

Beaulieu v. State of Minnesota, Civil File No. 06-cv-4764

Gustafson Gluek represents Wallace Beaulieu. Mr. Beaulieu is a patient in the Minnesota Sex Offender Program who filed a habeas petition. Gustafson Gluek appeared on behalf of Mr. Beaulieu at Judge Rosenbaum's request. We have researched and briefed this case at the Carlton County Court, the Minnesota Court of Appeals and the Minnesota Supreme Court. We are currently drafting the petition for a writ of certiorari at the U.S. Supreme Court.

Chrysalis / Tubman

Gustafson Gluek represented a woman seeking to extend an Order for Protection against her husband. The case went to a hearing before a family court judge who ultimately denied our motion. The Chrysalis project works to help represent individuals without the resources to obtain, enforce, and extend Orders for Protection against abusive spouses and partners.

Couch v. Bank of America, et al., Civil File No. 10-cv-3822

Gustafson Gluek represented Margaret Rae Couch as part of the *Pro Se* Project. Ms. Couch filed this action against Bank of America to oppose foreclosure on her residence. We were able to assist her in resolving the case by reaching a settlement with the defendant.

Dean v. JBS Swift & Co., et al., Civil File No. 09-cv-3034

Gustafson Gluek represented Milan Dean as part of the *Pro Se* Project. Mr. Dean filed a discrimination complaint against his employer without first obtaining an EEOC right to sue letter. Gustafson Gluek assisted Mr. Dean in obtaining an EEOC right to sue letter so that he could pursue his federal claims. Mr. Dean had also previously filed a grievance with his union to no avail. We negotiated with the union and were successful in resolving Mr. Dean's grievance via an agreement between the union and Mr. Dean's employer, in which Mr. Dean received full back pay and was reinstated with full seniority and benefits.

Fernandez v. Budget Exteriors, Inc., Civil File No. 10-cv-4690

Gustafson Gluek represented Kenneth Fernandez as part of the *Pro Se* Project in a Title VII case. Gustafson Gluek handled all motion practice, written discovery, depositions (both taking and defending), a settlement conference, and arguments on a motion for judgment on the pleadings and summary judgment.

Groves v. Minnesota Department of Transportation, Civil File No. 09-cv-2883

Gustafson Gluek represented David Groves as part of the *Pro Se* Project. Mr. Groves filed an age discrimination case. Gustafson Gluek handled all motion practice through summary judgment, written discovery, and depositions (both taking and defending). We were able to obtain a settlement prior to a ruling on the motion for summary judgment.

Hill v. Union Pacific Railroad, Civil File No. 09-cv-3289

Gustafson Gluek represented Demetrius Hill as part of the *Pro Se* Project. Mr. Hill filed a discrimination complaint against his employer. We filed a stipulation staying the litigation pending settlement discussions. After five months of intense settlement negotiations, including two settlement conferences with Magistrate Judge Noel, Gustafson Gluek successfully settled Mr. Hill's case for significant monetary relief, as well as the guarantee of eligibility for certain retirement benefits he otherwise would not have been entitled to due to his termination. After the initial representation had terminated, it came to light that Mr. Hill's employer had failed to take all steps necessary to ensure that Mr. Hill received his retirement benefits. Over the period of several months, Gustafson Gluek worked with defense counsel and the agency administering Mr. Hill's benefits to resolve this issue and ensure that all of the terms of the settlement agreement were fully satisfied.

Jihad v. Fabian, et al., Civil File No. 09-cv-1604

Gustafson Gluek represented Hanifi Jihad as part of the *Pro Se* Project. Gustafson Gluek secured a settlement with the Minnesota Department of Corrections, which now makes halal-certified food available to Muslim inmates at the Minnesota Correctional Facility in Stillwater (MCF–STW) during all regularly scheduled meals. An independent accredited agency will conduct annual inspections or audits of both the food and the food preparation process. Halal-certified items will be clearly designated in writing, and made available to all inmates. The settlement of this case will allow Minnesota’s Muslim inmates to more freely exercise their religious beliefs.

Kind, Jr., v. North West Metro Drug Task Force, et al., Civil File No. 09-cv-1265

Gustafson Gluek represented Darrell Kind, Jr. as part of the *Pro Se* project. Mr. Kind brought a civil suit against the Northwest Metro Drug Taskforce for the illegal search and destruction of two of his businesses. The case survived Summary Judgment, and our firm was asked to represent Mr. Kind in the trial before Magistrate Judge Mayeron. A jury trial lasting one week ultimately resulted in a verdict for the defendants.

