



**NEWS RELEASE**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**FEDERAL JUDGE SIDES WITH SIGNAL – DENIES CLASS CERTIFICATION OF ALL FORMER H2B WORKER CLAIMS**

**MOBILE, AL – 04 JAN 2012** - Signal International L.L.C., a leading Gulf of Mexico provider of marine and fabrication services headquartered in Mobile, Alabama received news of a complete victory in the case pending in the Eastern District of Louisiana with regard to class certification of claims against it alleging human trafficking, slave labor and fraud, among other claims.

In denying class certification, United States District Judge Jay C. Zainey, observed with regard to the allegations made against Signal, “[t]o the contrary, this case involves paid workers who in fact could leave their jobs at any time, albeit under penalty of returning to their home countries but that restriction was dictated by U.S. immigration law. The workers were for the most part paid well, free to come and go as they pleased, and some even took vacations and bought cars. The pressure to work for Signal arguably came at least in part from a set of circumstances that each plaintiff individually brought upon himself when he elected to pay what is now characterized as ‘exorbitant’ fees to participate in the green card program.”

He also stated, “plaintiffs were adult men, some of whom had worked overseas before and some of whom were well-educated and savvy. All of the Plaintiffs knew that green cards were difficult to get and could only be obtained from the United States government. Plaintiffs were clearly eager to come to the United States—some individuals tried to obtain employment with Signal even without going through the recruiting scheme.”

Richard Marler, CEO of Signal, stated, “it has been a long road for Signal and we are incredibly pleased with this decision. We look forward to the next phase of this lawsuit where Signal fully expects to again be vindicated.”

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**About Signal International:**

Signal International, Inc., is an integrated company providing global services to the offshore, marine and naval industries. As a leading supplier of marine and fabrication services, the core business is construction, repair, and conversion of offshore drilling rigs, ships and vessels. The company utilizes world-class continuous flow manufacturing processes for fabrication of marine vessels, modules for refinery expansion and offshore renewable energy components. Recognized as one of the “Best Large Shipyards” for excellence in safety, Signal is known for quality workmanship, on time and on budget. Headquartered in Mobile, Alabama, Signal operates four production facilities in Alabama, Mississippi and Texas.

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