# UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF FLORIDA

WARREN DAVIS, on behalf of himself and others similarly situated,

Plaintiff,

-against-

AL-FLEX EXTERMINATORS, INC., and, ALEXANDER E. NAPOLES,

Defendants.

No. 16-cv-24994

**COMPLAINT** 

Plaintiff Demands a Trial by Jury

Plaintiff WARREN DAVIS ("Mr. Davis" or "Plaintiff"), on behalf of himself and others similarly situated (the "Collective"), by and through his attorneys, Levine & Blit, PLLC, complaining of defendants AL-FLEX EXTERMINATORS, INC. ("Al-Flex", or the "company", or "defendant"), and ALEXANDER E. NAPOLES ("Napoles" or "defendant") (collectively, "defendants"), hereby alleges:

## NATURE OF THE ACTION

This is an action arising under the Fair Labor Standards Act, as amended ("FLSA"),
 29 U.S.C. §§ 201-216.

2. Plaintiff, on behalf of himself and others, seeks declaratory and injunctive relief; an award of monetary damages for the economic losses caused by Defendants' unlawful conduct, specifically non-payment of overtime wages; an award of liquidated damages under the FLSA; prejudgment interest; reasonable attorneys' fees; costs of this action; and any such other and further relief that this Court deems just and equitable.

Case 1:16-cv-24994-JLK Document 1 Entered on FLSD Docket 12/01/2016 Page 2 of 7

### JURISDICTION AND VENUE

3. Jurisdiction is proper in this Court pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1331, and 29 U.S.C. § 216(b).

4. Venue is proper in this Court pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1391(b)(2), as all actions comprising the claims for relief occurred within this judicial district, and pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1391(b)(1), as the Defendants reside within this judicial district.

## THE PARTIES

5. Plaintiff Davis is a resident of the State of Florida, Miami-Dade County.

6. Defendant, Al-Flex, is a Florida for-profit corporation, located in Miami-Dade County, with its principal address at 4035 SW 98 Street, Miami, Florida, which at all times relevant to this Complaint operated as a business engaged in interstate commerce that employed plaintiff and the Collective.

7. Defendants Napoles is a corporate officer of, and exercised operational control over, defendant Al-Flex.

8. At all times relevant to this action, Defendants were an "enterprise" and an "enterprise engaged in interstate commerce" as defined by the FLSA, 29 U.S.C. §§ 203(r) and (s), and thus an entity covered by the FLSA.

9. Defendants have (a) employees engaged in commerce or in the production of goods for commerce, or have employees handling, selling, or otherwise working on goods or materials that have been moved in or produced for commerce by any person; and (b) an annual gross volume of sales in excess of five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000.00).

10. At all times relevant to this action, defendant Napoles served as president of Al-Flex and, as such, controlled the terms and conditions of plaintiff's and the Collective's employment, including setting rates of pay, hours worked, and job duties.

11. At all times relevant to this action, Plaintiff was an "employee" of Defendants within the meaning of applicable federal statutes and regulations.

12. At all times relevant to this action, Defendants were an "employer" within the meaning of applicable federal statutes and regulations.

# **COLLECTIVE ACTION ALLEGATIONS**

13. At all times within the applicable statutory period, Defendants have employed dozens of employees in Florida, including plaintiff, in non-exempt positions, who were denied overtime wages, and were subjected to the same terms and conditions of employment as Plaintiff.

14. Defendants engaged in the employment practice of denying overtime wages to nonexempt employees, including plaintiff, pursuant to the acts and practices alleged herein.

15. The unlawful employment practices at issue with the respect to the similarly situated non-exempt employees and the named plaintiff in this action are identical, as defendants, in all cases, have willfully denied such employees overtime wages.

16. Past and current non-exempt employees employed by defendants who are similarly situated to the named plaintiff in this action should have an opportunity to have their claims heard for alleged violations of the FLSA.

17. Certifying this collective action will afford such similarly situated employees the opportunity to receive notice of the action and allow them to opt-in to such action if they so desire.

## FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS

18. Plaintiff was employed by defendants from approximately July 5, 2016, to October31, 2016.

19. In or around July 5, 2016, defendants hired plaintiff at the rate of pay of \$650/week.

20. Plaintiff's agreed upon work schedule with defendants at the time of hire was Monday through Friday, from 8 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

21. At all times relevant to this Complaint, plaintiff's non exempt job duties with defendants were to travel to defendants' customers' businesses and homes, and provide pest control services to such businesses and homes on behalf of defendants.

22. Despite plaintiff's initially agreed upon work schedule with defendants, plaintiff began working significantly more hours for defendants from approximately his second week of employment with defendants, until his termination.

