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## New Year Brings Changes to New York Employment Law: Annual Wage Notice Pared; Minimum Wage Increased.

January 5, 2015 – The annual notice employers were required to deliver to existing employees under New York's Wage Theft Prevention Act ("WTPA") have been eliminated under new legislation that took effect at the beginning of the year. As previously reported in our April 4, 2011 Client Alert (available here), all employers in New York had been required to provide a wage rate notice to all current employees between January 1 and February 1 of each year. That notice is now only required to be delivered to new hires. New York's Department of Labor ("NY DOL") expressly states on its website that "given the pending enactment of this chapter amendment, the Department will not require annual statements in 2015."

Form wage rate notices remain available on the NY DOL website, which are available here. The NY DOL has prepared dual language version of the notices in Chinese, Haitian-Creole, Korean, Polish, Russian and Spanish. These should be used if the employee has identified one of these languages as his or her primary language.

Additionally, New York raised its minimum wage on December 31, 2014 to \$8.75 per hour.

If you require any additional information on this matter, or any other employment-related issue, please contact:

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