IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS FORT WORTH DIVISION

German Lopez Martinez, on behalf of himself	§	
and all others similarly situated,	§	
	§	
Plaintiff,	§	Case No. 4:20-cv-528
	§	
V.	§	COLLECTIVE ACTION
	§	
Tyson Foods, Inc.,	§	JURY TRIAL DEMANDED
	§	
Defendant.	§	

ORIGINAL COMPLAINT

NOW COMES Plaintiff German Lopez Martinez ("Plaintiff" or "Martinez") who files this Original Complaint against Defendant Tyson Foods, Inc. ("Defendant" or "Tyson Foods"), showing in support as follows:

I. INTRODUCTION AND NATURE OF ACTION

1. This is an action brought under the federal Fair Labor Standards Act, 29 U.S.C. §§ 201-219, and the federal Portal-to-Portal Pay Act, 29 U.S.C. §§ 251-262 (collectively, the "FLSA"), for Defendant's failure to pay all due and owing overtime wages to Plaintiff.

2. Plaintiff files this lawsuit on behalf of himself and as a putative collective action on behalf of all other similarly situated employees of Defendant.

3. Plaintiff worked for Defendant as a production supervisor during the time period relevant to this lawsuit. Plaintiff's job duties did not include hiring or firing other employees, or setting their schedules. Plaintiff spent approximately ninety percent of his time on the production line performing the same type of work as the hourly-paid employees he was supervising.

4. Plaintiff frequently worked over forty hours per week, often working approximately 80 hours per week due to working seven days per week.

Case 4:20-cv-00528-P Document 1 Filed 05/22/20 Page 2 of 11 PageID 2

5. Even though Plaintiff should have been paid an hourly rate as a non-exempt employee pursuant to his job duties, and received overtime premium pay when he worked in excess of forty hours in a workweek, Defendant at all times paid Plaintiff on a salary basis. As a result, Plaintiff did not receive all overtime pay to which he was entitled. This misclassification, and the resulting underpayment of wages, was in violation of the FLSA.

6. Similarly, Defendant paid all of its production supervisors on a salary basis, notwithstanding that their work was that of a non-exempt employee. Those production supervisors worked similar hours to those worked by Plaintiff, and did not receive overtime premium pay for hours worked over forty in each workweek. Consequently, Defendant failed to pay overtime wages to its production supervisor employees in violation of the FLSA. *See* 29 U.S.C. § 207(a)(1).

7. Now, therefore, Plaintiff seeks damages on behalf of himself and the putative Collective Action Members as the result of Defendant's failure to pay Plaintiff and similarly situated production supervisor employees overtime premium pay for all hours worked over forty in a workweek due to its misclassification of such employees as exempt from the overtime requirements of the FLSA.

II. THE PARTIES

A. Plaintiff German Lopez Martinez

8. Plaintiff German Lopez Martinez is an individual residing in Tarrant County, Texas. He has standing to file this lawsuit.

9. Plaintiff was employed by Defendant Tyson Foods, Inc. at times as a pepperoni slice supervisor, and at all times relevant to this lawsuit as a production supervisor.

10. Plaintiff was employed with Defendant for approximately thirty years, beginning in or around 1988, and ending on or about January of 2020.

Case 4:20-cv-00528-P Document 1 Filed 05/22/20 Page 3 of 11 PageID 3

11. Plaintiff's written consent to participate in this action is filed herewith as Exhibit 1.

B. Putative Collective Action Members

12. The putative Collective Action Members are all current and former employees of Defendant Tyson Foods who worked as salaried supervisors, but were misclassified as exempt employees under the FLSA and consequently did not receive all overtime wages due to them, within the three years prior to the date of filing this Complaint through the date of the final disposition of this action.

C. Defendant Tyson Foods, Inc.

13. Defendant Tyson Foods, Inc. ("Defendant" or "Tyson Foods"), is a corporation formed in Delaware doing business in the State of Texas.

