NEW YORK COUNTY CLERK 01/18/2019

NYSCEF DOC. NO. 1

INDEX NO. 150525/2019

RECEIVED NYSCEF: 01/18/2019

SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK COUNTY OF NEW YORK

IVAN ARROYO, for himself and on behalf of all others similarly situated,

Plaintiffs,

- against -

SUMMONS

Index No.

NYU LANGONE HOSPITALS,

Defendant.

TO THE ABOVE NAMED DEFENDANT:

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and required to submit to the attorneys of Plaintiffs your answering papers to the Complaint in this action within 30 days after service of this summons. In case of your failure to submit answering papers, judgment will be taken against you by default for the relief demanded in the complaint.

DATED: New York, New York January 17, 2019

VIRGINIA & AMBINDER, LLP

By: _s/ Lloyd Ambinder, Esq._ Lloyd Ambinder, Esq. James Emmet Murphy, Esq. Virginia & Ambinder, LLP 40 Broad Street, 7th Floor New York, New York 10004

Tel: (212) 943-9080

Attorneys for Named Plaintiff and the putative class

To: **NYU Langone Hospitals** 550 First Avenue HCC-15 New York, NY 10016

FILED: NEW YORK COUNTY CLERK 01/18/2019 11:11 AM

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SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK COUNTY OF NEW YORK

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Index No.

- against –

CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT

NYU LANGONE HOSPITALS,

Defendant.

Plaintiffs.

Named Plaintiff IVAN ARROYO ("Named Plaintiff"), on behalf of himself and all others similarly situated (collectively "Plaintiffs"), by their attorneys, and for their Complaint against Defendant NYU Langone Hospitals ("Defendant"), allege as follows:

PRELIMINARY STATEMENT

- 1. This action is brought pursuant to the New York Labor Law ("NYLL") §§ 663, 198, and 12 New York Codes, Rules, and Regulations ("NYCRR") § 142-2.2 to recover unpaid wages, including overtime compensation owed to Named Plaintiff, and all similarly situated persons who are presently or were formerly employed by Defendant.
- 2. At all times relevant to this litigation, Defendant engaged in a policy and practice of requiring Named Plaintiffs and members of the putative class to regularly work up to and in excess of forty (40) hours in a week without paying them all earned straight time and overtime wages at a rate of one and one-half times their regular hourly wage.
- 3. The Named Plaintiff has initiated this action on his own behalf, and on behalf of all similarly situated employees, seeking overtime compensation that Named Plaintiffs and all similarly situated employees were deprived of, plus interest, attorneys' fees, and costs.

THE PARTIES

4. Named Plaintiff Arroyo is an individual residing in the State of New York who worked for Defendant as a security guard.

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5. Upon information and belief, Defendant NYU Langone Hospital is a domestic notfor-profit corporation organized and existing under the laws of the State of New York with a principal place of business at 550 First Avenue, HCC-15, New York, NY 10016.

CLASS ALLEGATIONS

- 6. This action is properly maintainable as a class action pursuant to Article 9 of the New York Civil Practice Law and Rules.
- 7. This action is brought on behalf of the Named Plaintiff and a class consisting of each and every other person who performed work as a security guard and in other related trades for Defendant at any time between January 2013 and the present.
- 8. The putative class is so numerous that joinder of all members is impracticable. The size of the putative class is believed to be in excess of 40 individuals. In addition, the names of all potential members of the putative class are not known.
- 9. The questions of law and fact common to the putative class predominate over any questions affecting only individual members.
 - 10. The claims of the Plaintiff are typical of the claims of the putative class.
- Plaintiff and his counsel will fairly and adequately protect the interests of the 11. putative class.
- 12. A class action is superior to other available methods for the fair and efficient adjudication of this controversy.
- 13. A class action is superior to other available methods for the fair and efficient adjudication of this controversy.

FACTS

14. Plaintiff Arroyo and other similarly situated individuals work as security guards for Defendant at various locations in New York City.

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15. Defendant constitutes Plaintiff's and other similarly situated individuals' employer

for purposes of the New York Labor Law and its implementing regulations.