23. Specifically, plaintiff began working sixty (60) to seventy (70) hours per week for defendants, over the course of six (6) days per week each workweek, at Napoles instruction.

24. For example, a typical workweek of plaintiff's during the course of his employment had plaintiff working approximately 7 a.m. To 7 p.m. Mondays through Fridays, then from approximately 9 a.m.to 2:30 p.m. on Saturdays.

25. Despite the fact that plaintiff worked on average sixty (60) to seventy (70) hours per week, defendants never paid plaintiff overtime wages, and never paid plaintiff more than his initially agreed upon salary of \$650/week, which was solely agreed to cover hours worked of 8 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., Mondays through Fridays.

26. Defendants' refusal to pay plaintiff overtime wages for hours above forty (40) each workweek was intentional.

27. On numerous occasions during his employment, plaintiff asked Napoles to pay him overtime wages due to the facts that he was working more than his agreed upon schedule, and over forty (40) hours each workweek. On each occasion, Napoles refused.

28. On several occasions in response to plaintiff's complaints regarding defendants' refusal to pay him overtime wages, Napoles told plaintiff that he would switch plaintiff to an hourly rate from a salary, so that he would be compensated properly for all hours worked. Despite Napoles representations, however, Napoles never switched plaintiff to an hourly rate, nor ever paid plaintiff any amount above his initially agreed upon salary.

29. As well, defendants intentionally sought to cover up the fact that plaintiff worked significantly above forty (40) hours each workweek, by representing on plaintiff's pay statements that he only worked forty (40) hours each week and not including on plaintiff's pay statements all hours that plaintiff worked above forty (40) each workweek.

30. Defendants were aware or should have been aware that their pay practices, as alleged herein, were in violation of the FLSA, but willfully engaged in such unlawful pay practices regardless.

31. Defendants' non-payment of overtime wages was willful and without a good faith belief of compliance with the law; therefore, plaintiff and the Collective are entitled to recover liquidated damages under the FLSA.

## FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION AGAINST DEFENDANTS AS TO THE COLLECTIVE ACTION (Unpaid Overtime Wages in Violation of the FLSA)

32. Plaintiff hereby repeats and realleges each allegation contained in paragraphs numbered 1 through 32, as if fully set forth herein.

33. The FLSA prescribes an overtime wage that employers must pay to their employees for each hour worked above forty (40) in a workweek.

34. Defendants were the employer of Plaintiff and all other similarly situated employees within the meaning of the FLSA.

35. Plaintiff and all other similarly situated employees are and were non-exempt employees under the FLSA; however, Defendants willfully denied overtime wages to Plaintiff and all other similarly situated employees pursuant to the pay practices alleged herein.

36. Defendants were aware that Mr. Davis and similarly situated employees were performing uncompensated work for Defendant above forty (40) hours in a workweek.

37. Defendants were aware or should have been aware that the practices described in this Complaint were unlawful, and defendants do not have a good faith belief that they complied with the FLSA with respect to the compensation of Plaintiff and all other employees similarly situated.

38. As a proximate result of defendants' unlawful conduct, Plaintiff and all other employees similarly situated have suffered economic damages in the form of unpaid overtime wages in an amount to be determined at trial, and are entitled to recover the value of those unpaid overtime wages plus an equivalent amount of liquidated damages pursuant to the FLSA, as well as interest, attorneys' fees and costs.

#### **PRAYER FOR RELIEF**

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff respectfully requests that this Court certify the collective and class; and enter a judgment containing the following relief:

a) An order declaring Defendants have violated the provisions of the FLSA, relating to unpaid overtime wages;

- b) An order enjoining Defendants from engaging in the unlawful activities alleged above;
- c) An order awarding monetary damages to Plaintiff and the Collective under the FLSA, for economic losses in the form of unpaid overtime wages;
- d) An order awarding liquidated damages to Plaintiff and the Collective under the FLSA, in an amount equal to the total amount of unpaid overtime wages;
- e) An award of prejudgment interest on the unpaid overtime wages owed to Plaintiff and the Collective;
- f) An award of Plaintiff's and the Collective's reasonable attorneys' fees;
- g) An award of the Plaintiff's and the Collective's costs of this action; and
- h) Any such other and further relief this Court deems just and equitable.

