

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE MIDDLE DISTRICT OF TENNESSEE
NASHVILLE DIVISION**

SHAKELA BIGSBY, individually)
on behalf of herself and others)
similarly situated,)
)
Plaintiffs,)
)
v.)
)
FIVE STAR MEDICAL STAFFING,)
LLC,)
)
Defendant.)

Case No. _____

COMPLAINT

Comes now the Plaintiff Shakela Bigsby, individually on behalf of herself and others similarly situated, by and through counsel, and would respectfully submit to the Court the following Complaint:

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

1. This case arises under the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938, 29 U.S.C. § 201 *et seq.*
2. The Court has subject matter jurisdiction pursuant to the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938, 29 U.S.C. § 216(b) and 28 U.S.C. § 1331. The Court has personal jurisdiction over the Plaintiff, a resident of Davidson County, Tennessee and the Defendant, who does business in Williamson County, Tennessee.
3. Venue also lies in the Middle District of Tennessee, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §1391, because the Defendant does business in this district, and a substantial part of the alleged events or omissions giving rise to this action occurred in this district.

PARTIES

4. Plaintiff Shakela Bigsby is an adult resident of the State of Tennessee. Plaintiff was employed by the Defendant Five Star Medical Staffing, LLC (“Five Star”) at the time of the alleged events or omissions giving rise to this action.

5. Defendant Five Star is a domestic corporation with its principal place of business located at 1650 Murfreesboro Road, Suite 131, Franklin, Tennessee 37067. Defendant may be served with process through its registered agent, Cathy Taylor-Smith, 1650 Murfreesboro Road, Suite 131, Franklin, Williamson County, Tennessee 37067-5095.

6. Plaintiff was an employee of Defendant Five Star at the time of the alleged events or omissions giving rise to this action. Plaintiff was a covered employee under the FLSA at all times relevant.

7. At all relevant times, Defendant was an “employer” within the meaning of 29 U.S.C. §203(d) and 29 C.F.R. § 791.2(a)(2012).

8. In addition to the named Plaintiff, Defendant employs and has employed other similarly situated employees.

9. Upon information and belief, at all times, the wage and hour and all related employee compensation policies of Defendants are and were centrally and collectively dictated, controlled and ratified.

FACTUAL BASIS FOR SUIT

10. This is a collective action under the FLSA, 29 U.S.C. § 201 *et. seq.* brought on behalf of all persons who, at any time during the past three years and up until the date of entry of judgment are or were employed by the Defendant and who worked overtime without proper compensation.

11. The collective action claims are for unpaid overtime compensation, liquidated damages, interest and attorney's fees and costs pursuant to the FLSA, 29 U.S.C. §§ 207, 216(b).

12. Plaintiff brings this action on behalf of herself and other similarly situated employees as authorized under 29 U.S.C. §216(b). Plaintiff's consent to be a party to this collection action pursuant to 29 U.S.C. § 216(b) is attached to the Complaint.

13. Plaintiff had worked for the Defendant for approximately 10 months. Accordingly, Plaintiff worked for the Defendant within both the two (2) and three (3) year statutes of limitations under the FLSA.

14. At all times relevant hereto, Plaintiff was compensated on an hourly basis.

15. Plaintiff performed work in excess of forty (40) hours per week on a regular and repeated basis.

16. Under the FLSA, "overtime must be compensated at a rate of not less than one and one-half times the regular rate at which the employee is actually employed: during the first forty (40) hours of work. 29 C.F.R. § 778.107.

17. When Plaintiff worked more than forty (40) hours during a week, Defendant did not compensate her at a rate of "one and one-half times the regular rate at which the employee is actually employed" for the first forty (40) hours of work. *See* 29 C.F.R. § 778.107.

18. Specifically, when Plaintiff worked over forty (40) hours per week, Defendant provided Plaintiff a payroll check at her regular rate of pay.

19. Likewise, other similarly situated employees regularly and repeatedly worked more than forty (40) hours per week without proper overtime compensation.

20. Defendant are unable to bear their burden of showing that Plaintiff or those similarly situated fell within any of the FLSA overtime exemptions, including but not limited to those announced in 29 C.F.R. §§ 541.300, 541.301, 541.302, 541.303 or 541.304.