14. Defendant's principal place of business is at 2200 Don Tyson Parkway; Springdale,AR 72762.

15. Defendant may be served in Texas through its registered agent, CT Corporation System; 1999 Bryan Street, Suite 900; Dallas, TX 75201-3136.

16. At all times relevant to this lawsuit, Defendant has been an "enterprise engaged in commerce" as defined by the FLSA.

17. At all times relevant to this lawsuit, Defendant employed two or more employees who engaged in commerce and/or who handled, sold, or otherwise worked on goods or materials that have been moved in or produced for commerce by any person.

18. At all times relevant to this lawsuit, Defendant has had gross operating revenues or business volume in excess of \$500,000.

III. JURISDICTION AND VENUE

19. This Court has federal question jurisdiction over all claims pursuant to 28 U.S.C.§ 1331.

20. The United States District Court for the Northern District of Texas has personal jurisdiction over Defendant because Defendant does business in Texas and in this District, and because many of the acts complained of and giving rise to the claims alleged herein occurred in Texas and in this District.

21. Venue is proper in this District pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1391(b) because a substantial part of the events giving rise to the claims alleged herein occurred in this District.

IV. FACTUAL BACKGROUND

22. Plaintiff incorporates the preceding paragraphs by reference as if set forth fully in this section.

23. Defendant is a meat processor. Defendant operates a meat processing/packing plant in Fort Worth where Plaintiff worked for approximately thirty years.

24. Plaintiff worked as a production supervisor for Defendant. Despite his job title, ninety percent of Plaintiff's work was spent performing manual labor tasks on the production line.

25. Plaintiff did not manage Defendant's enterprise at the Fort Worth location, nor did he manage a customarily recognized department or subdivision of that enterprise.

26. He did not have the authority to hire or fire other employees, and his suggestions and recommendations as to the hiring, firing, promotion or other change of status of any other employee was not given particular weight.

27. Plaintiff did not primarily perform office or non-manual work directly related to the management or general business operations of Tyson Foods. He was not permitted to exercise

Case 4:20-cv-00528-P Document 1 Filed 05/22/20 Page 5 of 11 PageID 5

any discretion or independent judgment with respect to matters of significance in connection with his work for Tyson Foods.

28. Rather, Plaintiff was primarily tasked with performing manual labor tasks. He occasionally provided guidance and encouragement to co-workers who also performed manual labor tasks due to his many years of service with Defendant.

29. Plaintiff was a "blue-collar" worker to whom the FLSA's overtime premium pay requirements apply, as he mainly worked performing repetitive operations with his hands, physical skill and energy. Plaintiff was not a managerial worker.

30. Although Plaintiff did not have any of the job duties or responsibilities of an exempt employee, Defendant paid Plaintiff on a salary basis at all times relevant to this lawsuit.

31. Plaintiff frequently worked over forty hours in a workweek. He regularly worked seven days a week resulting in him working between eighty to one hundred hours per workweek.

32. When Plaintiff worked in excess of forty hours in a workweek, he did not receive all of the overtime premium pay which he was due because Defendant misclassified him as an exempt employee under the FLSA paid him on a salary basis.

33. Instead, Plaintiff should have been paid on an hourly basis and received overtime wages at the rate of one and one-half times his respective regular rate of pay for all hours worked over forty in a workweek. 29 U.S.C. § 207(a)(1). Defendant's failure to pay Plaintiff all of the overtime premium pay owed to him was in violation of the FLSA.

34. Numerous other employees performed job duties similar to Plaintiff as production supervisors of Defendant pursuant to the same pay policy and/or practice. Defendant's wage payment policy and/or practice resulted in Plaintiff and similarly situated production supervisors not being paid all overtime wages owed by Defendant in violation of the FLSA.

V. FLSA CLAIMS

35. Plaintiff incorporates the preceding paragraphs by reference as if set forth fully in this section.

A. FLSA Coverage

36. All conditions precedent to this suit, if any, have been fulfilled.

37. At all times relevant to this lawsuit, Defendant is/was an eligible and covered employer under the FLSA pursuant to 29 U.S.C. § 203(d).