# DEMAND FOR TRIAL BY JURY

Pursuant to Rule 38(b) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, Plaintiff demands a trial

by jury in this action.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: December <u>/</u>, 2016 New York, New York

LEVINE & BLIT, PLLC

Russell S. Moriarty, Esq. Attorneys for Plaintiff 201 S. Biscayne Blvd. Suite 2800 Miami, FL 33131 RMoriarty@LevineBlit.com

## Case 1:16-cv-24994-JLK Document 1-1 Entered on FLSD Docket 12/01/2016 Page 1 of 1 JS 44 (Rev. 07/16) FLSD Revised 07/01/2016 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) NOTICE Attorneys MUST Indicate All Re-filed Cases Below.

I. (a) PLAINTIFFS Warren Davis, on behalf of himself and others similarly situated

DEFENDANTS Al-Flex Exterminators, Inc., and Alexander E. Napoles, individually

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

(c) Attorneys (Firm Name, Address, and Telephone Number) Levine & Blit, PLLC, 201 S. Biscayne Blvd., Suite 2800, Miami, FL

33131, (305)913-1338

(IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES ONLY)
NOTE: IN LAND CONDEMNATION CASES, USE THE LOCATION OF
THE TRACT OF LAND INVOLVED.
Attorneys (If Known)

County of Residence of First Listed Defendant Miami-Dade County

(d) Check County Where Action Arose: 🖉 MIAMI-DADE 🗆 MONROE 🗆 BROWARD 🗅 PALM BEACH 🗆 MARTIN 🗋 ST. LUCIE 📄 INDIAN RIVER 🗖 OKEECHOBBE 🗋 HIGHLANDS

II. BASIS OF JURISDI	CTION (Place an "X" in	One Box Only) III			ES (Place an "X" in One Box for Plaintiff) and One Box for Defendant)
I U.S. Government Plaintiff	₩ 3 Feder (U.S. Goverament N	ral Question lot a Party)		PTF DEF	or Principal Place
2 U.S. Government Defendant	☐4 Dive (Indicate Citizenship	risity p of Parties in Item III)	Citizen of Another State		and Principal Place 5 5 5 is In Another State
			Citizen or Subject of a Foreign Country	🛄 3 📋 3 Foreign Nati	on 🗋 6 🗍 6
IV. NATURE OF SUIT				TANKRUPHCY.	OTHER STATUTTS
III0 Insurance         I20 Marine         I30 Miller Act         I40 Negotiable Instrument         I50 Recovery of Overpayment         & Enforcement of Judgment         I51 Medicare Act         I52 Recovery of Defaulted         Student Loans         (Excl. Veterans)         I53 Recovery of Overpayment         of Veteran's Benefits         160 Stockholders' Suits         190 Other Contract         195 Contract Product Liability         196 Franchise         210 Land Condemnation         220 Foreclosure         230 Rent Lease & Ejectment         240 Torts to Land         245 Tort Product Liability         290 All Other Real Property	PERSONAL INJURY 310 Airplane 315 Airplane Product Liability 320 Assault, Libei & Slander 330 Federal Employers' Liability 340 Marine 345 Marine Product Liability 350 Motor Vehicle 355 Motor Vehicle Product Liability 360 Other Personal Injury 362 Personal Injury 462 Malpractice 441 Voting 442 Employment 443 Housing/ Accommodations 445 Amer. w/Disabilities - Employment 445 Amer. w/Disabilities -	PERSONAL INJURY 365 Personal Injury - Product Liability 367 Health Care/ Pharmaceutical Personal Injury Product Liability 368 Asbestos Personal Injury Product Liability PERSONAL PROPERTY 370 Other Fraud 371 Truth in Lending 380 Other Personal Property Damage 385 Protect Damage 385 Property Damage 385 Property Damage 385 Property Damage 385 Property Damage 385 Protect Damage 385 Protect Damage 385 Protect Damage 385 Protect Damage 385 Property Damage 385 Protect Damage 385	<ul> <li>625 Drug Related Seizure of Property 21 USC 88</li> <li>690 Other</li> <li>710 Fair Labor Standards Act</li> <li>720 Labor/Mgmt. Relations</li> <li>740 Railway Labor Act</li> <li>751 Family and Medical Leave Act</li> <li>790 Other Labor Litigation</li> <li>791 Empl. Ret. Inc. Security Act</li> </ul>	↓ 422 Appeal 28 USC 153         ↓ 423 Withdrawal 28 USC 157         ↓ 423 Withdrawal 830 Patent         ↓ 840 Trademark         ↓ 861 HIA (1395ft) 862 Black Lung (923)         ↓ 864 SSID Title XVI 864 SSID Title XVI         ↓ 865 RSI (405(g))         ↓ 870 Taxes (U.S. Plainti or Defendant)         ↓ 10 ESC 7609	3       375 False Claims Act         376 Qui Tam (31 USC         3729 (a))         400 State Reapportionment         410 Antitrust         430 Banks and Banking         450 Commerce         460 Deportation         470 Racketeer Influenced and         Corrupt Organizations         480 Coasumer Credit         490 Cable/Sat TV         5(g))       850 Securities/Commodities/         Exchange         891 Agricultural Acts         893 Environmental Matters         895 Freedom of Information         Act         ff       896 Arbitration
V. ORIGIN (Place 1 Original 2 Remo Proceeding from ( Court	Other 448 Education an "X" in One Bax Only) ved 3 Re-filed 4 State 4	550 Civil Rights     555 Prison Condition     560 Civil Detainee -     Conditions of     Confinement     Painstated	Actions	ict 7 Appeal to District Judge from Magistrate Judgment	■ 8 Multidistrict ■ 9 Remanded from Litigation – Direct File
VI. RELATED/	(See instructions): a)		□ NO b) Relate		
RE-FILED CASE(S)	JUD			DOCKET NU	
VII. CAUSE OF ACTI	Cite the U.S. Civil St ON Fair Labor Standa LENGTH OF TRIAL	rds Act - unpaid over	filing and Write a Brief State time wages (for both sides to try entire of		iurisdictional statutes unless diversity):
VIII. REQUESTED IN		S IS A CLASS ACTION	DEMAND \$	CHECK YE	S only if demanded in complaint:
COMPLAINT:	UNDER F.R.C.P	. 23		JUR <u>Y DEMA</u>	ND: 🗹 Yes 🗆 No
$\frac{ABOVE INFORMATION IS}{DATE}$	TRUE & CORRECT TO	THE BEST OF MY KNO SIGNATUREOF	OWLEDGE ATTORNEY OF RECORD		
FOR OFFICE USE ONLY RECEIPT #	AMOUNT II	FP JUDGE		MAG JUDGE	