21. Defendant's failure to pay Plaintiff and those similarly situated overtime wages is a willful violation of the FLSA.

22. Defendant is unable to bear their "substantial burden" of showing their failure to comply with the FLSA was in good faith and predicated on reasonable grounds. *Laffey v. Northwest Airlines*, 567 F.2d 429, 464 (D.C. Cir. 1976); 29 U.S.C. § 216(b); 29 U.S.C. §260.

23. Some evidence generally reflecting the number of uncompensated hours worked by Plaintiff and/or potential Plaintiffs and the compensation rate for the relevant work periods is in the possession of Defendant. While Plaintiff is unable to state at this time the exact amount owed, Plaintiff proposes to obtain such information by appropriate and focused discovery proceedings to be taken promptly in this action, and request that damages or restitution be awarded according to proof thus obtained and presented to the Court.

24. This action is maintainable as an "opt-in" collective action pursuant to 29 U.S.C. § 216(b) as to claims for straight time, overtime compensation, liquidated damages, interest, attorneys' fees and costs under the FLSA. In addition to Plaintiff, numerous current and former employees of Defendant are similarly situated to Plaintiff with regard to their wages and damages, in that they have been denied proper overtime compensation. Plaintiff is representative of those other current and former employees and is acting on behalf of their interests as well as Plaintiff's own interests in bringing this action. Those similarly situated employees are known to Defendant and are readily identifiable, and may be located through Defendant's records. These similarly situated employees may readily be notified of this action and allowed to "opt-in"

pursuant to 29 U.S.C. § 216(b), for purposes of collectively adjudicating their claims for unpaid straight time, overtime compensation, liquidated damages, interest, attorney's fees and costs under the FLSA.

CAUSES OF ACTION

25. The forgoing facts are incorporated by reference as if fully stated herein.

26. Plaintiff brings the following claim against Defendant: Failure to pay overtime wages in violation of the Fair Labor Standards Act, 29 U.S.C. § 201 *et seq.*

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, PLAINTIFF prays for the following relief:

A. An Order designating this action as an opt in collective action for claims under the FLSA and directing the issuance of notice pursuant to 29 U.S.C. § 216(b) for the claims of this class;

B. An Order appointing Plaintiff and Plaintiff's counsel to represent those individuals opting into the collective action;

C. A declaratory judgment that Defendant has willfully violated the FLSA;

D. An award to Plaintiff and others similarly situated who opt into this action of damages in the amount of all applicable statutory and common law damages;

E. An award for Plaintiff and others similarly situated who opt into this action of interest and liquidated damages in an amount equal to the compensation shown to be owed to them pursuant to 29 U.S.C. § 216(b);

F. An award for Plaintiff and others similarly situated who opt into this action of reasonable attorney's fees and costs, pursuant to 29 U.S.C. § 2116(b); and

G. An award of such other and further legal and equitable relief as may be appropriate.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/Nina H. Parsley

Nina Parsley, BPR #023818

nina@poncelaw.com

Michael D. Ponce & Associates

Attorneys for Plaintiff

1000 Jackson Road, Suite 225

Goodlettsville, TN 37072

Telephone: (615) 851-1776

CIVIL COVER SHEET

The JS 44 civil cover sheet and the information contained herein neither replace nor supplement the filing and service of pleadings or other papers as required by law, except as provided by local rules of court. This form, approved by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required for the use of the Clerk of Court for the purpose of initiating the civil docket sheet. (SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON NEXT PAGE OF THIS FORM.)

