

TISHA GRADY

NO. 13-CA-437

VERSUS

FIFTH CIRCUIT

CHOICES OF LOUISIANA, INC.

COURT OF APPEAL

STATE OF LOUISIANA

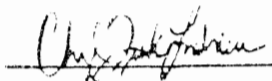
ON APPEAL FROM THE FORTIETH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT  
PARISH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST, STATE OF LOUISIANA  
NO. 62,450, DIVISION "A"  
HONORABLE MADELINE JASMINE, JUDGE PRESIDING

MARCH 12, 2014

COURT OF APPEAL  
FIFTH CIRCUIT

FILED MAR 12 2014

**HANS J. LILJEBERG**  
JUDGE

 CLERK  
Cheryl Quirk Landrieu

Panel composed of Judges Fredericka Homberg Wicker, Jude G. Gravois,  
Marc E. Johnson, Robert M. Murphy, and Hans J. Liljeberg

**JOHNSON, J., DISSENTS WITH REASONS**

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**REVERSED; MOTION FOR**  
**ATTORNEY FEES DENIED**

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RMM

Defendant, Choices of Louisiana, Inc. (“Choices”), appeals a summary judgment rendered in favor of its former employee and plaintiff herein, Tisha Grady, awarding her \$486.00 for 27 hours of vacation pay, \$12,060.00 for penalty wages, and \$1,500.00 in attorney fees. For the following reasons, we reverse the summary judgment and vacate the awards to Ms. Grady. We also deny Ms. Grady’s Motion for Attorney Fees on Appeal.

**FACTS AND PROCEDURAL HISTORY**

Choices is an opioid treatment center in Laplace, Louisiana. On February 23, 2010, plaintiff was hired by Choices as a licensed practical nurse earning \$18 per hour. When she was hired, Ms. Grady was provided with a copy of Choices’ employment manual, for which she signed a receipt and acknowledgement form. The employment manual provides that full-time employees who work at least 40 hours per week are eligible for paid vacation time. Under the terms of the employment manual,

all vacation time must be used by December 31<sup>st</sup> in the year that it is earned, and unused vacation time may not be accumulated and carried over to the next year.

Under the section entitled, "New Employees," the employment manual contains the following pertinent provision:

If you were hired prior to July 1 of any calendar year, you will be eligible for the available vacation shown above to be used by the end of the calendar year in which you were hired. You will be *eligible* for 40 hours of vacation effective the first day of January following the date of hire. (*Emphasis added.*)

Under the section entitled, "Other Employees," the employment manual provides, in pertinent part:

The company allows its employees to use their whole year's worth of vacation beginning each January 1. We do this because we believe the employee will be with us the entire year. However, *paid vacation is something earned over time. Should an employee leave our company before December 31, his or her vacation will be prorated by the number of weeks she or he has worked during the year.* If less time is used than is earned, the employee will be paid for that unused time. If more time is used than earned, the pay received for that time will be deducted from the employee's final pay, according to the following probation schedule. (*Emphasis added.*)

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Probation schedule:

If eligible for 40 hours of vacation, one earns 0.77 hours per week worked. There are 52 weeks in a year.

Because Ms. Grady was hired before July 1, 2010, pursuant to the terms of the employment manual, she was eligible to use 40 hours of vacation time as of January 1, 2011. On April 16, 2011, Ms. Grady's employment with Choices was terminated for allegedly violating policies of the company. Prior to the termination of her employment, Ms. Grady did not use any vacation time in 2011.

When Ms. Grady's employment was terminated, Choices determined that she had earned 13 hours of vacation pay by calculating the number of weeks worked in 2011 and crediting her with 0.77 hours per week, as per the terms of the employment manual. Choices paid Ms. Grady for these 13 hours of vacation time. Ms. Grady

demanded payment for the remaining 27 hours of vacation time, claiming that she was entitled to payment for the full 40 hours of vacation. However, Choices refused to pay Ms. Grady for the remaining 27 hours, asserting that because her employment was terminated prior to December 31, 2011, her vacation was prorated pursuant to the terms of the employment policy.

On November 2, 2011, Ms. Grady filed suit against Choices, alleging that when her employment was terminated, she was entitled to the full 40 hours of vacation pay. Ms. Grady further sought penalty wages, pursuant to the Louisiana Wage Payment Act, LSA-R.S. 23:631, *et seq.*, legal interest, attorney fees, and court costs. On July 23, 2012, Ms. Grady filed a Motion for Summary Judgment asserting that there are no genuine issues of material fact and that she is entitled to judgment as a matter of law for 27 additional hours of vacation pay, 90 days of penalty wages per LSA-R.S. 23:632, and attorney fees.

