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1 2 3 4 5 6	Ariadne Panagopoulou (AP - 2202) Pardalis & Nohavicka, LLP 3510 Broadway, Suite 201 Astoria, NY 11106 Telephone: (718) 777-0400 Facsimile: (718) 777-0599 <i>Attorneys for the Plaintiff</i> UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT EASTERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK
7 8 9 10	Avtar Singh, on behalf of himself and others) similarly situated,) Plaintiff,) Elsa Collective Action COMPLAINT
11 12 13 14 15	-v-)) Adam Builder Corp. d/b/a Adam Construction) Co., Sammy Khan, and Jamshaid Akhter,) jointly and severally,) Defendants.)
16 17 18	NATURE OF THE ACTION
19 20	1. Plaintiff Avtar Singh brings this action under the Fair Labor Standards Act ("FLSA"), 29 U.S.C. §§ 201 <i>et. seq.</i> in order to remedy Defendants' wrongful withholding of

1. Plaintiff Avtar Singh brings this action under the Fair Labor Standards Act ("FLSA"), 29 U.S.C. §§ 201 *et. seq.* in order to remedy Defendants' wrongful withholding of Plaintiff's lawfully earned wages, overtime compensation, and their continuous and frequent late payments. Plaintiff also brings these claims under New York Labor Law ("NYLL"), Article 6, §§ 190 *et seq.*, and Article 19 §§ 650 *et seq.* as well as the supporting New York State Department of Labor Regulations for violations of minimum wages, overtime wages, spread-of-hours pay, late payments of wages, unreimbursed business expenses and failure to provide wage notices and wage statements. Finally, Plaintiff brings a claim for breach of contract.

SUMMARY

Plaintiff was employed by Defendants, Adam Builder Corp. d/b/a Adam
 Construction Co., Sammy Khan ("Khan"), and Jamshaid Akhter ("Akhter") from September
 10, 2016 to September 30, 2017 as a construction worker.

3. There was an initial agreement between Plaintiff and Defendants that Plaintiff would be paid \$120.00 per eight-hour shift of work. Despite such an arrangement, Defendants failed to pay Plaintiff this amount as promised.

4. Defendants made miscellaneous payments to Plaintiff throughout his employment, which were below minimum wage. Plaintiff would remain unpaid for several months of work and also received checks with insufficient funds for the months of August and September 2017.

5. Defendants never paid Plaintiff overtime compensation for all hours worked above 40 hours per week, and spread-of-hours compensation during days when his shifts exceeded 10 hours.

6. Defendants engaged in their unlawful conduct pursuant to a corporate policy of minimizing labor costs and denying employees compensation by knowingly violating the FLSA and NYLL.

7. As a result of Defendants' actions, Plaintiff has suffered great hardship and damages.

8. Defendants' conduct extended beyond Plaintiff to many other similarly situated employees who were paid below minimum wage and were not paid at an overtime rate for all the hours they worked above 40 hours per week. Plaintiff seeks certification of his FLSA claims as a collective action on behalf of himself individually and those other similarly situated employees and former employees of Defendants pursuant to 29 U.S.C. § 216(b).

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JURISDICTION AND VENUE

Federal Question Jurisdiction and Supplemental Jurisdiction

9. This Court has original subject matter jurisdiction over this action under 28 U.S.C. § 1331 because the civil action herein arises under the laws of the United States, namely, the Fair Labor Standards Act, 29 U.S.C. §§ 201 *et seq*. Additionally, this Court also has supplemental jurisdiction over Plaintiff's state law claims under 28 U.S.C. § 1367(a).

Personal Jurisdiction

10. This Court may properly maintain personal jurisdiction over Defendants under Rule 4 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure because Defendants' contacts with this state and this judicial district are sufficient for exercise of jurisdiction over Defendants so as to comply with traditional notions of fair play and substantial justice.

Venue

11. Venue is proper in the Eastern District of New York under 8 U.S.C. §§ 1391 (b)
(1) and (2) because Defendants reside and conduct business in this judicial district and because
a substantial part of the acts or omissions giving rise to the claims set forth herein occurred in
this judicial district.

THE PARTIES

Plaintiff

Avtar Singh

12. Plaintiff Avtar Singh ("Singh") is an adult individual residing in the state of New York, County of Queens.

13. Singh is a covered employee within the meaning of the FLSA, 29 U.S.C. §
203(e) and the NYLL § 190.

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14. Singh was employed as a construction worker by Adam Builder Corp. d/b/a Adam Construction Co. owned and operated by Individual Defendants, located at 27 Brighton 4th Terrace, Brooklyn, NY 11235.