I (a) PLAINTIFFS

Shakela Bigsby

(b) County of Residence of First Listed Plaintiff Davidson
(EXCEPT IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES)

(c) Attorneys (Firm Name, Address, and Telephone Number)
Nina H. Parsley, Esq.
Michael D. Ponce and Associates
1000 Jackson Rd, Suite 225 Goodlettsville, TN

DEFENDANTS

Five Star Medical Staffing, LLC

County of Residence of First Listed Defendant Williamson
(IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES ONLY)

NOTE: IN LAND CONDEMNATION CASES, USE THE LOCATION OF THE TRACT OF LAND INVOLVED

Attorneys (If Known)

II. BASIS OF JURISDICTION (Place an "X" in One Box Only)

- 1 U S Government Plaintiff
- 3 Federal Question (U.S. Government Not a Party)
- 2 U S Government Defendant
- 4 Diversity (Indicate Citizenship of Parties in Item III)

III. CITIZENSHIP OF PRINCIPAL PARTIES (Place an "X" in One Box for Plaintiff and One Box for Defendant)

	PTF	DEF		PTF	DEF
Citizen of This State	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	Incorporated or Principal Place of Business In This State	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 4
Citizen of Another State	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	Incorporated and Principal Place of Business In Another State	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
Citizen or Subject of a Foreign Country	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	Foreign Nation	<input type="checkbox"/> 6	<input type="checkbox"/> 6

IV. NATURE OF SUIT (Place an "X" in One Box Only)

Click here for: [Nature of Suit Code Descriptions.](#)

CONTRACT	TORTS	FORFEITURE/PENALTY	BANKRUPTCY	OTHER STATUTES
<input type="checkbox"/> 110 Insurance <input type="checkbox"/> 120 Marine <input type="checkbox"/> 130 Miller Act <input type="checkbox"/> 140 Negotiable Instrument <input type="checkbox"/> 150 Recovery of Overpayment & Enforcement of Judgment <input type="checkbox"/> 151 Medicare Act <input type="checkbox"/> 152 Recovery of Defaulted Student Loans (Excludes Veterans) <input type="checkbox"/> 153 Recovery of Overpayment of Veteran's Benefits <input type="checkbox"/> 160 Stockholders' Suits <input type="checkbox"/> 190 Other Contract <input type="checkbox"/> 195 Contract Product Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 196 Franchise	PERSONAL INJURY <input type="checkbox"/> 310 Airplane <input type="checkbox"/> 315 Airplane Product Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 320 Assault, Libel & Slander <input type="checkbox"/> 330 Federal Employers' Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 340 Marine <input type="checkbox"/> 345 Marine Product Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 350 Motor Vehicle <input type="checkbox"/> 355 Motor Vehicle Product Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 360 Other Personal Injury <input type="checkbox"/> 362 Personal Injury - Medical Malpractice	<input type="checkbox"/> 625 Drug Related Seizure of Property 21 USC 881 <input type="checkbox"/> 690 Other	<input type="checkbox"/> 422 Appeal 28 USC 158 <input type="checkbox"/> 423 Withdrawal 28 USC 157 PROPERTY RIGHTS <input type="checkbox"/> 820 Copyrights <input type="checkbox"/> 830 Patent <input type="checkbox"/> 835 Patent - Abbreviated New Drug Application <input type="checkbox"/> 840 Trademark SOCIAL SECURITY <input type="checkbox"/> 861 HIA (1395ff) <input type="checkbox"/> 862 Black Lung (923) <input type="checkbox"/> 863 DIWC/DIWW (405(g)) <input type="checkbox"/> 864 SSID Title XVI <input type="checkbox"/> 865 RSI (405(g))	<input type="checkbox"/> 375 False Claims Act <input type="checkbox"/> 376 Qui Tam (31 USC 3729(a)) <input type="checkbox"/> 400 State Reapportionment <input type="checkbox"/> 410 Antitrust <input type="checkbox"/> 430 Banks and Banking <input type="checkbox"/> 450 Commerce <input type="checkbox"/> 460 Deportation <input type="checkbox"/> 470 Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations <input type="checkbox"/> 480 Consumer Credit <input type="checkbox"/> 490 Cable/Sat TV <input type="checkbox"/> 850 Securities/Commodities/Exchange <input type="checkbox"/> 890 Other Statutory Actions <input type="checkbox"/> 891 Agricultural Acts <input type="checkbox"/> 893 Environmental Matters <input type="checkbox"/> 895 Freedom of Information Act <input type="checkbox"/> 896 Arbitration <input type="checkbox"/> 899 Administrative Procedure Act/Review or Appeal of Agency Decision <input type="checkbox"/> 950 Constitutional of State Statutes
REAL PROPERTY	CIVIL RIGHTS	PRISONER PETITIONS	FEDERAL TAX SUITS	
<input type="checkbox"/> 210 Land Condemnation <input type="checkbox"/> 220 Foreclosure <input type="checkbox"/> 230 Rent Lease & Ejectment <input type="checkbox"/> 240 Torts to Land <input type="checkbox"/> 245 Tort Product Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 290 All Other Real Property	<input type="checkbox"/> 440 Other Civil Rights <input type="checkbox"/> 441 Voting <input type="checkbox"/> 442 Employment <input type="checkbox"/> 443 Housing/Accommodations <input type="checkbox"/> 445 Amer w/Disabilities - Employment <input type="checkbox"/> 446 Amer w/Disabilities - Other <input type="checkbox"/> 448 Education	Habeas Corpus: <input type="checkbox"/> 463 Alien Detainee <input type="checkbox"/> 510 Motions to Vacate Sentence <input type="checkbox"/> 530 General <input type="checkbox"/> 535 Death Penalty Other: <input type="checkbox"/> 540 Mandamus & Other <input type="checkbox"/> 550 Civil Rights <input type="checkbox"/> 555 Prison Condition <input type="checkbox"/> 560 Civil Detainee - Conditions of Confinement	<input type="checkbox"/> 870 Taxes (U S Plaintiff or Defendant) <input type="checkbox"/> 871 IRS—Third Party 26 USC 7609	
		<input type="checkbox"/> 710 Fair Labor Standards Act <input type="checkbox"/> 720 Labor/Management Relations <input type="checkbox"/> 740 Railway Labor Act <input type="checkbox"/> 751 Family and Medical Leave Act <input type="checkbox"/> 790 Other Labor Litigation <input type="checkbox"/> 791 Employee Retirement Income Security Act		
		IMMIGRATION <input type="checkbox"/> 462 Naturalization Application <input type="checkbox"/> 465 Other Immigration Actions		

