SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF FI MIAMI DIVISION		
Case No		
ANIBAL MARTINEZ, and other similarly)	
situated individuals,)	
Plaintiff(s),)	
V.)	
THE COLONY HOTEL INC.; COLUMBUS RESTAURANT LLC; and MMPB GROUP, LLC.,)))	
Defendants.)	

COMPLAINT (OPT-IN PURSUANT TO 29 U.S.C § 216(B))

Plaintiff, ANIBAL MARTINEZ ("Plaintiff") and other similarly situated individuals, sue the Defendants, THE COLONY HOTEL INC.; COLUMBUS RESTAURANT LLC; and MMPB GROUP, LLC. (the "Defendants"), and allege:

JURISDICTION

1. This is an action to recover money damages for unpaid overtime wages under the laws of the United States. This Court has jurisdiction pursuant to the Fair Labor Standards Act, 29 U.S.C. § 201-219 (Section 216 for jurisdictional placement) ("the Act").

VENUE

2. Plaintiff is a resident of Miami-Dade County, Florida, within the jurisdiction of this Honorable Court. Plaintiff is a covered employee for purposes of the Act.

- 3. Defendants conduct business in Florida and own/operate a restaurant in Miami-Dade County, Florida, where Plaintiff worked for Defendants, and at all times material hereto were and are engaged in interstate commerce.
- 4. Defendants are entities engaged in related activities, which perform through a unified operation, with a common ownership, with a common business purpose, and under common control and administration.
 - 5. Defendants share offices, location, and employees.
- 6. Defendants share common ownership, common management, centralized control of labor relations, and common offices and interrelated operations. Defendants are an integrated enterprise. Alternatively, each company is a covered enterprise under the Act.
- 7. Defendants share employees or interchange employees; work in the direct interest of one another; and their employees are in the common control of both companies. Defendants are joint employers. Alternatively, each company is a covered enterprise under the Act.

COUNT I: WAGE AND HOUR VIOLATION BY DEFENDANTS

- 8. Plaintiff re-adopts each and every factual allegation as stated in paragraphs 1-7 above as if set out in full herein.
- 9. This action is brought by Plaintiff and those similarly situated to recover from the Defendants unpaid overtime compensation, as well as an additional amount as liquidated damages, costs, and reasonable attorneys' fees under the provisions of 29 U.S.C. § 201 et seq., and specifically under the provisions of 29 U.S.C. § 207. Section 207(a)(1) of the Act states, "No employer shall employ any of his employees . . . for a work week longer than 40 hours unless such employee receives compensation for his employment in excess of the hours above-specified at a rate not less than one and a half times the regular rate at which he is employed."

- 10. Jurisdiction is conferred on this Court by Title 28 U.S.C. § 1337 and by Title 29 U.S.C. § 216(b). The Defendants are and, at all times pertinent to this Complaint, were engaged in interstate commerce. At all times pertinent to this Complaint, the Defendants operate as an organization which sells and/or markets its services and/or goods to customers from throughout the United States and also provides its services for goods sold and transported from across state lines of other states, and the Defendants obtain and solicit funds from non-Florida sources, accept funds from non-Florida sources, use telephonic transmissions going over state lines to do their business, transmit funds outside the State of Florida, and otherwise regularly engage in interstate commerce, particularly with respect to their employees. Upon information and belief, the annual gross revenue of the Defendants as a group was at all times material hereto in excess of \$500,000 per annum, and/or Plaintiff and those similarly situated, by virtue of working in interstate commerce, otherwise satisfy the Act's requirements.
- 11. Alternatively, each Defendant's annual gross revenue was in excess of \$500,000 during the relevant time.
- 12. By reason of the foregoing, the Defendants are and were, during all times hereafter mentioned, an enterprise or enterprises engaged in commerce or in the production of goods for commerce as defined in §§ 3 (r) and 3(s) of the Act, 29 U.S.C. § 203(r) and 203(s) and/or Plaintiff and those similarly situated was and/or is engaged in interstate commerce for the Defendants. The Defendants' business activities involve those to which the Act applies. The Defendants, through their business activity, affect interstate commerce. The Plaintiff's work for the Defendants likewise affects interstate commerce. Plaintiff was employed by the Defendants as a cook for restaurant called "Columbus".