15. Singh was hired by Defendant Khan on September 10, 2016. He was supervised and paid by Defendant Khan at all times during his employment.

16. Singh worked for Defendants until September 30, 2017.

17. Singh would perform his duties, as instructed by Defendant Khan, in various assigned locations in Queens, New York.

18. A substantial amount of work was performed in a property located at 86-23123rd St, Jamaica, NY 11418.

19. Singh regularly handled goods in interstate commerce, such as construction materials and supplies that were imported from outside the State of New York.

20. There was an initial verbal agreement between Plaintiff and Defendants that Plaintiff would work six days per week and would be paid \$120.00 per eight-hour shift of work. According to this initial agreement, Plaintiff would work from Saturday to Thursday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

21. However, Defendants demanded that Plaintiff stay later each day to finish his assigned work. As a result, Plaintiff would typically work anywhere from nine to eleven hours per day. On occasion, Plaintiff would work even past midnight, though such instances were rare.

22. Throughout the course of his employment, Plaintiff kept a notebook noting down his hours of work each day he worked for the Defendants and the money received by them. A true and accurate copy of this notebook is annexed hereto as **Exhibit A**.

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23. As an average, Plaintiff worked approximately 60 hours per week, during the course of his employment with Defendants. However, his exact hours of work each week can be determined by a review of his notebook. *See* Exhibit A.

24. Other than in his personal notebook, Plaintiff did not track his hours of work in any other manner. Defendants did not maintain a time clock, time sheets or any other manner to keep track of Plaintiff's work or the work of other employees.

25. Defendants never paid Plaintiff an amount of \$120.00 per eight-hour shift as promised. Instead, Defendants paid Plaintiff miscellaneous amounts throughout his employment.

26. Specifically, Defendants paid Plaintiff the following amounts: \$2,200 in
September 2016; \$1,000 in October 2016; \$1,880 in January 2017; \$1,100 in February 2017;
\$700 in March 2017; \$1,300 in April 2017; \$1,800 in May 2017; and \$950 in July 2017.

27. These payments were recorded by Plaintiff in his notebook, *see* Exhibit A.

28. Defendants also provided Plaintiff with two checks of \$900.00 in August 2017 and September 2017; however both checks bounced due to insufficient funds. See annexed hereto as **Exhibit B**, bank notifications regarding these checks.

29. As a result, Plaintiff incurred additional expenses due to these bounced checks.

30. As a result of Defendants' actions, Plaintiff was paid below minimum wage and did not receive <u>any</u> wages during several months of his employment.

31. Plaintiff never received his wages in a timely manner; instead he only received payments at random intervals following repeated reminders to Defendant Khan that he needed to be paid for his work.

32. Plaintiff was never paid overtime for all hours he worked above 40 hours per

week.

33. Plaintiff was never paid spread-of-hours pay for all days in which the interval between the beginning and ending of his shift exceeded 10 hours.

34. As a result of non-payment, Singh was forced to quit his employment.

35. Ever since his resignation, he repeatedly asked both Defendant Khan, and Defendant Akhter to be paid his wages due as promised but he was never paid the agreed-upon amount.

36. Singh was not provided with a notice containing the rate and basis of his pay; the designated pay date; and the employer's name, address and telephone number at the time of hiring or at any point thereafter.

37. Singh was never provided with wage statements detailing, *inter alia*, dates worked, hours worked, money received and the employer's details at any point during the time of his employment with Defendants.

38. Upon information and belief, while Defendants employed Singh, they failed to post notices explaining the minimum wage rights of employees under the FLSA and NYLL and failed to inform Singh of such rights.

39. Throughout the duration of his employment, Singh did not have any supervisory authority nor did he exercise discretion or independent judgment with respect to matters of significance.

40. Singh consented in writing to be a party to the FLSA claims in this action, pursuant to 29 U.S.C. §216(b).

41. Singh has personal knowledge of other employees of Defendants who are similarly situated and who also worked hours for which they were not paid minimum and

overtime wages.

Defendants

42. At all relevant times, Individual and Corporate Defendants were joint employers of Plaintiff, acted in the interest of each other with respect to the restaurant's employees, and had common policies and practices as to wages and hours, pursuant to 29 C.F.R. § 791.2 and NYLL § 2. Factors indicating joint employment include:

- a. Defendants all suffered or permitted Plaintiff to work.
- Each of the Defendants acted directly or indirectly in the interest of one another in relation to Plaintiff and similarly situated employees.
 - c. Defendants each have an economic interest in Corporate Defendant in which Plaintiff and similarly situated employees worked.
 - d. Defendants all simultaneously benefitted from Plaintiff's work.
 - e. Defendants each had functional and/or formal control over the terms and conditions of work of Plaintiff and similarly situated employees.
 - f. Plaintiff and similarly situated employees performed work integral to Corporate Defendant's operation.
- 43. In the alternative, Defendants functioned together as a single integrated employer of Plaintiff within the meaning of the FLSA and NYLL.