V. ORIGIN (Place an "X" in One Box Only)

- 1 Original Proceeding
- 2 Removed from State Court
- 3 Remanded from Appellate Court
- 4 Reinstated or Reopened
- 5 Transferred from Another District (specify)
- 6 Multidistrict Litigation - Transfer
- 8 Multidistrict Litigation - Direct File

VI. CAUSE OF ACTION

Cite the U.S. Civil Statute under which you are filing (Do not cite jurisdictional statutes unless diversity):

29 USC § 216(b) & 28 USC § 1331

Brief description of cause:

VII. REQUESTED IN COMPLAINT:

CHECK IF THIS IS A CLASS ACTION UNDER RULE 23, F.R.Cv.P. DEMAND \$

CHECK YES only if demanded in complaint:
JURY DEMAND: Yes No

VIII. RELATED CASE(S) IF ANY

(See instructions):

JUDGE _____ DOCKET NUMBER _____

DATE _____ SIGNATURE OF ATTORNEY OF RECORD

/s/Nina H. Parsley

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

RECEIPT # _____ AMOUNT _____ APPLYING OFF _____ JUDGE _____ MAG. JUDGE _____

Print

Save As...

Reset

INSTRUCTIONS FOR ATTORNEYS COMPLETING CIVIL COVER SHEET FORM JS 44

Authority For Civil Cover Sheet

The JS 44 civil cover sheet and the information contained herein neither replaces nor supplements the filings and service of pleading or other papers as required by law, except as provided by local rules of court. This form, approved by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required for the use of the Clerk of Court for the purpose of initiating the civil docket sheet. Consequently, a civil cover sheet is submitted to the Clerk of Court for each civil complaint filed. The attorney filing a case should complete the form as follows:

