1972:
Advocacy groups filed suit against the U.S. Department of Labor, alleging discriminatory practices against farmworkers.

1974:
The Judge Richey court order required the U.S. Department of Labor to ensure all workforce development services, benefits, and protections for farmworkers are provided on an equitable and non-discriminatory basis.

Monitor Advocate System

**DID YOU KNOW?**
Agricultural work is the most dangerous industrial sector in the United States.

Farmworkers are 20 times more likely to suffer a heat-related death than U.S. workers overall.

Average annual wages of farmworkers is less than $17K for a family of four, which is under the poverty line of $25,100.

In 2016, the U.S. Department of Labor recovered $4.8M in back wages for farmworkers due to rampant wage theft.

For over 40 years, the Monitor Advocate System has helped farmworkers by ensuring they have equal access to career and training services and workforce protections offered by American Job Centers so they may improve their living and working conditions.

**Impact:**
DOL through the Workforce Development System exceeded equity in the provision of services for farmworkers by 20% on average.

3,135 violations ranging from wage theft to human trafficking have been processed through the complaint system.

Outreach Workers have contacted over 1.5M farmworkers about their rights and protections.

State Workforce Agencies referred over 380,000 farmworkers to employment.

The Monitor Advocate System provides technical assistance and fosters partnerships among stakeholders.

Learn more about the Monitor Advocate System at [www.doleta.gov/farmworker](http://www.doleta.gov/farmworker) and join us at Agriculture Connection at [https://farmworker.workforcegps.org/](https://farmworker.workforcegps.org/).