For Immediate Release Dec. 23, 2014

Contact: Robert Fulton: 818-884-8966 ext 110 robert@sendersgroup.com

Wealth Gap in America Reaches Tipping Point

As the chasm between the haves and have-nots increases, **Labor 411** calls for a national consumer movement to put more money in the pockets of the middle class

MEDIA AVAILABILITY: Labor 411 founder Cherri Senders is available for comment/interviews

LOS ANGELES – According to a <u>Pew Research Center report</u> released last week, the wealth gap between the have and have-nots in America has widened even more. Upper-income families now control nearly seven times the median wealth of middle-income families, while the median wealth for low-income families is actually less than what it was in 1983.

"This is a travesty," says Cherri Senders, founder of <u>Labor 411</u>, a consumer guide to high-road businesses. "The Pew study showed upper-income median wealth has doubled in the last 30 years, while middle-income median wealth has increased a tiny fraction. Not all boats are rising. We are slowly seeing the American middle-class disappear."

In a recent Op-Ed published by the *Sacramento Bee*, Senders made her case for a consumer movement that supports good jobs and strengthens the middle class.

"By patronizing businesses that pay fair wages, more money can go into the pockets of low- and middle-income workers," Senders says. "There are no simple solutions to bridging the wealth gap, but we can make a difference by making a conscious choice where to spend our consumer dollars."

Founded in 2008, Labor 411's print and online guides now include more than 6,000 listings covering hotels, restaurants, retail outlets and other businesses in three of the nation's top consumer markets: Los Angeles, San Francisco and Washington, D.C.

Labor 411's newly redesigned website (www.labor411.org), which features geolocating, allows consumers to pinpoint by neighborhood where their shopping dollars can support living-wage companies and their communities, and avoid retailers that do not treat their workers well. Labor 411 also produces annual print guides in Los Angeles and San Francisco, and will be launching a Washington, D.C. edition in early 2015.

For more information regarding Labor 411 or to speak with publisher Cherri Senders, please contact Robert Fulton at 818-884-8966 x110 or robert@sendersgroup.com.

###