UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT NORTHERN DISTRICT OF GEORGIA ATLANTA DIVISION

ELENI PACKARD, on behalf of herself and others similarly-situated,

Plaintiffs,

V.

Civil Action File No.:

STEAKHOUSE EXPRESS, INC., PIG-N-CHIK EXPRESS, INC., PNC ENTERPRISES, INC., RICHARD W. MARRACK, and JAMES H. GRADDY,

Defendants.

COMPLAINT

The above-named plaintiff, Eleni Packard ("Ms. Packard"), states her complaint against the above-named Defendants as follows.

- This is a complaint for unpaid overtime under the Fair Labor Standards Act,
 U.S.C. § 201 et seq. (the "FLSA").
- Ms. Packard files this complaint as a collective action pursuant to 29 U.S.C.
 § 216(b) on behalf of herself and other similarly-situated individuals. Ms.
 Packard's Consent to Join form is filed contemporaneously with this complaint.
- 3. This Court has jurisdiction over this case, and venue is proper in this Court.

- 4. Defendant Steakhouse Express, Inc. ("Steakhouse Express") is a Georgia corporation that operates one of three "Pig-N-Chik" barbeque restaurants in the Atlanta, Georgia area.
- 5. Defendant Pig-N-Chik Express, Inc. ("Pig-N-Chik Express") is a Georgia corporation that operates one of three "Pig-N-Chik" barbeque restaurants in the Atlanta, Georgia area.
- 6. Defendant PNC Enterprises, Inc. ("PNC Enterprises") is a Georgia corporation that operates one of three "Pig-N-Chik" barbeque restaurants in the Atlanta, Georgia area.
- 7. Defendants Richard W. Marrack ("Marrack") and James H. Graddy ("Graddy") own and operate Steakhouse Express, Pig-N-Chik Express, and PNC Enterprises.
- 8. While Steakhouse Express, Pig-N-Chik Express, and PNC Enterprises own different locations of Pig-N-Chik restaurants, they share employees, supervisors, and managers.
- 9. The weekly schedule for all employees of Steakhouse Express, Pig-N-Chik Express, and PNC Enterprises is maintained on a single document.
- 10. Steakhouse Express, Pig-N-Chik Express, and PNC Enterprises share common owners and officers.

- 11. Steakhouse Express, Pig-N-Chik Express, and PNC Enterprises present publicly as a single enterprise. For example, all three Pig-N-Chik restaurants use the same name, logo, menu, and advertising media. Additionally, all three locations maintain a single website at www.pignchik.net/locations.html. This website identifies the location of the three Pig-N-Chik restaurants at http://www.pignchik.net/locations.html.
- 12. Steakhouse Express, Pig-N-Chik Express, and PNC Enterprises operate as a common enterprise for purposes of the FLSA.
- 13. As owners of Steakhouse Express, Pig-N-Chik Express, and PNC Enterprises, Marrack and Graddy have complete control over the daily operations of the three Pig-N-Chik barbeque restaurants owned by these entities, including the hiring and firing of employees and determining the method of compensating employees.
- 14. During each of the three years preceding the filing of this complaint, the gross annual sales for Steakhouse Express, Pig-N-Chik Express, and PNC Enterprises exceeded \$500,000.
- 15. During each of the three years preceding the filing of this complaint, Steakhouse Express, Pig-N-Chik Express, and PNC Enterprises employed one or more individuals who engaged in interstate commerce.

- 16. Within the three-year period preceding the filing of this complaint, Steakhouse Express, Pig-N-Chik Express, PNC Enterprises, Marrack, and Graddy (collectively referred to as "Defendants") jointly employed Ms. Packard as a "counter girl."
- 17. Ms. Packard worked as a counter girl at each of Defendants' three Pig-N-Chik restaurants.
- 18. Although Steakhouse Express, Pig-N-Chik Express, and PNC Enterprises operated as a common enterprise and jointly employed Ms. Packard, for each pay period during Ms. Packard's employment, Defendants issued Ms. Packard a separate paycheck for each restaurant.
- 19. Defendants paid all their hourly employees in this manner, i.e., Defendants issued all hourly employees separate pay checks for each Pig-N-Chik restaurant.
- 20. Ms. Packard routinely worked more than 40 hours per week for Defendants.
- 21. However, due to Defendants' practice of issuing separate pay checks for each Pig-N-Chik location, Defendants failed to pay Ms. Packard proper overtime compensation for her working hours over 40 per week.
- 22. COUNT 1 As described above, Defendants violated the FLSA by failing to pay Ms. Packard and other hourly employees 1.5 times their regularly hourly

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rate for working hours over 40 per week.

