” January 31, 2008, at: http://seattletimes.nwsourc.com/html/localnews/2004155556_farmworkers31m.html . (accessed 2-2-08)

² Ibid.