

Extension Of Legal Protections In Employee Contractual Settings

Employers generally embrace a policy of utilizing at-will employment as often as possible, where employers and employees can end their relationship with each other at any time and for any (legal) reason, writes **F. Kytte Frye III** of **Fisher & Phillips LLP** in an article posted on JDSupra.com. Written employment contracts are usually reserved for select executives and a few professionals.

“Numerous states, often through judicial pronouncements, have recognized varying exceptions to the at-will employment concept, such as allowing employees to challenge their termination as a violation of public policy,” he writes.

“The 8th Circuit Court of Appeals recently published a decision which sharply limits the application of the public policy exception. Interestingly, this limitation does not apply to at-will employees, but to employees with employment contracts. Somewhat ominously, the decision does not extend to all such contracts, creating an air of uncertainty for any healthcare business with employment contractual situations.”

Read the article.