23. Defendants' violations of the FLSA described above were willful.

Based on the above facts, Ms. Packard requests a jury trial on all triable issues and asks the Court for the following relief for herself and other similarly-situated employees who choose to join this lawsuit: unpaid overtime wages, liquidated damages as permitted by the FLSA, prejudgment interest, litigation costs, attorneys' fees, and other relief deemed appropriate by the Court.

Respectfully submitted on September 29, 2017.

<u>s/Regan Keebaugh</u>Regan KeebaughGeorgia Bar No. 535500

Radford & Keebaugh, LLC 315 W. Ponce de Leon Ave. Suite 1080 Decatur, Georgia 30030 T: (678) 271-0300

F: (678) 271-0311

regan@decaturlegal.com

CONSENT TO BE A PLAINTIFF IN AN ACTION BROUGHT UNDER THE FAIR LABOR STANDARDS ACT (29 U.S.C. § 201, ET SEQ.)

I am a current or former employee of Pig-N-Chik barbeque restaurants, which I understand are owned by Steakhouse Express, Inc., Pig-N-Chik Express, Inc., and PNC Enterprises, Inc. I consent to become a plaintiff in a lawsuit against these entities and their owners, Richard W. Marrack and James H. Graddy, to recover unpaid overtime compensation and any other benefits available to me under the Fair Labor Standards Act and other applicable laws.

Eleni Maria Packard (86 p 28, 2017)

Consent Form

Adobe Sign Document History

09/28/2017

Created:

09/28/2017

By:

Regan Keebaugh (regan@decaturlegal.com)

Status:

Signed

Transaction ID:

CBJCHBCAABAAnrx6ERmdm6uju93USvo29zl9XdM83Ivb

"Consent Form" History

- Document uploaded by Regan Keebaugh (regan@decaturlegal.com) from Acrobat 09/28/2017 5:27:51 PM PDT- IP address: 73.106.32.215
- Document emailed to Eleni Maria Packard (mariaelenipackard@gmail.com) for signature 09/28/2017 5:27:52 PM PDT
- Document viewed by Eleni Maria Packard (mariaelenipackard@gmail.com) 09/28/2017 6:14:22 PM PDT- IP address: 24.98.99.88
- Document e-signed by Eleni Maria Packard (mariaelenipackard@gmail.com)
 Signature Date: 09/28/2017 6:16:38 PM PDT Time Source: server- IP address: 24.98.99.88
- Signed document emailed to Eleni Maria Packard (mariaelenipackard@gmail.com) and Regan Keebaugh (regan@decaturlegal.com)

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The JS44 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 is required for the use of the Clerk of Court for the purpose of initiating the civil docket record. (SEE INSTRUCTIONS ATTACHED)

