# The Fall of Paseo

# One Lawsuit. A Closure. Then Bankruptcy.

It's been a Seattle icon for nearly 20-years, ranked No. 1 by Urbanspoon and known to have some the "Best Sandwiches in America," according to Esquire Magazine. So, how does the city's top sandwich shop go from successful to shut down...for good?

News about Paseo Caribbean Restaurant closing spread quickly. Customers were confused and business owners wondered what happened?

One day after the abrupt announcement, Paseo's owner filed for bankruptcy. Sources reported the restaurant owed more than \$30,000 to its creditors. As news of the bankruptcy went public, details emerged about a civil lawsuit filed in September against the sandwich shop by four ex-employees alleging unpaid wages and workplace discrimination.

First a lawsuit, then the closure, and now bankruptcy, Paseo's predicament begs the question: If it happened to this Seattle hotspot could it happen to you?



(Fremont location, courtesy Paseo)

The answer: Yes! Employee related issues can happen to any business, at any time. But here's the good news - you can protect yourself and your business from similar situations and we can help.

## **Employment Practices Liability Insurance**

#### What is EPLI?

Simply put, EPLI provides coverage to employers against claims made by employees or third parties, alleging discrimination, wrongful termination, harassment, breach of contract and other employment related issues.

#### What does it do?

EPLI protects business owners facing huge financial burdens and costs associated with defending and/or settling employment related claims.

In the past five years, more than 90,000 charges of workplace discrimination have been filed each year, according to the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission.

No business is immune from employee related issues. The cost of defending a claim is enormous. Even if it's false and the claim gets dismissed, business owners can be forced to pay tens of thousands, if not hundreds of thousands, of dollars.

### What can you do?

If you don't know about EPLI or you have questions we should talk.

It's our job to help you protect your family and your business. At Insurance Services, our agents are available any time to discuss EPLI and other insurance coverage. It's important to find the right solution to fit your individual needs so your business continues to see success for years to come.

Contact Insurance Services today to see how EPLI could help you and your business. Our team of commercial agents are happy to answer any questions you may have about EPLI coverage and policies - (425)775-6446.