

Employed As An Engineer Or Skilled Employee At An Aerospace Company Anytime From 2011-2019? Kehoe Law Firm Investigation

Antitrust Investigation Of Alleged Conspiracy By Certain Aerospace Companies Not To Solicit, Recruit Or Otherwise Compete For Employees, Including Engineers

PHILADELPHIA, PA, USA, December 21, 2021 /EINPresswire.com/ -- Kehoe Law Firm, P.C. Is Investigating Whether Engineers Or Other Skilled Employees Of Various Aerospace Companies Were Harmed By Anticompetitive Hiring Practices, Including <u>Aerospace</u> <u>Engineering</u> Companies Pratt & Whitney; QuEST Global Services-NA, Inc.; Belcan Engineering Group, LLC; Belcan Engineering Group Limited Partnership; Cyient Inc. (Formerly



InfoTech); Parametric Solutions, Inc.; & Agilis Engineering, Inc.

If You Were Employed As An Engineer Or Other Skilled Employee At Any Time From 2011 To September 2019 At Pratt & Whitney; QuEST Global Services-NA, Inc.; Belcan Engineering Group, LLC; Cyient Inc. (Previously InfoTech); Parametric Solutions, Inc.; Agilis Engineering, Inc., Or One Of Their Wholly-Owned Subsidiaries, You Are Encouraged To Contact Kehoe Law Firm, P.C. , John Kehoe, Esq., (215) 792-6676, Ext. 801, jkehoe@kehoelawfirm.com, info@kehoelawfirm.com, To Discuss The Firm's Antitrust Investigation Or Potential Legal Claims.

Aerospace "No-Poach" Antitrust Class Action Lawsuit Filed

On December 14, 2021, a class action complaint was filed (3:21-cv-01657) in United States District Court for the District of Connecticut on behalf of engineers and other similarly skilled employees, based on alleged unlawful "no-poach" agreements among the aerospace engineering firms, which was intended to restrain competition in the relevant labor markets. The Defendant aerospace-related companies named in the class action lawsuit (i.e., Pratt & Whitney; QuEST Global Services-NA, Inc.; Belcan Engineering Group, LLC; Belcan Engineering Group Limited Partnership; Cyient Inc.; Parametric Solutions, Inc.; Agilis Engineering, Inc.) are major competitors for engineering services, and they compete with one another to attract, hire, and retain engineers and other skilled employees.

According to the complaint, beginning at least as early as 2011 and continuing through at least 2019, senior executives and managers at the Defendant companies entered into a <u>conspiracy</u> not to solicit, recruit, hire without prior approval, or otherwise compete for employees, including engineers and other skilled employees.

Allegedly, the Defendant companies agreed to restrict competition for their employees' services with the purpose and effect of fixing, suppressing, and stabilizing wages, salaries, and benefits and restraining competition in the market for their employees' services. Further, the Defendants' agreement to fix, suppress, and stabilize wages, salaries and benefits also, according to the complaint, restricted their employees' mobility to access better job opportunities.

Six Aerospace Executives and Managers Indicted For Leading Roles In Labor Market Conspiracy That Limited Workers' Mobility And Career Prospects

On December 16, 2021, the U.S. Department of Justice announced that a federal grand jury in Bridgeport, Connecticut, returned an indictment charging a former manager of a major aerospace engineering company and five executives of outsource engineering suppliers ("Suppliers") for participating in a long-running conspiracy to restrict the hiring and recruiting of employees among their respective companies. The conspiracy affected thousands of engineers and other skilled workers in the aerospace industry who perform services in the design, manufacturing and servicing of aircraft components for both commercial and military purposes.

According to the unsealed, one-count felony indictment, six individuals — Mahesh Patel ("Patel"), of Connecticut; Robert Harvey, of South Carolina; Harpreet Wasan, of Connecticut; Steven Houghtaling, of Connecticut; Tom Edwards, of Connecticut; and Gary Prus, of Florida conspired with unnamed others to allocate employees by agreeing not to hire or solicit employees from each other's companies.

This indictment is the first in an ongoing investigation into labor market allocation in the aerospace engineering services industry. Patel, described as a leader of the conspiracy given his position and authority as the Suppliers' common customer, was previously charged by complaint. He was arrested and appeared before a federal magistrate judge on the charge last week, and was released on a \$100,000 appearance bond. The remaining defendants are expected to appear before federal district courts in different districts this week.

According to the indictment, the defendants and co-conspirators recognized the mutual financial benefit of the conspiracy — namely, reducing the rise in labor costs that would occur when aerospace workers were free to find new employment in a competitive environment. Patel and certain other co-conspirators explicitly appealed to this financial benefit when communicating with each other about the agreement.

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Kehoe Law Firm, P.C. is a multidisciplinary, plaintiff–side law firm dedicated to protecting investors and consumers from corporate fraud, negligence, and other wrongdoing. Driven by a strong and principled sense of social responsibility and obtaining justice for the aggrieved, Kehoe Law Firm, P.C. represents plaintiffs seeking to recover investment losses resulting from corporate wrongdoing or malfeasance, those harmed by anticompetitive practices, and consumers victimized by fraud or deception.

This press release may constitute attorney advertising.

John Kehoe, Esq. Kehoe Law Firm, P.C. 2157926676, EXT. 801 jkehoe@kehoelawfirm.com

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