



For Immediate Release
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The Fairness Center Defeated at the Supreme Court

HARRISBURG - Today, the Pennsylvania Supreme Court upheld a Pennsylvania program designed to give home care workers more say in their work and a defined process to solve problems within the home care industry. The case, David Smith and Donald Lambrecht v. Governor Tom Wolf, was brought forth and bankrolled by The Fairness Center, a front group for anti-union, billionaire funders connected to the Commonwealth Foundation. The Fairness Center, who are registered as an organization in Oklahoma, are part of the State Policy Network and responsible for multiple anti-union lawsuits throughout Pennsylvania.

PA Spotlight Executive Director Eric Rosso released the following statement regarding The Fairness Center's defeat in the Pennsylvania Supreme Court:

"It is shameful that a workforce dedicated to taking care of the elderly, disabled, and sick became pawns in the Fairness Center and Commonwealth Foundation's political games. This lawsuit is one of many bankrolled by these Koch and Scaife Foundation funded front groups.

The decision today continues the long streak of failures in the Pennsylvania court system by the Fairness Center attempting to hurt workers and deny them dignity in their job. We applaud the decision by the Pennsylvania Supreme Court.

The Fairness Center are an out-of-state entity litigating against Pennsylvania teachers, home care workers, graduate students and those who stand with them, more scrutiny should be placed on this legally questionable non-profit. Their continued defeats in the court system underline their blatant attempts to move legal arguments that produce anti-worker precedents and union busting through the courts at the expense of anyone who works for a living."

Background

The Fairness Center registered as a domestic not for profit corporation in Oklahoma on January 8, 2014. The Fairness Center is not a registered business in Pennsylvania.

The Fairness Center was founded by the Commonwealth Foundation's former CEO Matt Brouillette in 2014. In their first year as an organization they received \$385,000, or 93% of that year's funding Center entered into a shared services agreement and the current CEO of the Commonwealth Foundation Charles Mitchell received \$128,888.

The Fairness Center's most recent 990 shows that Matt Brouillette of the Commonwealth Foundation Partners and former CEO of the Commonwealth Foundation, is a Trustee and Charles Mitchell, current CEO of the Commonwealth Foundation, is their Treasurer.

The Fairness Center are also funded by Donors Trust, which has been described as the Dark-Money ATM of the Conservative Movement. They filed a "Friend of the Court" brief on behalf of the billionaire funders who bankrolled the Janus V. AFSCME case.

The Fairness Center moved their office directly on top of Gubernatorial candidate and trash mogul Scott Wagner in a Harrisburg office building housing the Commonwealth Foundation, the Fairness Center, and the Commonwealth Chambers Partner of Entrepreneurs, a 501(c)6 organization run by Matt Brouillette attacking Governor Wolf.