38. At all times relevant to this lawsuit, Defendant is/has been an enterprise engaged in commerce under the FLSA pursuant to 203(s)(1).

39. At all times relevant to this lawsuit, Defendant has employed, and continues to employ, employees including Plaintiff and the putative Collective Action Members who engaged in commerce or in the production of goods for commerce as required by 29 U.S.C. §§ 206-207. For instance, Plaintiff and the putative Collective Action Members were responsible for various tasks within Defendant's meat packing plant in connection with processing meat for eventual consumer purchase.

40. At all times relevant to this lawsuit, Defendant has employed two or more employees who regularly handled and/or worked on goods and/or materials in their daily work that were moved in and/or produced for commerce by other people. Examples of such goods and/or materials include packing materials and cutting machines/tools required to process meat for eventual consumer purchase.

41. At all times relevant to this lawsuit, Defendant has had gross operating revenue or business volume in excess of \$500,000.

B. FLSA Allegations

42. The FLSA applied to Plaintiff and the putative Collective Action Members when they worked as production supervisors.

43. At all relevant times, Plaintiff and the putative Collective Action Members were, and should have been designated and paid by Defendant as, non-exempt employees pursuant to the FLSA.

44. Although Plaintiff and the putative Collective Action Members received salaries for their work for Defendant, they should have been designated and paid by Defendant on an hourly-basis, and received time and one-half their respective regular rates of pay for all hours each worked over forty in a workweek.

45. Plaintiff and the putative Collective Action Members frequently worked seven-day workweeks, and frequently worked more than forty hours per workweek, sometimes as much as eighty to one hundred hours per week. However, Defendant did not provide adequate additional compensation for the hours over 40 worked by its production supervisor employees.

46. Instead, during the relevant time period, Defendant paid Plaintiff and the putative Collective Action Members on a salary basis, and denied them overtime premium pay for hours worked over forty in a workweek.

47. This failure of Defendant to pay overtime premium pay to its employees was a violation of the FLSA. *See* 29 U.S.C. § 207(a)(1).

C. Collective Action Allegations

48. Plaintiff seeks to bring his claims under the FLSA on behalf of himself and all current and former production supervisors who did not receive overtime premium pay for all hours worked over forty per workweek within the three years prior to the date Plaintiff filed this

Case 4:20-cv-00528-P Document 1 Filed 05/22/20 Page 8 of 11 PageID 8

Complaint through the date of the final disposition of this action due to Defendant's misclassification of such employees as exempt under the FLSA. Those who file a written consent will be a party to this action pursuant to 29 U.S.C. § 216(b).

49. Plaintiff has actual knowledge that putative Collective Action Members have been denied overtime premium pay for all hours worked over forty in a workweek. Plaintiff worked with other production supervisor employees of Defendant who were salaried and did not receive all overtime wages due to them. This resulted in personal knowledge of the treatment of those co-workers.

50. The putative Collective Action Members are similarly situated to Plaintiff in all relevant respects, having worked on a salary basis relative to their work as production supervisors who did not receive overtime premium pay for all hours worked over forty in a workweek.

51. The putative Collective Action Members regularly work or have worked in excess of forty hours in a workweek.

52. Defendant's failure to pay overtime premium wages for any hour Plaintiff and the putative Collective Action Members worked over forty in a workweek results from generally applicable policies or practices, and does not depend on the personal circumstances of any of the putative Collective Action Members.

53. The specific job titles or precise job responsibilities of each putative Collective Action Member do not prevent collective treatment.

54. Although the exact amount of damages may vary among the putative Collective Action Members, the damages owed to them are easily calculable using a simple formula uniformly applicable to all of them.

55. Plaintiff proposes that the class of putative Collective Action Members be defined

as:

all current and former production supervisor employees of Defendant Tyson Foods who did not receive all due and owing overtime pay for hours worked over forty in each workweek within the three years prior to the date of filing this Complaint through the date of the final disposition of this action.