Ms. Grady's Motion for Summary Judgment came before the trial court for hearing on November 21, 2012, and the trial judge took the matter under advisement. Thereafter, on November 27, 2012, the trial court rendered a judgment, granting Ms. Grady's Motion for Summary Judgment, awarding her \$486.00 for unpaid wages, 90 days of penalty wages in the amount of \$12,060.00, attorney fees in the amount of \$1,500.00, and court costs. In its reasons for judgment, the trial court reasoned that because Ms. Grady was eligible to use 40 hours of vacation time as of January 1, 2011, those vacation hours were accrued. The trial court also found that Choices made Ms. Grady forfeit 27 hours of vacation pay upon the termination of her employment, which is prohibited under LSA-R.S. 23:634. Choices appeals.

## **DISCUSSION**

It is well-settled that appellate courts review summary judgments *de novo* using the same criteria applied by the trial courts to determine whether summary judgment

is appropriate. Smith v. Our Lady of the Lake Hospital, Inc., 93-2512 (La. 7/5/94), 639 So. 2d 730, 750; Nuccio v. Robert, 99-1327, p. 6 (La. App. 5 Cir. 4/25/00), 761 So. 2d 84, 87, writ denied, 00-1453 (La. 6/30/00), 766 So. 2d 544. A summary judgment is appropriate when there remains no genuine issue as to material fact and the mover is entitled to judgment as a matter of law. LSA-C.C.P. art. 966; Magnon v. Collins, 98-2822 (La. 7/7/99), 739 So. 2d 191, 195. The judgment sought shall be rendered forthwith if the pleadings, depositions, answers to interrogatories, and admissions, together with the affidavits, if any, show that there is no genuine issue as to material fact, and that mover is entitled to judgment as a matter of law. LSA-C.C.P. art. 966(B)(2).

In its first assignment of error on appeal, Choices argues that the trial court was wrong when it ignored the terms of Choices' employment manual providing that vacation pay is earned over time and found that plaintiff had accrued 40 hours of vacation pay as of January 1, 2011. Choices asserts that its employment manual provides that an employee is "eligible" for vacation pay as of January 1<sup>st</sup> if she is employed by July 1<sup>st</sup> of the previous year. However, the manual clearly states that vacation hours are accrued or earned over time at a rate of 0.77 hours for every week worked. It further provides that vacation pay is prorated if an employee leaves employment before December 31<sup>st</sup> without using her vacation. Thus, when Ms. Grady's employment was terminated on April 16, 2011, she was only entitled to 13 hours of vacation pay, which is calculated by the number of weeks worked in 2011 times 0.77. Choices asserts that it properly paid Ms. Grady for the 13 hours of vacation time earned and accrued during that year, and that she is not entitled to be paid for the remaining 27 hours.

Ms. Grady responds that because she was entitled to take 40 hours of vacation as of January 1, 2011, this vacation pay was fully earned and accrued at that time.

She claims that she had a vested right to 40 hours of vacation pay and that Choices made her forfeit 27 hours, which is unlawful pursuant to LSA-R.S. 23:631, *et seq.* Ms. Grady further claims that proration of vacation pay violates LSA-R.S. 23:634.

LSA-R.S. 23:631(A) provides that upon termination of an employee, the employer must pay “the amount then due under the terms of employment” to the employee. Section D(1) of this statute provides that vacation pay is considered “an amount then due” only if, in accordance with the stated vacation policy of the employer: 1) the employee is deemed eligible for *and* has accrued the right to take vacation time with pay; and 2) the employee has not taken or been compensated for the vacation time. Finally, Section (D)(2) provides that this section shall not be interpreted to allow the forfeiture of any vacation pay actually earned by the employee pursuant to the employer’s policy.

In the present case, Ms. Grady was hired prior to July 1, 2010. Therefore, pursuant to the terms set forth in Choices’ employment manual, she was eligible for 40 hours of vacation as of January 1, 2011. However, the full 40 hours of vacation were not accrued as of that date. Rather, vacation time was to be accrued weekly at a rate of 0.77 hours per week. Accordingly, when Ms. Grady’s employment was terminated on April 13, 2011, she had only earned or accrued 13 hours of vacation pay. It is undisputed that Ms. Grady had not taken any vacation time in 2011 prior to leaving her employment with Choices.

