

## NEWS RELEASE

***FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE***

**June 7, 2016**

Contact: Tammi Boozer, Vice President-Communications & Public Relations,  
(806) 761-7008, cell (806) 787-5662, [tammi.boozer@lubbockbiz.org](mailto:tammi.boozer@lubbockbiz.org)

### **Evidentiary Hearing Set for Lubbock in Landmark Federal Case against Obama Administration**

**LUBBOCK, Texas** – The lawsuit against the U.S. Department of Labor challenging the Persuader Rule has made major steps forward as U.S. District Judge Sam Cummings has set a hearing date for Mon., June 20, in Lubbock. Of the three federal lawsuits across the country trying to block the rule, this is the only one that will have an injunction hearing with witnesses and evidence, as well as the only one where 10 states have intervened as co-plaintiffs.

The Chamber in March joined the National Federation of Independent Business (NFIB), Texas Association of Business (TAB), National Association of Home Builders (NAHB), and Texas Association of Builders (Texas Builders) in filing a landmark case in Lubbock Federal Court against the DOL challenging the constitutionality of the new regulations. These changes to the Persuader Rule potentially expose every employer to reporting requirements and disclosures.

“This is significant for Lubbock from a national standpoint as the result of this hearing and ultimately the case outcome will certainly impact Lubbock job creators, as well as businesses nation-wide,” said Lubbock Chamber Chairwoman Beth Bridges.

Lubbock attorney Fernando Bustos of Bustos Law Firm, PC, is representing the Lubbock Chamber, NFIB, TAB, NAHB, and Texas Builders in the joint effort. Also representing the coalition are the Ogletree Deakins and Kemp Smith law firms.

Under changes to the Persuader Rule, a law firm, consultant, or even an industry association or chamber that has been deemed a “persuader” will trigger disclosure of fees paid by all clients for broadly defined “labor relations advice or services” throughout the year.

“Under this scenario, a single attorney, by performing any newly-defined “Persuader” work for one client, could trigger a required reporting of information on all of the clients for which that attorney’s entire firm performed even non-union-related labor and employment work,” Bustos stated.



WORKING FOR BUSINESS. BELIEVING IN LUBBOCK.

[www.lubbockchamber.com](http://www.lubbockchamber.com)

The Lubbock Chamber of Commerce represents over 2,000 businesses and over 79,000 employees on the South Plains which accounts for over \$2 billion in annual household earnings in Lubbock and West Texas. The Chamber has twice earned the distinguished 5-Star Accreditation from the U.S. Chamber of Commerce and is a two-time Chamber of the Year recognized by the Association of Chamber of Commerce Executives.



###