56. Plaintiff reserves the right to establish sub-classes and/or modify class notice

language as appropriate in any collective action certification motion or other proceeding.

57. Plaintiff further reserves the right to amend the definition of the putative class, or

sub-classes therein, if discovery and further investigation reveal that the putative class should be expanded or otherwise modified.

VI. CAUSE OF ACTION

A. Violation of the FLSA – Failure to Pay Overtime Premium Pay Due to Employer's Misclassification of Non-Exempt Employees. 29 U.S.C. § 207(a)(1).

58. Plaintiff incorporates the preceding paragraphs by reference as if set forth fully in this section.

59. The foregoing conduct, as alleged, violated the FLSA.

60. Plaintiff and the putative Collective Action Members were employees of Defendant under the FLSA. 29 U.S.C. § 203(d) & 203 (e)(1).

61. Defendant was and is required to pay Plaintiff and similarly situated production supervisors overtime wages at the rate of one and one-half times each employees' respective regular rate of pay for all hours worked over forty in a workweek. 29 U.S.C. § 207(a)(1).

62. Defendant failed to pay Plaintiff and the putative Collective Action Members at the rate of one and one-half times each such employees' respective regular rate of pay for all hours worked over forty in a workweek.

Case 4:20-cv-00528-P Document 1 Filed 05/22/20 Page 10 of 11 PageID 10

63. Defendant's conduct was willful and done to avoid paying overtime wages. 29 U.S.C. § 255(a). Therefore, Plaintiff and the putative Collective Action Members are entitled to recover damages based on the FLSA's extended three (3) year statutory limitations period. *Id*.

64. Plaintiff seeks all damages to which he and the putative Collective Action Members are entitled under the FLSA on the bases of Defendant's willful failure to pay overtime premium pay, including back overtime wages, liquidated damages, attorneys' fees and costs, post-judgment interest, and specifically plead recovery for the three (3) year period preceding the filing of this lawsuit through its resolution.

VII. JURY DEMAND

65. Plaintiff hereby demands a jury trial on all causes of action and claims for relief with respect to which he and the putative Collective Action Members have a right to jury trial.

VIII. DAMAGES AND PRAYER

66. Plaintiff asks that the Court issue summons for Defendant to appear and answer, and that Plaintiff and the putative Collective Action Members be awarded a judgment against Defendant or order(s) from the Court for the following:

- a. An Order conditionally certifying this case as an FLSA collective action pursuant to 29 U.S.C. § 216(b), and requiring notice to be issued to all putative Collective Action Members;
- b. An award of damages including all unpaid overtime wages, any other back pay available pursuant to the FLSA, liquidated damages, and restitution;
- c. Costs of action incurred herein, including expert fees;
- d. Attorneys' fees, including fees pursuant to 29 U.S.C. § 216;
- e. Post-judgment interest; and
- f. Such other and further relief as the Court may deem just and proper.

Dated: May 22, 2020

Respectfully submitted,

SHELLIST | LAZARZ | SLOBIN LLP

By: <u>s/Melinda Arbuckle</u> Melinda Arbuckle State Bar No. 24080773 <u>marbuckle@eeoc.net</u> Ricardo J. Prieto State Bar No. 24062947 <u>rprieto@eeoc.net</u> Shellist Lazarz Slobin LLP 11 Greenway Plaza, Suite 1515 Houston, TX 77046 (713) 621-2277 – Telephone (713) 621-0993 – Facsimile