I. (a) PLAINTIFF(S)		DEFENDANT(S)		
Eleni Packard		Steakhouse Express, Inc. Pig-N-Chik Express, Inc. PNC Enterprises, Inc. Richard W. Marrack James H. Graddy		
(b) COUNTY OF RESIDENCE OF FIRST LISTED PLAINTIFF DEKAID (EXCEPT IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES)		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		
(c) ATTORNEYS (FIRM NAME, ADDRESS, TELEPHONE NUMBER, AND E-MAIL ADDRESS)		ATTORNEYS (IF KNOWN)		
Regan Keebaugh Radford & Keebaugh LLC 315 W Ponce de Leon Ave Ste 1080 Decatur GA 30030 678-271-0301; regan@decaturlegal.com				
II. BASIS OF JURISDICTION (PLACE AN "X" IN ONE BOX ONLY)		ZENSHIP OF PRINCIPAL PARTIES AN "X" IN ONE BOX FOR PLAINTIFF AND ONE BOX FOR DEFENDANT) (FOR DIVERSITY CASES ONLY)		
1 U.S. GOVERNMENT PLAINTIFF (U.S. GOVERNMENT NOT A PARTY) 2 U.S. GOVERNMENT DEFENDANT (INDICATE CITIZENSHIP OF PARTIES IN ITEM III)	PLF DEF 1 CITIZEN OF THIS STATE 4 DEF 2 CITIZEN OF ANOTHER STATE 5 DEF 1 INCORPORATED OR PRINCIPAL PLACE OF BUSINESS IN THIS STATE 1 INCORPORATED AND PRINCIPAL PLACE OF BUSINESS IN ANOTHER STATE 3 CITIZEN OR SUBJECT OF A 6 FOREIGN NATION FOREIGN COUNTRY			
IV. ORIGIN (PLACE AN "X "IN ONE BOX ONLY) 1 ORIGINAL PROCEEDING 2 REMOVED FROM APPELLATE COURT 3 REMANDED FROM APPELLATE COURT	4 REINSTATED (REOPENED	TRANSFERRED FROM 5 ANOTHER DISTRICT 6 LITIGATION - TRANSFER 1 TO DISTRICT JUDGE 1 TRANSFER 1 TO DISTRICT JUDGE 1 JUDGMENT		
MULTIDISTRICT 8 LITIGATION - DIRECT FILE				
V. CAUSE OF ACTION (CITE THE U.S. CIVIL STATUTE U JURISDICTIONAL STATUTES UNL Violation of the Fair Labor Standards Act, 29 US				
(IF COMPLEX, CHECK REASON BELOW)				
1. Unusually large number of parties.	6. Problems locating or preserving evidence			
☐ 2. Unusually large number of claims or defenses.☐ 3. Factual issues are exceptionally complex	7. Pending parallel investigations or actions by government.			
4. Greater than normal volume of evidence.	■ 8. Multiple use of experts.■ 9. Need for discovery outside United States boundaries.			
5. Extended discovery period is needed.	10. Existence of highly technical issues and proof.			
CONTINUED ON REVERSE				
FOR OFFICE USE ONLY RECEIPT # AMOUNT \$	APPI YING	; IFP MAG. JUDGE (IFP)		
JUDGE MAG. JUDGE (Referral)		OF SUIT CAUSE OF ACTION		

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VI. NATURE OF SUIT (PLACE AN "X" IN ONE BOX ONLY)