- I.(a) Plaintiffs-Defendants.** Enter names (last, first, middle initial) of plaintiff and defendant. If the plaintiff or defendant is a government agency, use only the full name or standard abbreviations. If the plaintiff or defendant is an official within a government agency, identify first the agency and then the official, giving both name and title.
- (b) County of Residence.** For each civil case filed, except U.S. plaintiff cases, enter the name of the county where the first listed plaintiff resides at the time of filing. In U.S. plaintiff cases, enter the name of the county in which the first listed defendant resides at the time of filing. (NOTE: In land condemnation cases, the county of residence of the "defendant" is the location of the tract of land involved.)
- (c) Attorneys.** Enter the firm name, address, telephone number, and attorney of record. If there are several attorneys, list them on an attachment, noting in this section "(see attachment)".
- II. Jurisdiction.** The basis of jurisdiction is set forth under Rule 8(a), F.R.Cv.P., which requires that jurisdictions be shown in pleadings. Place an "X" in one of the boxes. If there is more than one basis of jurisdiction, precedence is given in the order shown below.
 United States plaintiff. (1) Jurisdiction based on 28 U.S.C. 1345 and 1348. Suits by agencies and officers of the United States are included here.
 United States defendant. (2) When the plaintiff is suing the United States, its officers or agencies, place an "X" in this box.
 Federal question. (3) This refers to suits under 28 U.S.C. 1331, where jurisdiction arises under the Constitution of the United States, an amendment to the Constitution, an act of Congress or a treaty of the United States. In cases where the U.S. is a party, the U.S. plaintiff or defendant code takes precedence, and box 1 or 2 should be marked.
 Diversity of citizenship. (4) This refers to suits under 28 U.S.C. 1332, where parties are citizens of different states. When Box 4 is checked, the citizenship of the different parties must be checked. (See Section III below; **NOTE: federal question actions take precedence over diversity cases.**)
- III. Residence (citizenship) of Principal Parties.** This section of the JS 44 is to be completed if diversity of citizenship was indicated above. Mark this section for each principal party.
- IV. Nature of Suit.** Place an "X" in the appropriate box. If there are multiple nature of suit codes associated with the case, pick the nature of suit code that is most applicable. Click here for: [Nature of Suit Code Descriptions](#).
- V. Origin.** Place an "X" in one of the seven boxes.
 Original Proceedings. (1) Cases which originate in the United States district courts.
 Removed from State Court. (2) Proceedings initiated in state courts may be removed to the district courts under Title 28 U.S.C., Section 1441. When the petition for removal is granted, check this box.
 Remanded from Appellate Court. (3) Check this box for cases remanded to the district court for further action. Use the date of remand as the filing date.
 Reinstated or Reopened. (4) Check this box for cases reinstated or reopened in the district court. Use the reopening date as the filing date.
 Transferred from Another District. (5) For cases transferred under Title 28 U.S.C. Section 1404(a). Do not use this for within district transfers or multidistrict litigation transfers.
 Multidistrict Litigation – Transfer. (6) Check this box when a multidistrict case is transferred into the district under authority of Title 28 U.S.C. Section 1407.
 Multidistrict Litigation – Direct File. (8) Check this box when a multidistrict case is filed in the same district as the Master MDL docket.
PLEASE NOTE THAT THERE IS NOT AN ORIGIN CODE 7. Origin Code 7 was used for historical records and is no longer relevant due to changes in statute.
- VI. Cause of Action.** Report the civil statute directly related to the cause of action and give a brief description of the cause. **Do not cite jurisdictional statutes unless diversity.** Example: U.S. Civil Statute: 47 USC 553 Brief Description: Unauthorized reception of cable service
- VII. Requested in Complaint.** Class Action. Place an "X" in this box if you are filing a class action under Rule 23, F.R.Cv.P.
 Demand. In this space enter the actual dollar amount being demanded or indicate other demand, such as a preliminary injunction.
 Jury Demand. Check the appropriate box to indicate whether or not a jury is being demanded.
- VIII. Related Cases.** This section of the JS 44 is used to reference related pending cases, if any. If there are related pending cases, insert the docket numbers and the corresponding judge names for such cases.

Date and Attorney Signature. Date and sign the civil cover sheet.

ClassAction.org

This complaint is part of ClassAction.org's searchable class action lawsuit database and can be found in this post: [Woman Sues Five Star Medical Staffing in Tennessee Over Alleged Wage Violations](#)