ATTORNEYS FOR PLAINTIFF AND PUTATIVE COLLECTIVE ACTION MEMBERS

Case 4:20-cv-00528-P Document 1-1 Filed 05/22/20 Page 1 of 2 PageID 12

EXHIBIT 1

CONSENTIMIENTO PARA UNIRSE A LA ACCIÓN COLECTIVA

- Yo, <u>German Lopez Martinez</u> (imprima su nombre), doy mi consentimiento y acepto perseguir mis reclamos por horas extras no pagadas y/o salario mínimo a través de una demanda presentada en vírtud de la Ley de Normas Laborales Justas y cualquier ley estatal de salario y horas.
- Tengo la intención de seguir mi reclarno individualmente, a menos y hasta que el tribunal certifique este caso como una acción colectiva o acción de clase. Acepto ser el representante de la clase si soy seleccionado por un abogado.
- Si no soy el representante de la clase, autorizo al demandante nombrado como representante de la clase a presentar y enjuiciar mi reclamo por salarios impagos en mi nombre, y departe mía, y designar al Demandante designado para tomar decisiones en mi nombre con respecto al litigio, incluyendo la negociación de una resolución de mis reclamos, celebrando un acuerdo con los abogados en este caso, y entiendo que estaré obligado a tales decisiones.
- Acepto ser representado por Ricardo Prieto de Shellist Lazarz Slobin, LLP.
- Si mi formulario de consentimiento es afectado o si por algún motivo no puedo participar en este case, autorizo al abogado para el demandante que utilicé este formulario de consentimiento para volver a presentar mis reclamos en una acción separada o relacionada en contra de mi empleador.

-/ Fecha: 3-13-20 Firma: 7

JS 44 (Rev. 06/17) - TX Case 94.20-cv-00528-P Document OF FRes 05/22720 Page 1 of 2 PageID 14

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 German Lopez Martinez			Ĵ	DEFENDANTS Syson Foods, Inc.	5				
 (b) County of Residence of First Listed Plaintiff <u>Tarrant</u> (EXCEPT IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES) (c) Attorneys (Firm Name, Address, and Telephone Number) 			County of Residence of First Listed Defendant (IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES ONLY) NOTE: IN LAND CONDEMNATION CASES, USE THE LOCATION OF THE TRACT OF LAND INVOLVED. Attorneys (If Known)						
Melinda Arbuckle, Ricardo Plaza, Suite 1515; Houston			eenway						
II. BASIS OF JURISDI	CTION (Place an "X" in O	ne Box Only)		ZENSHIP OF P		L PARTIES (
□ 1 U.S. Government Plaintiff	3 Federal Question (U.S. Government)	estion vernment Not a Party)		(For Diversity Cases Only) and One Box for Defendant) PTF DEF itizen of This State □ 1 □ 1 Incorporated or Principal Place □ 4 □ 4 of Business In This State					
2 U.S. Government Defendant	☐ 4 Diversity (Indicate Citizenshi	ip of Parties in Item III)				Incorporated <i>and</i> P. of Business In A Foreign Nation			□ 5 □ 6
				n Country		0			
IV. NATURE OF SUIT		aly) PRTS	FOR	FEITURE/PENALTY		here for: <u>Nature o</u> KRUPTCY			
 CONTRACT Ito 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 &	PERSONAL INJUR ☐ 365 Personal Injury - Product Liability ☐ 367 Health Care/ Pharmaceutical Personal Injury Product Liability ☐ 368 Asbestos Personal Injury Product Liability ☐ 370 Other Fraud ☐ 371 Truth in Lending ☐ 380 Other Personal Property Damage ☐ 385 Sentence ☐ 510 Motions to Vacate Sentence ☐ 530 General ☐ 535 Death Penalty Other: ☐ 540 Mandamus & Oth ☐ 550 Civil Rights ☐ 555 Prison Condition ☐ 560 Civil Detaince - Conditions of	Y □ 625 C □ 690 C □ 690 C □ 710 F □ 720 C □ 690 C	rug Related Seizure f Property 21 USC 881	 422 Appea 423 Withd 28 US PROPER 820 Copyr 830 Patent 835 Patent New I 835 Patent 840 Tradee 861 HIA (862 Black 863 DIWC 864 SSID ' 865 RSI (4 FEDERA 870 Taxes or De 871 IRS— 26 US 	Il 28 USC 158 rawal 3C 157 TY RIGHTS ights - Abbreviated Drug Application mark SECURITY 1395ff) Lung (923) C/DIWW (405(g)) Title XVI 405(g)) L TAX SUITS (U.S. Plaintiff fendant)	OTHER STATUTES 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 Consumer Credit 490 Cable/Sat TV 850 Securities/Commodities/ Exchange 890 Other Statutory Actions 891 Agricultural Acts 895 Freedom of Information Act 896 Arbitration 899 Administrative Procedure Act/Review or Appeal of Agency Decision 950 Constitutionality of State Statutes		nt I and Is ties/ ons rs ion
V. ORIGIN (Place an "X" in	n One Box Only)	Confinement			I				
X 1 Original □ 2 Ren	moved from \Box 3 te Court	Appellate Court	□ 4 Reinsta Reopen	ed Anoth (specify	er District	6 Multidistri Litigation Transfer	-	Multidistri Litigation - Direct File	
VI. CAUSE OF ACTIO	DN Fair Labor Standar Brief description of ca Unpaid Overtime V	Wages	201-219						
VII. REQUESTED IN COMPLAINT:	UNDER RULE 2	IS A CLASS ACTION 3, F.R.Cv.P.	N DEN	IAND \$		HECK YES only		complaint:	
VIII. RELATED CASH IF ANY	E(S) (See instructions):	JUDGE			DOCKET	Γ NUMBER			
DATE 05/22/2020 FOR OFFICE USE ONLY		SIGNATURE OF AT s/Melinda Arbuc		ECORD					
	MOUNT	APPLYING IFP		JUDGE		MAG. JUD	GE		