16. Before appearing at their assigned security post at the beginning of each shift,

Plaintiff and others similarly situated are required to report to the designated locker room, change

into a uniform, and travel to a roll call meeting area with the other security guards, and thereafter

report to a designated security post.

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17. At the end of each shift, Plaintiff and others similarly situated are required to wait

for relief guards to replace them at their security post, and then to travel back to the locker room,

change out of their uniform, and store the uniform before they leave Defendant's facilities.

18. Plaintiff and, upon information and belief, all others similarly situated, are not paid

for all time between first appearing at their designated locker room building and the beginning of

their scheduled shift, and the time they leave the locker room building.

19. The time spent by Plaintiff and others similarly situated between first appearing at

the designated locker room building at the beginning of their shift and the time they leave the

locker room building after changing and storing their uniform, constitutes compensable work time

pursuant to the New York Labor Law and the regulations implementing same.

FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION NEW YORK OVERTIME COMPENSATION LAW

20. Named Plaintiff repeats and re-alleges the allegations set forth in the preceding

paragraphs.

12 NYCRR § 142-2.2 requires that "[a]n employer shall pay an employee for 21.

overtime at a wage rate of 1 ½ times the employee's regular rate" for hours worked in excess of

40 hours in one workweek.

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> 22. NYLL § 663, provides that "[i]f any employee is paid by his employer less than the wage to which he is entitled under the provisions of this article, he may recover in a civil action the amount of any such underpayments, together with costs and such reasonable attorney's fees."

- 23. Defendant is an employer, within the meaning contemplated, pursuant to NYLL Article 19 § 651(6) and the supporting New York State Department of Labor Regulations.
- 24. Named Plaintiff and members of the putative class are employees, within the meaning contemplated, pursuant to NYLL Article 19 § 651(5) and the supporting New York State Department of Labor Regulations.
- 25. Named Plaintiff and members of the putative class worked more than forty (40) hours per week while working for Defendant.
- 26. Named Plaintiff and members of the putative class did not receive all earned overtime compensation for hours worked after the first forty (40) hours in a week.
- 27. By the foregoing reasons, Defendant has violated NYLL § 663 and 12 NYCRR § 142-2.2, and are liable to Named Plaintiffs and members of the putative class in an amount to be determined at trial, plus interest, attorneys' fees, and costs.

SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION **FAILURE TO PAY WAGES**

- 28. Named Plaintiff repeats and realleges the allegations set forth in the preceding paragraphs.
 - 29. At all relevant times, Named Plaintiff and members of the putative class have been employees within the meaning of NYLL § 190, et seq., and any supporting New York State Department of Labor regulations.
 - 30. At all relevant times, Defendant has been an employer within the meaning of NYLL § 190, et seq., and any supporting New York State Department of Labor regulations.
 - 31. Unpaid time worked includes, but is not limited to, time spent changing in the

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locker room, time spent assembling for roll call before each shift, time spent waiting for relief workers to appear at the end of each shift, and time spent at the end of the shift going back to

the locker room to change and store the security uniform.

32. Due to Defendant's violations of the NYLL, Plaintiffs and members of the putative

class are entitled to recover an amount to be determined at trial, plus interest, attorneys' fees,

and costs.

WHEREFORE, Named Plaintiff and putative class members demand judgment:

1. on their first cause of action against Defendant, in an amount to be determined at

trial, plus interest, attorneys' fees and costs;

2. on their second cause of action against Defendant, in an amount to be determined

at trial, plus interest, attorneys' fees and costs; and

3. any other and further relief the Court may deem just and proper.

Dated: New York, New York January 17, 2019

VIRGINIA & AMBINDER, LLP

By: <u>s/Lloyd Ambinder, Esq.</u>

Lloyd Ambinder, Esq. James Emmet Murphy, Esq.

Virginia & Ambinder, LLP

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Attorneys for Named Plaintiff and the

putative class

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ClassAction.org

This complaint is part of ClassAction.org's searchable class action lawsuit database and can be found in this post: <u>Lawsuit Claims Security Guards at NYU Langone Hospitals Owed Unpaid Wages</u>