Based on the clear language of the employment manual, Ms. Grady was not entitled to payment for the full 40 hours of vacation when her employment was terminated. Rather, Choices properly paid her for the 13 hours of vacation that was actually earned.

In its reasons for judgment, the trial court did not find that, pursuant to the employment manual, Ms. Grady was entitled to receive vacation pay for the 27 hours

claimed. Rather, the trial court found that Ms. Grady was entitled to this pay because Choices' policy of prorating an employee's vacation time by the number of weeks worked until termination of employment is prohibited pursuant to LSA-R.S. 23:634.

LSA-R.S. 23:634(A) provides:

No person, acting either for himself or as agent or otherwise, shall require any of his employees to sign contracts by which the employees shall forfeit their wages if discharged before the contract is completed or if the employees resign their employment before the contract is completed; but in all such cases the employees shall be entitled to the wages actually earned up to the time of their discharge or resignation.

The Louisiana Wage Payment Act, LSA-R.S. 23:631 *et seq.*, is designed to compel prompt payment of earned wages upon an employee's discharge or resignation. Davis v. St. Francisville Country Manor, L.L.C., 13-190, 2013 WL 5872030 , \*2 (La. App. 1 Cir. 11/1/13), \_\_\_ So. 3d \_\_\_. The law is clear that accrued vacation pay is a wage and must be paid upon termination of employment. Boyd v. Gynecologic Associates of Jefferson Parish, Inc., 08-1263, p. 10 (La. App. 5 Cir. 5/26/09), 15 So. 3d 268, 275; Aguillard v. Crowley Garment Mfg. Co., 01-593, 01-594 (La. App. 3 Cir. 2/27/02), 824 So. 2d 347, writs denied, 02-1170, 02-1348 (La. 8/30/02), 823 So. 2d 955. However, if the vacation pay has not yet accrued as of the date of termination, it is not "an amount then due" that is required to be paid under LSA-R.S. 23:631. The provisions of LSA-R.S. 23:631 and 23:634 do not prevent an employer from restricting an employee's right to accrue annual leave. Wyatt v. Avoyelles Parish School Board, 01-3180, 02-0131, 02-0259, p. 11 (La. 12/4/02), 831 So. 2d 906, 915.

LSA-R.S. 23:631 and 23:634 prohibit the forfeiture of vacation pay that is *actually earned* by the employee pursuant to the employer's policy. Choices' policy of prorating an employee's vacation time by the number of weeks worked until termination of employment is not prohibited by LSA-R.S. 23:634 or otherwise against

public policy. Ms. Grady was paid for the vacation pay that she actually earned by multiplying the number of weeks she worked in 2011 by 0.77, and she was not entitled to payment for any additional hours of vacation. While Ms. Grady was *eligible* for 40 hours of vacation as of January 1, 2011, the full 40 hours had not *accrued* by the date of termination of her employment.

Based on our *de novo* review, we find that the trial court erred by finding that Ms. Grady was entitled to 27 additional hours of vacation pay. Accordingly, we reverse the summary judgment and vacate the award of \$486.00 for unpaid wages.

In its second assignment of error, Choices asserts that the trial judge was wrong when she ruled that Choices was required to pay Ms. Grady 90 days of penalty wages, totaling \$12,060.00, pursuant to LSA-R.S. 23:632.

LSA-R.S. 23:632 provides, in pertinent part:

Any employer who fails or refuses to comply with the provisions of R.S. 23:631 shall be liable to the employee either for ninety days wages at the employee's daily rate of pay, or else for full wages from the time the employee's demand for payment is made until the employer shall pay or tender the amount of unpaid wages due to such employee, whichever is the lesser amount of penalty wages.

Because Choices paid Ms. Grady for the vacation time that she actually earned and did not fail to comply with the provisions of LSA-R.S. 23:631, no penalty wages should have been awarded. Accordingly, we reverse the award of \$12,060.00 in penalty wages.

Ms. Grady has filed a Motion for Attorney Fees, seeking an award for work on this appeal. Based on our findings in this opinion, we deny this request.



**DECREE**

For the foregoing reasons, we reverse the summary judgment rendered by the trial court, and vacate the awards to Ms. Grady for unpaid wages, penalty wages, and attorney fees. We also deny the Motion for Attorney Fees.