JS 44 Reverse (Rev. 06/17) - TXND (Rev. 06/17) Case 4:20-cv-00528-P Document 1-2 Filed 05/22/20 Page 2 of 2 PageID 15 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 statue.

- 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 a related case exists, whether pending or closed, insert the docket numbers and the corresponding judge names for such cases. A case is related to this filing if the case: 1) involves some or all of the same parties and is based on the same or similar claim; 2) involves the same property, transaction, or event; 3) involves substantially similar issues of law and fact; and/or 4) involves the same estate in a bankruptcy appeal.

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

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS FORT WORTH DIVISION

German Lopez Martinez, on behalf of	§	
himself and all others similarly situated,	§	
	§	
Plaintiff,	§	
	§	
V.	§	Case No. 4:20-cv-528
	§	
Tyson Foods, Inc.,	§	
	§	
Defendant.	§	

PLAINTIFF'S CERTIFICATE OF INTERESTED PERSONS

Pursuant to Rule 7.1 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, Plaintiff German Lopez Martinez hereby certifies the following to be all persons, associations of persons, firms, partnerships, corporations, affiliates, parent corporations, or other legal entities known to him to be financially interested in the outcome of the litigation of this case:

- 1. German Lopez Martinez, Plaintiff;
- 2. Ricardo J. Prieto, and Melinda Arbuckle of Shellist Lazarz Slobin LLP; and
- 3. Tyson Foods, Inc., Defendant.

Dated: May 22, 2020

Respectfully submitted,

SHELLIST | LAZARZ | SLOBIN LLP

By: <u>s/Melinda Arbuckle</u> Melinda Arbuckle State Bar No. 24080773 <u>marbuckle@eeoc.net</u> Ricardo J. Prieto State Bar No. 24062947 <u>rprieto@eeoc.net</u> Shellist Lazarz Slobin LLP 11 Greenway Plaza, Suite 1515 Houston, TX 77046 (713) 621-2277 – Telephone (713) 621-0993 – Facsimile

ATTORNEYS FOR PLAINTIFF AND PUTATIVE COLLECTIVE ACTION MEMBERS

ClassAction.org

This complaint is part of ClassAction.org's searchable class action lawsuit database and can be found in this post: Lawsuit Claims Tyson Foods Owes Supervisors Unpaid Overtime Wages