- 13. While employed by the Defendants, Plaintiff worked approximately an average of 55 hours per week without being compensated at the rate of not less than one and one half times the regular rate at which he was employed. Plaintiff was employed as a cook performing the same or similar duties as that of those other similarly situated cooks whom Plaintiff observed working in excess of 40 hours per week without overtime compensation.
- 14. Plaintiff worked for the Defendants from approximately 10/2013 to 10/2014. In total, Plaintiff worked approximately 23.857 compensable weeks under the Act, or 23.857 compensable weeks if we count 3 years back from the filing of the instant action.
 - 15. The Defendants paid Plaintiff on average approximately \$10 per per hour.
- 16. The Defendants paid Plaintiff for *some* overtime hours, but not for all overtime hours worked by Plaintiff.
- 17. Plaintiff seeks to recover unpaid overtime wages accumulated from the date of hire and/or from 3 (three) years back from the date of the filing of this Complaint.
- 18. Prior to the completion of discovery and to the best of Plaintiff's knowledge, at the time of the filing of this complaint, Plaintiff's good faith estimate of his unpaid overtime wages is as follows:

a. Actual Damages: \$5,367.86

- i. <u>Calculation</u>: \$10 (hourly pay) x 1.5 (overtime rate) x 15 (approximate number of overtime hours) x 23.857 (compensable weeks) = \$5,367.86
- b. Liquidated Damages: \$5,367.86
- c. Total Damages: \$10,735.71 plus reasonable attorneys' fees and costs of suit.
- 19. At all times material hereto, the Defendants failed to comply with Title 29 U.S.C. §§ 201-219 and 29 C.F.R. § 516.2 and § 516.4 et seq. in that Plaintiff and those similarly situated

performed services and worked in excess of the maximum hours provided by the Act but no provision was made by the Defendants to properly pay them at the rate of time and one half for all hours worked in excess of forty hours (40) per workweek as provided in the Act. The additional persons who may become Plaintiffs in this action are weekly-paid employees and/or former employees of the Defendants who are and who were subject to the unlawful payroll practices and procedures of the Defendants and were not paid time and one half of their regular rate of pay for all overtime hours worked in excess of forty.

- 20. The Defendants knew and/or showed reckless disregard of the provisions of the Act concerning the payment of overtime wages and remains owing Plaintiff and those similarly situated these overtime wages since the commencement of Plaintiff's and those similarly situated employees' employment with the Defendants as set forth above, and Plaintiff and those similarly situated are entitled to recover double damages. The Defendants never posted any notice, as required by Federal Law, to inform employees of their federal rights to overtime and minimum wage payments.
- 21. The Defendants willfully and intentionally refused to pay Plaintiff overtime wages as required by the laws of the United States as set forth above and remains owing Plaintiff these overtime wages since the commencement of Plaintiff's employment with the Defendants as set forth above.
- 22. Plaintiff has retained the law offices of the undersigned attorney to represent him in this action and is obligated to pay a reasonable attorneys' fee.

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff and those similarly situated request that this Honorable Court:

A. Enter judgment for Plaintiff and others similarly situated and against the Defendants

on the basis of the Defendants' willful violations of the Fair Labor Standards Act, 29 U.S.C. § 201 et seq. and other Federal Regulations; and

- B. Award Plaintiff actual damages in the amount shown to be due for unpaid wages and overtime compensation for hours worked in excess of forty weekly; and
- C. Award Plaintiff an equal amount in double damages/liquidated damages; and
- D. Award Plaintiff reasonable attorneys' fees and costs of suit; and
- E. Grant such other and further relief as this Court deems equitable and just.

JURY DEMAND

Plaintiff and those similarly situated demand trial by jury of all issues so triable as of right.

