



# BOYD KENTER THOMAS & PARRISH NEWS

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## Nothing Could Be Less American Than This

The Labor Department recently announced new rules that will allow your boss to fire you if they object to your religious preference. The rules give for-profit government contractors a free pass to discriminate against LGBTQ people, unwed pregnant women, people who have abortions, or even employees who practice a different religion or no religion.



This new rule allows hiring and firing based on the religious beliefs not of the worker, but of the employer: Companies “may make employment decisions consistent with their sincerely held religious tenets and beliefs without fear of sanction by the federal government,” the department said.

The fear of some observers is that an employer might claim it is against his religious belief to employ a gay person or a person who has sex outside of marriage, such as a person in a cohabiting couple or a single mother.

[Learn more.](#)

# Would You Settle for Less?

Deceptive self-storage insurance practices are rampant with companies collecting insurance premiums as a major source of profit. We recently represented a client who was shorted \$265 of their insurance policy on a Public Storage unit after a break in. Believing that the claims handlers chose to short the coverage owed, attorneys Mark Parrish, Josh Sanders and Erica Fumagalli filed suit for wrongfully refusing to pay, arguing for damages for wrongful and punitive conduct.

At the end of the case, Public Storage had to pay 1031% more than the amount they wrongfully withheld. There are laws designed to help consumers when corporations or insurance companies take advantage of them. We are committed to making those laws work for people when that happens. [Learn more.](#)

## Remembering KCMO Firefighter, Captain Jerry Bayton

Our client and friend, Captain Jerry Bayton passed away last month due to Multiple Myeloma cancer. Captain Bayton is the third KCMO firefighter in three years to die of cancer caused directly from his 25-year career as a firefighter. We worked tirelessly with Jerry to have his cancer be recognized and covered by Missouri's workers compensation laws. It's time for the laws to change so we can protect those heroic first responders. [Learn more about Jerry's story.](#)



## We Support our UAW Brothers and Sisters While They Strike GM



Robert Sauls, the newest member of the firm and Missouri State Representative, strikes with UAW.

# Healing Invisible Wounds

The Valor Recovery Program (VRP) is designed to help Active Duty Military, Veterans, and First Responders process trauma, manage stress that encompasses life changes, and control unhealthy behaviors of addictions while maintaining sobriety. The self-sacrifice to keep others safe involves witnessing and experiencing events that are difficult to process.

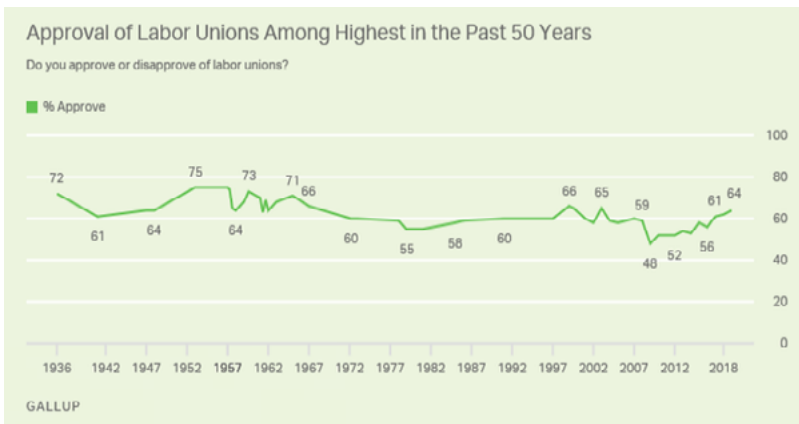
VRP offers a specialized track for individuals suffering from trauma and PTSD. This is a complete program that covers every type of trauma – whether experienced in childhood, adulthood, the workplace or during combat. If you need help or know someone who does, please call 913.228.5973 or [visit sphkc.net](http://visit.sphkc.net).



# Americans' Approval of Labor Unions Reaches 16-Year High

Sixty-four percent of people polled by Gallup in August approve of labor unions, one of the highest rates in half a century. Americans have not viewed unions in such a positive light since 2003, when the rate hit 65%.

The younger the respondent, the more likely they were to have a positive view of unions. Sixty-seven percent of people between ages 18 and 34 approved of unions. The rate was 64% for those between 35 and 54, and 61% for those 55 and older.





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