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LABOR & EMPLOYMENT LAW ALERT

Amendments to Act 44 Require Recreational Facilities to Become Handicap Accessible

On July 27, 2011, the Governor of Puerto Rico signed into law Puerto Rico Act No. 155 ("Act 155") to prohibit disability discrimination by requiring all public and private recreational facilities to become handicap accessible. Act 155 does not define the term "recreational facilities."

Specifically, Act 155 requires that all recreational facilities become 40% handicap accessible by the year 2020. This goal is to be reached in stages. Facilities must reach 15% compliance by the year 2015, then reaching an additional 5% compliance each year until meeting the 40% goal. The Office of the Solicitor of Individuals with Disabilities will be in charge of monitoring compliance with Act 155.

Act 155's effectiveness is retroactive to July 1, 2011.

If you have any questions or comments, or wish additional information regarding this matter, please contact any of the following attorneys:

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