Dated: May 17, 2017.

Respectfully submitted,

By: /s/ R. Martin Saenz
R. Martin Saenz, Esquire
Fla. Bar No.: 0640166
Email: msaenz@saenzanderson.com
SAENZ & ANDERSON, PLLC
20900 NE 30th Avenue, Ste. 800
Aventura, Florida 33180
Telephone: (305) 503-5131

Facsimile: (888) 270-5549

JS 44 (Rev. Case 1:17-cv-21814-CMA Document 1-1 Entered on FLSD Docket 05/17/2017 Page 1 of 2

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)

purpose of initiating the civil de	ocket sneet. (SEE INSTRUC	TIONS ON NEXT PAGE O	FIHISFO	PRM.)			
I. (a) PLAINTIFFS				DEFENDANTS			
ANIBAL MARTINEZ, and other similarly situated individuals, (b) County of Residence of First Listed Plaintiff Miami-Dade (EXCEPT IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES)				MMPB GROUP, LL County of Residence	C., of First Listo (IN U.S. PI ONDEMNATIO	ed Defendant	*
(c) Attorneys (Firm Name, A	Address. and Telephone Numbe	r)		Attorneys (If Known)		,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,	
R. Martin Saenz, Esq.; S Ste. 800, Aventura, FL 33	aenz & Anderson, PLL	•	Ave.,	, ,			
II. BASIS OF JURISDI		ne Box Only)			RINCIPA	L PARTIES	(Place an "X" in One Box for Plaintij
□ 1 U.S. Government	■ 3 Federal Question			(For Diversity Cases Only)			and One Box for Defendant) PTF DEF
Plaintiff	(U.S. Government)	Not a Party)	Citiz	en of This State	1 🗗 1	Incorporated or Pri of Business In T	
2 U.S. Government Defendant	☐ 4 Diversity (Indicate Citizensh	ip of Parties in Item III)	Citiz	en of Another State	2 🗖 2	Incorporated and P of Business In A	
				en or Subject of a reign Country	3 🗖 3	Foreign Nation	□ 6 □ 6
IV. NATURE OF SUIT		aly) PRTS	FC	ORFEITURE/PENALTY	BAN	KRUPTCY	OTHER STATUTES
□ 110 Insurance □ 120 Marine □ 130 Miller Act □ 140 Negotiable Instrument □ 150 Recovery of Overpayment & Enforcement of Judgment □ 151 Medicare Act □ 152 Recovery of Defaulted Student Loans (Excludes Veterans) □ 153 Recovery of Overpayment of Veteran's Benefits □ 160 Stockholders' Suits □ 190 Other Contract □ 195 Contract Product Liability □ 196 Franchise REAL PROPERTY □ 210 Land Condemnation □ 220 Foreclosure □ 230 Rent Lease & Ejectment □ 245 Tort Product Liability □ 290 All Other Real Property	PERSONAL INJURY 310 Airplane 315 Airplane Product Liability 320 Assault, Libel & Slander 330 Federal Employers' Liability 340 Marine 345 Marine Product Liability 350 Motor Vehicle Product Liability 360 Other Personal Injury 362 Personal