Karsjens, et al. v. Jesson, et al., Civil File No. 11-cv-3659

Gustafson Gluek represents a class of patients civilly committed to the Minnesota Sex Offender Program as part of the *Pro Se* Project in a civil rights case. We have researched and drafted the Amended Complaint, class certification briefing, written discovery and other motion practice. We have also participated in multiple settlement conferences. The case is ongoing.

Mace v. Hable, et al., Civil File No. 11-cv-477

Gustafson Gluek represents Shawn Mace as part of the *Pro Se* Project. The lawsuit alleges that the defendants violated the plaintiff’s Eighth Amendment rights while he was detained at the Renville County Jail. We are presently conducting discovery and intend to litigate this matter to its conclusion.

Oda v. University of Minnesota Physicians, Civil File No. 09-cv-1180

Gustafson Gluek represented Donna Oda as part of the *Pro Se* project in an employment discrimination case. Ms. Oda, an African-American woman, was questioned about another co-worker’s involvement in a scam involving fake prescriptions. No other workers in the same position were subjected to the interrogation by the police and ultimate discharge of her position. The parties were able to reach a settlement.

Phillips v. Fairview Health Services, Civil File No. 10-cv-4442

Gustafson Gluek represented Ronald Phillips as part of the *Pro Se* Project in a disability discrimination suit against a hospital where Mr. Phillips received treatment. The suit alleged the defendant mistreated Mr. Phillips due to his mental disability. After over a year of active litigation, the parties agreed to settle the lawsuit.

Sandel v. Target Financial Services, Civil File No. 08-cv-6302

Gustafson Gluek represented Yvonne Sandel as part of the *Pro Se* Project. Ms. Sandel filed this action against Target Corporation for wrongful termination and discrimination based on disability. The case was difficult to prove and posed many procedural hurdles. We were able to resolve the case by reaching a settlement.

Sarah Jandro

Gustafson Gluek represented Sarah Jandro in a debt collection action. Ms. Jandro never received notice of a default judgment obtained against her until four years later, when the collection agency attempted to garnish her wages. Gustafson Gluek was able to stop the garnishment and obtain a favorable settlement for the plaintiff.

Scheffler v. Academy Collection Services, Inc., Civil File No. 09-cv-2206

Gustafson Gluek represented Troy Scheffler in a Fair Debt Collection Act case. Mr. Scheffler had received threatening phone calls. While representing Mr. Scheffler, Gustafson Gluek engaged in settlement negotiations with the defendant. When Mr. Scheffler retained counsel in a related matter, Gustafson Gluek withdrew from representation.

Smith v. Fairview Ridges Hospital, Civil File No. 06-cv-4731

Gustafson Gluek represented Shelia Smith as part of the *Pro Se* Project. Gustafson Gluek began working on the case while Ms. Smith was preparing her appeal to the 8th Circuit after her Title VII case was dismissed in Minnesota District Court. We researched and drafted the 8th Circuit brief and had extensive communication and interaction with Ms. Smith.

Triplett v. Essentia Health, Civil File No. 11-cv-2545

Gustafson Gluek represented Karen Triplett as part of the *Pro Se* Project. Ms. Triplett filed a complaint alleging that she was subject to harassment and discrimination because of her race, sex, age and disability. She further alleged that she was terminated in retaliation for requesting "a reasonable accommodation and/or in retaliation for complaining about discrimination." The defendant denied the allegations. After a Settlement Conference with the Court, the parties reached a settlement.

Undlin v. City of Minneapolis, et al., Civil File No. 08-cv-1855

Gustafson Gluek represented Michael Undlin as part of the *Pro Se* Project. Mr. Undlin filed this 1983 claim against the Hennepin County, City of Minneapolis, and HCMC for damages caused by excessive force. Parts of his claims were dismissed in the process, but eventually we were able to reach a settlement with Hennepin County. This case also caused Hennepin County to make changes to improve the intake procedure and policies when dealing with inmates with physical or mental health issues.

Volunteer Lawyers Network

Gustafson Gluek has handled a variety of work for the Volunteer Lawyers Network with a focus on creditor/debtor issues. Though we generally provide over-the-phone advice, we have appeared on behalf of one client in a collections case, where we reached a favorable settlement. That case was the focus of a video featured at the 2010 VLN annual fundraiser.