Case 1:16-cv-24994-JLK Document 1-2 Entered on FLSD Docket 12/01/2016 Page 1 of 2

AO 440 (Rev. 06/12) Summons in a Civil Action

# UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

for the

Southern District of Florida

WARREN DAVIS, on behalf of himself and others similarly situated,

Plaintiff(s) V.

Civil Action No. 16 - 24994

AL-FLEX EXTERMINATORS, INC., and, ALEXANDER E. NAPOLES, individually,

Defendant(s)

#### SUMMONS IN A CIVIL ACTION

To: (Defendant's name and address) AI-Flex Exterminators, Inc. Alexander E. Napoles

4035 SW 98 St. Miami, FL 33165

A lawsuit has been filed against you.

Within 21 days after service of this summons on you (not counting the day you received it) — or 60 days if you are the United States or a United States agency, or an officer or employee of the United States described in Fed. R. Civ. P. 12 (a)(2) or (3) — you must serve on the plaintiff an answer to the attached complaint or a motion under Rule 12 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure. The answer or motion must be served on the plaintiff or plaintiff's attorney, whose name and address are:

Levine & Blit, PLLC Russell S. Moriarty, Esq. 201 S. Biscane Blvd. Suite 2800 Miami, FL 33131

If you fail to respond, judgment by default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the complaint. You also must file your answer or motion with the court.

CLERK OF COURT

Date:

Signature of Clerk or Deputy Clerk

Case 1:16-cv-24994-JLK Document 1-2 Entered on FLSD Docket 12/01/2016 Page 2 of 2

AO 440 (Rev. 06/12) Summons in a Civil Action (Page 2)

Civil Action No.

## **PROOF OF SERVICE**

(This section should not be filed with the court unless	s required by Fed. R. Civ. P. 4 (l))
---	--------------------------------------

received by me on (date)	•							
I personally serve	d the summons on the individual at	(place)						
			; or					
□ I left the summon	s at the individual's residence or usu	al place of abode with (name)						
	, a person of suitable age and discretion who resides there,							
on (date)	on (date) , and mailed a copy to the individual's last known address; or							
I served the summ	nons on (name of individual)		, who i					
designated by law to	designated by law to accept service of process on behalf of (name of organization)							
		on (date)	; or					
I returned the sum	nmons unexecuted because		; 0					
Other (specify):								
My fees are \$	for travel and \$	for services, for a total of \$	0.00					
I declare under pena	I declare under penalty of perjury that this information is true.							
te:		Server's signature						
		Printed name and title						

Server's address

Additional information regarding attempted service, etc:

# **ClassAction.org**

This complaint is part of ClassAction.org's searchable class action lawsuit database and can be found in this post: <u>Al-Flex Exterminators Bit with Wage and Hour Class Action</u>