Injury - Medical Malpractice CIVIL RIGHTS 440 Other Civil Rights 441 Voting 442 Employment 443 Housing/ Accommodations 445 Amer. w/Disabilities - Employment 446 Amer. w/Disabilities - Other 448 Education	PERSONAL INJUR' 365 Personal Injury - Product Liability 367 Health Care/ Pharmaceutical Personal Injury Product Liability 368 Asbestos Personal Injury Product Liability PERSONAL PROPER 370 Other Fraud 371 Truth in Lending 380 Other Fraud Property Damage Product Liability PRISONER PETITION Habeas Corpus: 463 Alien Detainee 510 Motions to Vacate Sentence 530 General 535 Death Penalty Other: 540 Mandamus & Other Son Condition 560 Civil Detainee - Conditions of Confinement	X	CARPETTURE/PENALTY 25 Drug Related Seizure of Property 21 USC 881 20 Other LABOR 0 Fair Labor Standards Act 20 Labor/Management Relations 10 Railway Labor Act 51 Family and Medical Leave Act 10 Other Labor Litigation 11 Employee Retirement Income Security Act IMMIGRATION 52 Naturalization Application 55 Other Immigration Actions	□ 422 Appe □ 423 With 28 U PROPEL □ 820 Copy □ 830 Paten □ 840 Trade □ 861 HIA (□ 862 Black □ 863 DIW(□ 864 SSID (□ 865 RSI (□ FEDERA □ 870 Taxes or Do □ 871 IRS—	al 28 USC 158 drawal SC 157 RTY RIGHTS rights tt emark SECURITY (1395ff) c Lung (923) C/DIWW (405(g)) Title XVI 405(g)) AL TAX SUITS s (U.S. Plaintiff efendant)	OTHER STATUTES □ 375 False Claims Act 400 State Reapportionment 410 Antitrust 430 Banks and Banking 450 Commerce □ 460 Deportation □ 470 Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations □ 480 Consumer Credit □ 490 Cable/Sat TV □ 850 Securities/Commodities/Exchange □ 890 Other Statutory Actions □ 891 Agricultural Acts □ 893 Environmental Matters □ 895 Freedom of Information Act □ 896 Arbitration □ 899 Administrative Procedure Act/Review or Appeal of Agency Decision □ 950 Constitutionality of State Statutes
	moved from 3	Remanded from Appellate Court	J 4 Rein Reo₁		r District	☐ 6 Multidistr Litigation	
VI. CAUSE OF ACTION	I Fair Labor Standa	ards Act, 29 U.S.C.	re filing (1) § 201-2	Do not cite jurisdictional stat 219	utes unless div	versity):	
VII. REQUESTED IN COMPLAINT:		IS A CLASS ACTION 3, F.R.Cv.P.	N D	EMAND \$		HECK YES only URY DEMAND:	if demanded in complaint:
VIII. RELATED CASI IF ANY	E(S) (See instructions):	JUDGE			DOCKE	T NUMBER	
DATE May 17, 2017		signature of att s/ R. Martin Sa					
FOR OFFICE USE ONLY RECEIPT # AN	MOUNT	APPLYING IFP		JUDGE		MAG. JUI	DGE

