#### Job Assistance Ordinance SMC 14.17 First Year Implementation

### SEATTLE OFFICE FOR CIVIL RIGHTS



#### Regulates the use of arrest and conviction records in employment decisions for jobs in Seattle



- Increase public safety and job assistance by reducing criminal recidivism
- Address inequities caused by racial disproportionality in the criminal justice system
- Provide a fair chance for employment to people who have paid their debts to society



## CASE STUDY #1

#### SITUATION

### Criminal history questions prevented person from applying for job

#### Interested in posted position.

Did not submit application after seeing questions regarding criminal history.

 Employer thought questions were permissible.



### **Notice of infraction**

### OUTREACH TO GENERAL PUBLIC





#### TRAININGS FOR COMMUNITY ADVOCATES



## OUTREACH TO EMPLOYERS



- Technical assistance to 125+ employers.
- Met with 30 organizations for outreach / collaboration.
- 13 JAO presentations, including
  2 workshops for nearly 200 participants.

## SPECIAL PROJECTS





#### LABOR STANDARDS ADVISORY GROUP





#### LABOR STANDARDS RESEARCH





#### TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO OTHER JURISDICTIONS AND GROUPS



### CASE STUDY #2

#### SITUATION

### Applicant denied chance to explain criminal history record



Applied for position.

 Background check conducted and applicant was not hired.

• Employer did not provide notice of an adverse action and a chance to explain.



### **Notice of infraction**



### ENFORCEMENT



# 56

# **EMPLOYEE INQUIRIES**





# ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS





# DIRECTORS CHARGES





# COMPLAINTS CLOSED



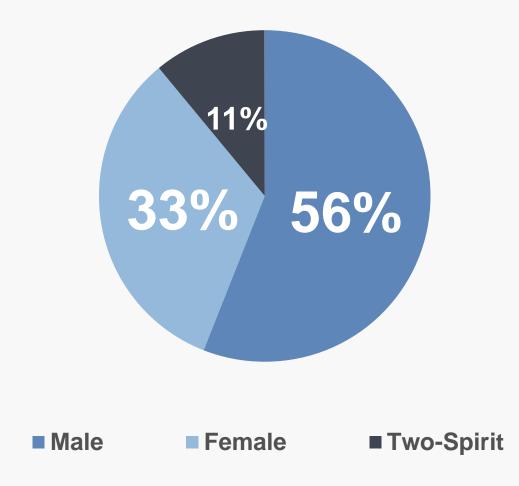
# **\$18,500 RECOVERED**



# DEMOGRAPHICS

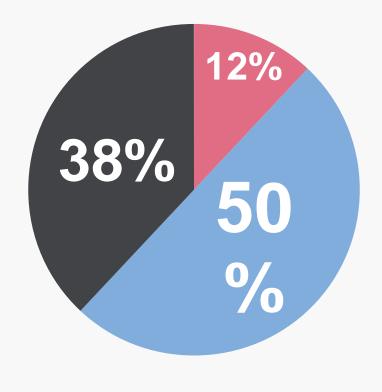


# GENDER





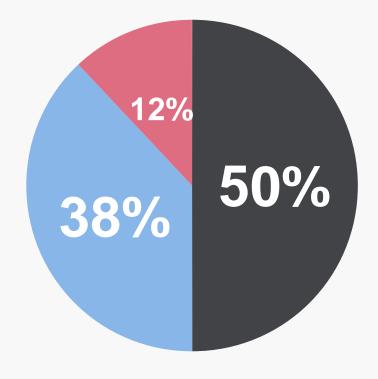
### AGE



■ 18-25 ■ 26-39 **■** 40-54



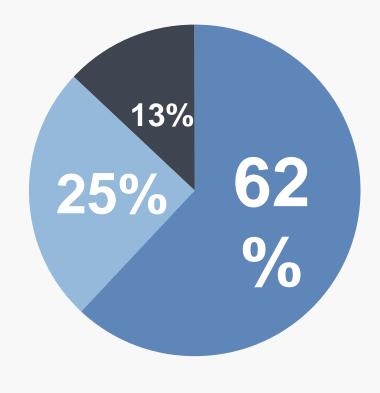
### RACE



White African-American Hawaiian / Pacific Islander



# HOUSING



Rent Homeless / Transitional Own



### CASE STUDY #3

#### SITUATION

### Long-time employee fired without chance to explain a 25-year old conviction



#### Employee with old criminal conviction fired.

Company did not give employee chance to explain.

Complaint filed with SOCR.



### Settlement agreement for \$18,000

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- Division director
- 2 outreach liaisons
- 2 investigators (2015)
- 2 investigators (2016)

#### PARTNERSHIP WITH COMMUNITY-BASED ORGANIZATIONS



- Expand outreach and intake referrals.
- Work with CBOs receiving grants to build relationships with communities.
- Use innovative intake methods.





# EMPLOYER ACCOUNTABILITY



- Increase formal charges filed
- Use more Director's charges
- Automatic "Notice of Infraction"
- Monitored settlement agreements
- Develop criteria for "directed investigations"

### LABOR STANDARDS ADVISORY COMMISSION

# THANK YOU

### SEATTLE OFFICE FOR CIVIL RIGHTS