**REVERSED; MOTION FOR ATTORNEY FEES DENIED**

TISHA GRADY

NO. 13-CA-437

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**JOHNSON, J., DISSENTS WITH REASONS**

I, respectfully, dissent from the majority opinion for the following reasons.

First, I find that Choices' argument that it properly prorated Ms. Grady's vacation pay at a rate of 0.77 hours for every week worked pursuant to the employment manual is without merit. Upon being hired by Choices, employees were given a copy of the company's employment manual<sup>1</sup> that included the policies regarding vacation pay. The manual stated that full-time employees who worked, at least, 40 hours per week were eligible for paid vacation time. The manual further provided,

All vacation time must be used by December 31 in the year that it is earned. Unused vacation time may not be accumulated and carried over to the next year. If an employee earns vacation time during the year, the employee must take the vacation before the end of the year.

Pursuant to the manual, all new employees were subject to a 180-day orientation period before being eligible for vacation pay. Under the "New Employees" section, the manual provided a list indicating available vacation time for specific orientation period completion timeframes, e.g., if the orientation was completed by October 15<sup>th</sup> during the first year of

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<sup>1</sup> Both Choices and Ms. Grady attached copies of selected pages of Choices' employment manual to memorandum to the lower court. There are slight differences between the two manuals. However, when I reference the employment manual throughout this dissent, I am referring to the manual submitted by Ms. Grady because it was the one in effect during the time of her employment. The manual submitted by Choices did not take effect until August 1, 2011, which was a few months after Ms. Grady's employment had ended.

employment, then 24 hours would be available to the employee. The manual further provided,

If you were hired prior to July 1 of any calendar year, you will be eligible for the available vacation shown above to be used by the end of the calendar year in which you were hired. You will be eligible for 40 hours of vacation effective the first day of January following the date of hire.

The vacation pay provisions of the manual also included a section entitled, "Other Employees." That particular section provided, in pertinent part:

Other employees who have been with the company for more than one year are covered by the following procedures:

Each January 1, you are eligible for paid vacation time based upon the number of years of accumulated service that you will complete during the year. For instance, if you were hired on September 1[,] 1986, then during the calendar year of 1995, you will have 9 hours of accumulated service.<sup>2</sup>

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The company allows its employees to use their whole year's worth of vacation beginning each January 1. We do this because we believe the employee will be with us the entire year. However, paid vacation is something earned over time. Should an employee leave our company before December 31, his or her vacation will be prorated by the number of weeks she or he has worked during the year. If less time is used than is earned, the employee will be paid for that unused time. If more time is used than earned, the pay received for that time will be deducted from the employee's final pay, according to the following probation schedule.

Under the "Other Employees" section, the manual also contained a subsection entitled "Probation Schedule" that listed the number of vacation hours an employee could earn per week worked based upon the various hours of eligible vacation pay. The section provided, in particular, "[i]f eligible for 40 hours of vacation, one earns 0.77 hours per week worked."

On February 23, 2010, Choices hired Ms. Grady as a licensed practical nurse. On the same date, Ms. Grady was provided a copy of Choices' manual for which she signed a receipt and acknowledgement form.

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<sup>2</sup> It is questionable as to whether the calculation of the dates and hours in the example is correct.

Ms. Grady's orientation period ended on August 22, 2010. According to the applicable timeframe listed in the manual for completion of the orientation period, Ms. Grady was eligible for 24 hours of vacation pay effective on August 23, 2010. She used the 24 hours of vacation pay on October 20-22, 2010. On January 1, 2011, Ms. Grady was eligible for 40 hours of paid vacation time. She was eligible for the 40 hours of vacation time under the "New Employees" section of the manual because she had not yet been employed with Choices for an entire year.

The "New Employee" section explains the number of hours of vacation time which a new employee is eligible for the following year; however, that section is completely devoid of any language referring to the proration of any vacation pay based upon the length of employment. That particular proration language is included under the "Other Employees" section, which was applicable to employees who had worked with the company for more than one year as of January 1, 2011. Thus, the provisions listed under the "Other Employees" section of the manual did not apply to Ms. Grady. Because the language used in each of the sections of the employment manual is clear and explicit and lead to no absurd consequences, no further interpretation in search of the parties' intent should have been made by the majority opinion. *See, Certified Cleaning & Restoration, Inc. v. Lafayette Ins. Co.*, 10-948 (La. App. 5 Cir. 5/31/12); 96 So.3d 1248, 1251.