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 the nature of suit cannot be determined, be sure the cause of action, in Section VI below, is sufficient to enable the deputy clerk or the statistical clerk(s) in the Administrative Office to determine the nature of suit. If the cause fits more than one nature of suit, select the most definitive.
- V. Origin. Place an "X" in one of the six 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. (6) Check this box when a multidistrict case is transferred into the district under authority of Title 28 U.S.C. Section 1407. When this box is checked, do not check (5) above.

- 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.

for the

Southern District of Florida				
ANIBAL MARTINEZ, and other similarly situated individuals, Plaintiff(s) v. THE COLONY HOTEL INC.; COLUMBUS RESTAURANT LLC; and MMPB GROUP, LLC.,)))) Civil Action No.			
Defendant(s))))			
SUMMONS IN	NA CIVIL ACTION			
To: (Defendant's name and address) THE COLONY HOTEL IN c/o CORPORATE CREAT 11380 PROSPERITY FAR #221E PALM BEACH GARDENS	ΓΙΟΝS NETWORK, INC. RMS ROAD			
A lawsuit has been filed against you.				
are the United States or a United States agency, or an office				
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			

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 required by Fed. R. Civ. P. 4 (l))

was re	This summons for (na ceived by me on (date)	me of individual and title, if any)		
	•	I the summons on the indiv	idual at (place)	
			on (date)	; or
	☐ I left the summons	at the individual's residence	ce or usual place of abode with (name)	
		, a	person of suitable age and discretion who res	sides there,
	on (date)	, and mailed a co	py to the individual's last known address; or	
	☐ I served the summ	ons on (name of individual)		, who is
	designated by law to	accept service of process o	n behalf of (name of organization)	
			on (date)	; or
	☐ I returned the sum	mons unexecuted because		; or
	☐ Other (<i>specify</i>):			
	My fees are \$	for travel and \$	for services, for a total of \$	0.00
	I declare under penalt	y of perjury that this inform	nation is true.	
Date:		_		
			Server's signature	
			Printed name and title	
			Server's address	

Additional information regarding attempted service, etc:

Print Save As... Reset

for the

Southern District of Florida				
ANIBAL MARTINEZ, and other similarly situated individuals,)))			
Plaintiff(s)	,)			
V.	Civil Action No.			
THE COLONY HOTEL INC.; COLUMBUS RESTAURANT LLC; and MMPB GROUP, LLC.,))))			
Defendant(s)	,)			
SUMMONS IN	N A CIVIL ACTION			
To: (Defendant's name and address) COLUMBUS RESTAURA c/o FIDUCIAL JADE INC 990 BISCAYNE BVLD OFFICE 701 MIAMI, FL 33132	NT LLC			
A lawsuit has been filed against you.				
are the United States or a United States agency, or an offi	;			
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			

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

Civil Action No.

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was re	This summons for (na ceived by me on (date)	me of individual and title, if any)		
	•	I the summons on the indiv	idual at (place)	
			on (date)	; or
	☐ I left the summons	at the individual's residence	ce or usual place of abode with (name)	
		, a	person of suitable age and discretion who res	sides there,
	on (date)	, and mailed a co	py to the individual's last known address; or	
	☐ I served the summ	ons on (name of individual)		, who is
	designated by law to	accept service of process o	n behalf of (name of organization)	
			on (date)	; or
	☐ I returned the sum	mons unexecuted because		; or
	☐ Other (<i>specify</i>):			
	My fees are \$	for travel and \$	for services, for a total of \$	0.00
	I declare under penalt	y of perjury that this inform	nation is true.	
Date:		_		
			Server's signature	
			Printed name and title	
			Server's address	

Additional information regarding attempted service, etc:

Print Save As... Reset

for the

Southern District of Florida				
ANIBAL MARTINEZ, and other similarly situated individuals,)))			
Plaintiff(s))			
V.	Civil Action No.			
THE COLONY HOTEL INC.; COLUMBUS RESTAURANT LLC; and MMPB GROUP, LLC.,) CIVII ACHOII NO.))))			
Defendant(s))			
SUMMONS IN	NA CIVIL ACTION			
To: (Defendant's name and address) MMPB GROUP, LLC. c/o Woodbridge, Frederic 2655 S. LEJEUNE ROAD Suite 543 CORAL GABLES, FL 331				
A lawsuit has been filed against you.				
are the United States or a United States agency, or an offi				
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			
Data				
Date:	Signature of Clerk or Deputy Clerk			

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 required by Fed. R. Civ. P. 4 (l))

	This summons for (na	me of individual and title, if a	ny)	
was rec	ceived by me on (date)	-	·	
	☐ I personally served	d the summons on the inc	dividual at (place)	
			on (date)	; or
	☐ I left the summons	at the individual's resid	ence or usual place of abode with (name)	
			, a person of suitable age and discretion who res	sides there,
	on (date)	, and mailed a	copy to the individual's last known address; or	
	☐ I served the summ	ons on (name of individual)		, who is
	designated by law to	accept service of proces	s on behalf of (name of organization)	
			on (date)	; or
	☐ I returned the sum	mons unexecuted becaus	se	; or
	☐ Other (specify):			
	My fees are \$	for travel and	\$ for services, for a total of \$	0.00
	I declare under penal	ty of perjury that this info	ormation is true.	
ъ.				
Date:		-	Server's signature	
		-	Printed name and title	
		_	Server's address	

Additional information regarding attempted service, etc:

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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>Three Restaurant-Owning Cos. Facing Unpaid Overtime Lawsuit</u>