



## PROFESSIONAL PROFILE *of the* MONTH



# Vocational Economics

## A Function of Innovation

By Lisa Johnson

### What are the primary services your firm provides?

The primary service provided by the firm involves defining economic damages for persons who are disabled. These damages include both loss of earning capacity as well as defining the

present value of future health and medical care costs. Vocational Economics, Inc. employs vocational analysts, economists, and life care planners who work together as a team to quantify damages for persons with permanent partial or total disability.

### How long has the firm been in business?

### Who Founded the Firm?

Vocational Economics, Inc. was founded in 1977 by Dr. Anthony M. Gamboa, Jr., who, at the time, was employed as a professor at the University of Louisville. Thirty years later it employs vocational experts, economists and life care planners across the country. Headquartered in Louisville, KY, the firm also has offices in Chicago, Ft. Lauderdale, Tampa, Atlanta, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Las Vegas, Indianapolis, Cincinnati, Columbus, Dallas and Nashville. Combined, the experts have provided vocational and economic testimony in all fifty states as well as overseas.

**Dr. Ronald Missun, Labor Economist**  
**Jacquelyn Vega Velez, Vocational Analyst**



## What is the Mission of Vocational Economics?

The mission of Vocational Economics, Inc. is to quantify economic damages for persons with a partial or total disability, including cases of death.

The success of the firm is based on a significant emphasis in the areas of research and development as it pertains specifically to persons with a disability. The firm pioneered work on assessing earning capacity loss for infants and children. In addition, the firm was the first in the nation to introduce the concept of reduced worklife expectancy as a function of disability. The quantification of the reduction of worklife expectancy for persons with a disability allows persons who have returned to work with a disability to recover probable future earning capacity loss. The firm's success historically, at present, and in the future is a function of innovation.



**Dr. Anthony M. Gamboa, Jr., CEO, Senior Vocational Economic Analyst**

## What types of challenges have been faced and overcome? How were they overcome?

Innovation inevitably creates challenges; this is particularly true in a litigation setting. Challenges have been overcome as a result of a sound methodological approach in assessing economic damages based on federal government data. Over the past ten years there have been numerous appellate court decisions in a variety of states supporting lower court judges in allowing testimony focusing on the significance of reduced worklife expectancy as a function of disability.

## What are some of the major successes of the firm? Why are they/did they become successes?

The single-most success of the firm involves the introduction and use of reduced worklife expectancy values for persons with a permanent impairment resulting in disability. The most significant successes involve persons with disability who have returned to work earning more money than they had earned prior to disability. Because earning capacity loss is about the future as opposed to the present or the past, appellate courts have supported the notion of probable reduction in earning capacity as a function of reduced worklife expectancy for persons with disability. The success of the firm is based on a database approach in assessing future loss of earning capacity through use of probabilistic decision making.

The philosophical cornerstone of the firm is based on the utilization of federal government data to assess earning capacity loss.

The firm and its experts do not win or lose cases, but simply aid the trier of fact in fairly defining future economic losses associated with disability. Cases involving economic loss of persons who have returned to work earning more money than they earned prior to injury are some of the most interesting cases. The appellate court decisions supporting the lower courts in allowing testimony in such cases have been the most gratifying for those in the firm.

## Special Notes:

- Our experts are available to meet with attorneys in their firm or telephonically to discuss a case. To find out more about our experts, please visit our Website at [www.vocecon.com](http://www.vocecon.com) – or “Like” us on facebook: [www.facebook.com/vocecon](http://www.facebook.com/vocecon) and follow us on Twitter: [www.twitter.com/vocecon](http://www.twitter.com/vocecon)
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**David Gibson, Senior Vocational Economic Analyst**



**Laura Lampton, Life Care Planner**



**Aaron Herbert & Amy Gavin, Case Processors**