Therefore, pursuant to the clear and unambiguous language in its employment manual, I find that Choices was not entitled to prorate Ms. Grady's vacation pay at a rate of 0.77 hours per every week worked. Next, I find Choices' "use it or lose it" policy was improperly applied to the payment of Ms. Grady's vacation pay."

La. R.S. 23:631 provides, in pertinent part:

A.(1)(a) Upon the discharge of any laborer or other employee to pay the amount then due under the terms of employment, whether the employment is by the hour, day, week, or month, on or before the next regular payday or no later than fifteen days following the date of discharge, whichever occurs first.

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D.(1) For purposes of this Section, vacation pay will be considered an amount then due only if, in accordance with the stated vacation policy of the person employing such laborer or other employee, both of the following apply:

(a) The laborer or other employee is deemed eligible for and has accrued the right to take vacation time with pay.

(b) The laborer or other employee has not taken or been compensated for the vacation time as of the date of the discharge or resignation.

(2) The provisions of this Subsection shall not be interpreted to allow the forfeiture of any vacation pay actually earned by an employee pursuant to the employer's policy.

In addition, La. R.S. 23:634 provides, in pertinent part:

A. No person, acting either for himself or as agent or otherwise, shall require any of his employees to sign contracts by which the employees shall forfeit their wages if discharged before the contract is completed or if the employees resign their employment before the contract is completed; but in all such cases the employees shall be entitled to the wages actually earned up to the time of their discharge or resignation.

According to the rate of eligible vacation hours listed in the employment manual, Ms. Grady was a new employee eligible for 40 hours of vacation time effective on January 1, 2011. Those hours had to be used prior to the end of 2011. The language under the "New Employee" section did not state that the eligibility for the 40 hours of vacation time was a mere gratuity given by Choices to the employees. No other conditions or limitations were placed on the new employees for eligibility for those hours. Essentially, Ms. Grady simply had to be hired by Choices prior to July 1, 2010 and remain employed with the company in order to have received the

40 hours of vacation time on January 1, 2011. Pursuant to the employment manual, Ms. Grady had to schedule<sup>3</sup> and use those vacation hours by December 31, 2011 because they could not be carried over to the next year; however, she did not use any of the 40 hours prior to her discharge. When Ms. Grady's employment ended on April 13, 2011, Choices determined that she had forfeited 27 hours of her vacation pay that she had accrued as of January 1<sup>st</sup> and refused to pay for those remaining hours.

After review, I find that Choices violated La. R.S. 23:631 and 23:634 by failing to compensate Ms. Grady for her remaining 27 hours of vacation pay. In arriving at this conclusion, I take my guidance from the Louisiana Supreme Court's interpretation of the Louisiana Final Wage Act in *Wyatt v. Avoyelles Parish School Board*, 01-3180 (La. 12/4/02); 831 So.2d 906. In that case, the supreme court reviewed a similar "use it or lose it" policy where each employee of the School Board earned annual leave at a rate based on the years of service for every year of employment. The days earned in a certain year could not be used until the following year. Those days that were earned in the previous year that were not used by June 30 of the following year could not thereafter be used and were considered "lost." At the times of retirement for each of the employees, the School Board withheld the payment of various hours of annual leave to the employees.

Although the supreme court concluded the School Board's "use it or lose it" policy was not *per se* illegal, the court found the School Board's failure to compensate the employees for their accrued right to unused vacation pay earned under the terms of the policy violated the statutory provisions. The court held:

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<sup>3</sup> Under the "Vacation schedule" section of the policy, employees were required to submit vacation requests consisting of four or more days no later than January 31 of the same year in which the vacation was to be taken. The policy further stated that it was not necessary to schedule vacations that were fewer than four days by January 31.

Pursuant to La. R.S. 23:631(D), vacation pay is “an amount then due” if, according to the employers stated vacation policy, the employee is eligible for and has accrued the right to take vacation time with pay and the employee has not taken or been compensated for the vacation time as of the date of his resignation. Subsection (D) cannot be interpreted to allow the forfeiture of any vacation pay actually earned by an employee pursuant to the employer’s policy.

Similarly, La. R.S. 23:634 prohibits an employment contract which requires the forfeiture of “wages” upon resignation or discharge. Accrued vacation time is “wages.”