CONTRACT - "0" MONTHS DISCOVERY TRACK 150 RECOVERY OF OVERPAYMENT & ENFORCEMENT OF JUDGMENT 152 RECOVERY OF DEFAULTED STUDENT LOANS (Excl. Veterans) 153 RECOVERY OF OVERPAYMENT OF VETERAN'S BENEFITS	CIVIL RIGHTS - "4" MONTHS DISCOVERY TRACK 440 OTHER CIVIL RIGHTS 441 VOTING 442 EMPLOYMENT 443 HOUSING/ ACCOMMODATIONS 445 AMERICANS with DISABILITIES - Employment 446 AMERICANS with DISABILITIES - Other 448 EDUCATION	SOCIAL SECURITY - "0" MONTHS DISCOVERY TRACK
CONTRACT - "4" MONTHS DISCOVERY TRACK 110 INSURANCE 120 MARINE 130 MILLER ACT 140 NEGOTIABLE INSTRUMENT 151 MEDICARE ACT 160 STOCKHOLDERS' SUITS 190 OTHER CONTRACT 195 CONTRACT PRODUCT LIABILITY 196 FRANCHISE 195 FRANCHISE 195 CONTRACT PRODUCT LIABILITY 196 FRANCHISE 190 OTHER CONDEMNATION 190 FRANCHISE 190 CONDEMNATION 190 FRANCHISE 190 CONDEMNATION 190 FRANCHISE 190 ALL OTHER REAL PROPERTY 100 ALL OTHER PROPERY 100 ALL OTHER PROPERTY 100 ALL OTHER PROPERTY 100 ALL OTH	IMMIGRATION - "0" MONTHS DISCOVERY TRACK 462 NATURALIZATION APPLICATION 465 OTHER IMMIGRATION ACTIONS PRISONER PETITIONS - "0" MONTHS DISCOVERY TRACK 463 HABEAS CORPUS - Alien Detainee 510 MOTIONS TO VACATE SENTENCE 530 HABEAS CORPUS 535 HABEAS CORPUS 535 HABEAS CORPUS DEATH PENALTY 40 MANDAMUS & OTHER 550 CIVIL RIGHTS - Filed Pro se 555 PRISON CONDITION(S) - Filed Pro se 560 CIVIL DETAINEE: CONDITIONS OF CONFINEMENT PRISONER PETITIONS - "4" MONTHS DISCOVERY TRACK 550 CIVIL RIGHTS - Filed by Counsel 555 PRISON CONDITION(S) - Filed by Counsel 555 PRISON CONDITION(S) - Filed by Counsel 625 DRUG RELATED SEIZURE OF PROPERTY 21 USC 881 690 OTHER LABOR - "4" MONTHS DISCOVERY TRACK 7 710 FAIR LABOR STANDARDS ACT 720 LABOR/MGMT. RELATIONS 740 RAILWAY LABOR ACT 751 FAMILY and MEDICAL LEAVE ACT 790 OTHER LABOR LITIGATION 791 EMPL. RET. INC. SECURITY ACT PROPERTY RIGHTS - "4" MONTHS DISCOVERY TRACK 820 COPYRIGHTS 840 TRADEMARK PROPERTY RIGHTS - "8" MONTHS DISCOVERY TRACK 820 COPYRIGHTS 840 TRADEMARK PROPERTY RIGHTS - "8" MONTHS DISCOVERY TRACK 830 PATENT 835 PATENT-ABBREVIATED NEW DRUG APPLICATIONS (ANDA) - a/k/a Hatch-Waxman cases	FEDERAL TAX SUITS - "4" MONTHS DISCOVERY TRACK 870 TAXES (U.S. Plaintiff or Defendant) 871 IRS - THIRD PARTY 26 USC 7609 OTHER STATUTES - "4" MONTHS DISCOVERY TRACK 375 FALSE CLAIMS ACT 376 Qui Tam 31 USC 3729(a) 400 STATE REAPPORTIONMENT 430 BANKS AND BANKING 450 COMMERCE/CC RATES/ETC. 460 DEPORTATION 470 RACKETEER INFLUENCED AND CORRUPT ORGANIZATIONS 480 CONSUMER CREDIT 490 CABLE/SATELLITE TV 890 OTHER STATUTORY ACTIONS 891 AGRICULTURAL ACTS 893 ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS 895 FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 899 ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES ACT / REVIEW OR APPEAL OF AGENCY DECISION 950 CONSTITUTIONALITY OF STATE STATUTES OTHER STATUTES - "8" MONTHS DISCOVERY TRACK 410 ANTITRUST 850 SECURITIES / COMMODITIES / EXCHANGE OTHER STATUTES - "0" MONTHS DISCOVERY TRACK 896 ARBITRATION (Confirm / Vacate / Order / Modify) * PLEASE NOTE DISCOVERY TRACK FOR EACH CASE TYPE. SEE LOCAL RULE 26.3
VII. REQUESTED IN COMPLA ☐ CHECK IF CLASS ACTION UNDER F.R JURY DEMAND ☑ YES ☐ NO (CHECK YES) VIII. RELATED/REFILED CAS	.Civ.P. 23 DEMAND \$ ONLY IF DEMANDED IN COMPLAINT)	
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SIGNATURE OF ATTORNEY OF RECORD

DATE

ClassAction.org

This complaint is part of ClassAction.org's searchable class action lawsuit database and can be found in this post: <u>Proposed Class Action Claims Pig-N-Chik Restaurant Miscalculates Overtime Hours</u>