Press Release

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Frederick's Employment Law Center of Maryland named 2022 Reisman Award finalist for "transforming the practice of law"

From its new offices in Frederick's historic Firehouse building, the Employment Law Center of Maryland has been named a Finalist for the 2022 Reisman Award for Legal Impact—awarded annually to an elite group of law firms that think beyond business, and are "transforming the practice of law, for good." Judges recognized that in just the last year, the 501(c)(3) nonprofit Employment Law Center of Maryland has consulted on more than 1,000 employment cases, and successfully litigated dozens of workers' rights cases in both state and federal court, often for clients who otherwise couldn't afford traditional employment lawyers. The Reisman Awards are given annually by Clio, a North American legal technology giant. Clio's panel of judges wrote that, when it comes to transforming the practice of law to be more affordable, the Employment Law Center of Maryland "walks the walk." Per Managing Attorney, Joseph W. Gibson, Esq., "Every Marylander deserves a workplace free from discrimination and harassment. Unfortunately, very few workers can afford an employment lawyer—that needs to change, and we're proud to be recognized for our efforts to do just that."

While a relative newcomer to the field of employment law, the Employment Law Center of Maryland is already making waves, often championing its pithy motto, "we sue bad bosses." But look under the hood, and you'll find that the Employment Law Center of Maryland's mission for affordable legal counsel is powered by cutting-edge legal practices and technology—including the use of artificial intelligence, or A.I., which lets the Employment Law Center of Maryland punch above its weight against some of the largest corporations in the United States. In a nod to its focus on the use of new technologies on the legal battlefield, one of the Employment Law Center of Maryland's largest grantors is Alphabet Inc. (better known as Google). All this has helped the Employment Law Center of Maryland start to correct the perception that working with a "legal aid" means low-quality legal help—and as its numerous five-star reviews by former clients attest, this legal aid is "one of the best in the field."

And with recent successes comes growth: the Employment Law Center of Maryland is expanding its team, with an additional workers' rights attorney, <u>William Chavez</u>, <u>Esq.</u>, slated to start taking cases in August of this year.

While it takes case across the state, the Employment Law Center of Maryland is settling in well in Frederick, which has historically <u>ranked high</u> in workers' and civil rights assessments (and, fun fact, is one of only a handful of Maryland counties with its own <u>employment discrimination statute</u> and county agency). Per Joseph Gibson, "I can't think of a better place for us to be than downtown Frederick. As a nonprofit law firm, we share Frederick's rebellious attitude, and from here, we'll continue our fight for all of Maryland's workers."