*Id.* at 912-913. (Internal citations omitted).

In concluding that the School Board violated La. R.S. 23:631 and 23:634 through its failure to compensate the employees, the court reasoned:

At the time of their retirement, plaintiffs had only accrued the right to unused annual leave they had earned in the previous year and any annual leave they earned during the year of their retirement. Thus, the Board was obligated under La. R.S. 23:631 to compensate plaintiffs for this amount of unused annual leave they had accrued prior to their retirement. Any failure to compensate plaintiffs for this amount of accrued unused leave was in violation of La. R.S. 23:631.

*Id.* at 914.

In the case at bar, Ms. Grady was eligible for 40 hours of vacation time. Pursuant to the employment manual, she was eligible for those hours due to the fact that she had been employed with Choices prior to July 1, 2010. On January 1, 2011, Ms. Grady had accrued the right to either use and/or schedule to use (if she intended to use more than four days of leave) any or all of those eligible hours of vacation pay. Like the employees in *Wyatt*, when her employment ended with Choices, Ms. Grady was entitled to payment for the unused hours of vacation pay she actually earned in 2010. (See, *Wyatt* at 914, n. 7, for an explanatory example of when leave is “actually earned.”). Thus, Choices could not force Ms. Grady to forfeit the 27 unused hours she had actually earned pursuant to the employment manual.

Furthermore, when an employer promises a benefit to employees, and employees accept by their actions in meeting the conditions, the result is not a mere gratuity or illusory promise; but, it is a vested right in the employee to the promised benefit. *Knecht v. Board of Trustees for State Colleges and Universities and Northwestern State University*, 591 So.2d 690, 695 (La. 1991). Where an employer has a clearly established policy that vacation time is not considered wages actually earned by an employee, the employee is not entitled to reimbursement for unused, accrued vacation time upon discharge or resignation. *Chapman v. Ebeling*, 41,710 (La. App. 2 Cir. 12/13/06); 945 So.2d 222, 226. However, in the absence of a clear written policy establishing that vacation time granted by an employer to an employee is nothing more than a mere gratuity and not a wage, accrued but unused vacation time is a vested right for which an employee must be paid upon discharge or resignation. *Id.*, citing *Wyatt, supra*.

As mentioned earlier, the employment manual for Choices did not specify that the vacation pay for new employees was nothing more than a mere gratuity and not a wage. Thus, the 40 hours of vacation time was a promised benefit from Choices for Ms. Grady's continued employment with the company. Despite Choices' argument that Ms. Grady had to earn the 40 hours of vacation pay during 2011 at a rate of 0.77 hours worked per week, the 27 hours that were remaining on the day of Ms. Grady's discharge were already "actually earned" and were a vested right that should have been paid to her.

After a *de novo* review, I find that Ms. Grady was entitled to summary judgment as a matter of law in her favor on the issue of payment of vacation pay. In following the interpretation of the Louisiana Final Wage Act set forth in *Wyatt, supra*, and other applicable jurisprudence, I find that Choices



violated La. R.S. 23:631 and 23:634 when it forced Ms. Grady to forfeit the remaining hours of accrued vacation pay she became eligible for on January 1, 2011. Therefore, it is my opinion that Ms. Grady is entitled to payment of \$486.00 for the remaining 27 hours of vacation pay. Additionally, I find that Ms. Grady is entitled to the penalties and attorney's fees awarded to her by the trial court because Choices refused to pay Ms. Grady the amount due to her under the terms of its own "use it or lose it" policy.

SUSAN M. CHEARDY  
CHIEF JUDGE

FREDERICKA H. WICKER  
JUDE G. GRAVOIS  
MARC E. JOHNSON  
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**NOTICE OF JUDGMENT AND  
CERTIFICATE OF DELIVERY**

I CERTIFY THAT A COPY OF THE OPINION IN THE BELOW-NUMBERED MATTER HAS BEEN DELIVERED IN ACCORDANCE WITH **Uniform Rules - Court of Appeal, Rule 2-20** THIS DAY **MARCH 12, 2014** TO THE TRIAL JUDGE, COUNSEL OF RECORD AND ALL PARTIES NOT REPRESENTED BY COUNSEL, AS LISTED BELOW:

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Cheryl Q. Landrieu".

CHERYL Q. LANDRIEU  
CLERK OF COURT

**13-CA-437**

**E-NOTIFIED**

WILLIAM B. HIDALGO

**MAILED**

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