



Discrimination Suit Settled For Back Pay

A sex discrimination lawsuit brought by the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) in the United States District Court in Raleigh against Pine Manor Rest Home, a Fayetteville elderly care facility, has been settled.

The lawsuit was filed in Court by EEOC on May 20, 1988. The Commission alleged that Pine Manor discharged one of its nurses aides after she became pregnant.

In a settlement agreement reached between the parties, Pine Manor has agreed to pay \$3,000 in back pay to the former employee. A stipulation of settlement and dismissal filed with Judge Britt, involves no finding by the court on the merits of the lawsuit, and no admission by Pine Manor that it violated the law.

The law requires employers to allow any employee who becomes pregnant to remain employed as long as she can continue to satisfactorily complete the duties of her position and until such time as the employee, in consultation with her doctor, decides it is time to leave work to ensure the health of herself and her unborn child.

DOT Holding Public Hearings On Planned Northern Wake Expressway

The N.C. Department of Transportation will hold three public hearings on the proposed location of the Northern Wake Expressway.

Construction has been scheduled in the Transportation Improvement Plan, NCDOT's planning document for highway projects, to begin building the expressway from NC 55 near Morrisville to US 64 near Knightdale in fiscal year 1993.

DOT officials will be at the hearing to explain the proposed design, right-of-way requirements and procedures, relocation advisory assistance and the federal aid process.

The public is invited to attend the

hearing, ask questions, make comments or submit material about the project. Material not presented at the hearing may be submitted until 10 days after the hearing to W.A. Garrett, Jr., N.C. Department of Transportation, P.O. Box 25201, Raleigh 27611.

A map of the proposed location and design of the project and copies of environmental documents can be reviewed in Room 602 of the Highway Building on Wilmington Street in Raleigh.

For more information about the hearing or to preregister to speak, contact Garrett at the same address

or call him at 733-3244 between the hours of 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. Only one name per caller will be accepted. A five-minute time limit per speaker will be imposed. Speakers may also register at the hearing sites beginning at 6:30 p.m. on the date of the hearing.

Hearings will be held Tuesday, July 18, at West Cary Junior High School Cafeteria, 1000 Evans Road, Cary; Wednesday, July 19, at West Millbrook Middle School Cafeteria, 815 Strickland Road, Raleigh; and Thursday, July 20, at Knightdale Elementary School Auditorium, 109 Ridge Road, Knightdale.

MULTI-CITY ACT — Comedian Sinbad (right) is the Coca-Cola Company's newest celebrity spokesperson for cherry Coca-Cola in black consumer markets. The co-star of NBC's *A Different World*, will help introduce new color graphics now available on cherry Coca-Cola soft drink cans. Cherry Coca-Cola will be the soft drink sponsor of Sinbad's multi-city comedy tour which kicked-off in Atlanta. Shown with Sinbad is Michael Steele, director of black consumer markets, Coca-Cola USA.

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EEOC Lawsuit Against Truck Driver Settled

An age discrimination lawsuit brought by the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) in the United States District Court in Raleigh against Mid Continent Systems, Inc. has been settled.

The lawsuit was filed in Court by EEOC on May 13, 1987. The Commission alleged that Mid Continent discriminated against four former waitresses by discharging them from employment on account of their ages.

After the suit was filed, and for reasons completely unrelated to the suit, the company filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy in the Southern District of Mississippi. While most lawsuits pending against a corporation which has sought protection under Chapter 11 are stayed until the outcome of the bankruptcy proceedings, suits brought by EEOC to enforce federal employment discrimination statutes are not.

In a Settlement Agreement reached between the parties, the company has agreed to pay approximately \$10,000 to the four former employees. A Stipulation of Dismissal filed with Judge Britt in this matter involves no finding by the Court on the merits of the lawsuit, and no admission by Mid Continent that it violated the law.

The Equal Employment Opportunity Commission is the

federal agency which enforces the Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1967 which prohibits discrimination in employment against persons 40 years of age and older. The Commission also enforces Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, which prohibits discrimination in employment based on race, color, national origin, sex, or religion, and the Equal Pay Act.

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