Corporate Defendant

Adam Builder Corp.

44. Adam Builder Corp. is a domestic corporation formed on March 18, 2015, organized and existing under the laws of the State of New York.

45. Adam Builder Corp. owns and operates Adam Construction Co., a construction business, with a principal place of business located at 27 Brighton 4th Terrace, Brooklyn, NY 11235.

46. At all relevant times, Adam Builder Corp. employed numerous full-time employees and was involved in numerous high-scale construction projects in Queens County, New York.

47. According to its own profile at manta.com, which is "administered by Sammy Khan", the company makes an annual revenue of between \$500,000 to \$1 million. *See* Exhibit C.

48. At all relevant times, Adam Builder Corp. was a covered employer within the meaning of the FLSA, 29 U.S.C. § 203(d) and the NYLL § 190.

49. At all relevant times, Adam Builder Corp. maintained control, oversight, and direction over the Plaintiff, including scheduling, payroll and other employment practices that applied to him.

50. At all relevant times, Adam Builder Corp. was "an enterprise engaged in commerce" within the meaning of the FLSA, 29 U.S.C. § 203(s)(1)(A) because its employees were construction materials imported from out of state, and distributed in New York. In addition, Adam Builder Corp. conducted business with vendors and other businesses outside the state of New York and engaged in credit card transactions involving banks and other institutions outside the state of New York.

51. Upon information and belief, at all relevant times, Adam Builder Corp.'s annual gross volume of sales made, or business done, was not less than \$500,000.00, exclusive of separate retail excise taxes, within the meaning of the FLSA, 29 U.S.C. § 203(s)(1)(a)(ii).

Individual Defendants

Sammy Khan

52. Upon information and belief, at all relevant times, Sammy Khan ("Khan") was a

principal, authorized operator, manager, shareholder and/or agent of Corporate Defendant.

53. At all relevant times throughout Plaintiff's employment, Khan had the discretionary power to create and enforce personnel decisions on behalf of the Corporate Defendant, including but not limited to: hiring and terminating employees; setting and authorizing issuance of wages; maintaining employee records; setting Plaintiff's schedule; negotiating Plaintiff's rate of pay; instructing, supervising and training Plaintiff; and otherwise controlling the terms and conditions for the Plaintiff while he was employed by Defendants.

54. Khan was the individual who hired Plaintiff, gave him all his assignments, and paid him.

55. Khan held out himself to be the Project Manager of Corporate Defendant. *See*Exhibit D, business card of Defendant Khan.

56. At all relevant times throughout Plaintiff's employment, Khan was actively involved in the day-to-day operations of the Corporate Defendant.

57. At all relevant times throughout Plaintiff's employment, Khan was a "covered employer" within the meaning of the FLSA and the NYLL, and employed or jointly employed Plaintiff, and is personally liable for the unpaid wages sought herein, pursuant to 29 U.S.C. § 203(d) and NYLL § 2.

Jamshaid Akhter

58. Upon information and belief, at all relevant times, Jamshaid Akhter ("Akhter") was an owner, principal, authorized operator, manager, shareholder and/or agent of Corporate Defendant.

59. At all relevant times throughout Plaintiff's employment, Akhter had the discretionary power to create and enforce personnel decisions on behalf of the Corporate

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Defendants, including but not limited to: hiring and terminating employees; setting and authorizing issuance of wages; maintaining employee records; setting employees' schedules; instructing, training and supervising employees; and otherwise controlling the terms and conditions for Corporate Defendant's employees.

60. Upon information and belief, Defendant Khan consulted with Akhter before Defendant Khan formally hired Plaintiff and negotiated his wages.

61. Upon information and belief, Defendant Akhter hired Defendant Khan. Defendant Akhter also exercised full authority over and acquiesced to the unlawful behavior described in this Complaint.

62. At all relevant times throughout Plaintiff's employment, Akhter was actively involved in the day-to-day operations of the Corporate Defendant, and was in charge of its finances.

63. At all relevant times throughout Plaintiff's employment, Akhter was a "covered employer" within the meaning of the FLSA and the NYLL, and employed or jointly employed Plaintiff, and is personally liable for the unpaid wages sought herein, pursuant to 29 U.S.C. § 203(d) and NYLL § 2.

COLLECTIVE ACTION ALLEGATIONS

64. Pursuant to 29 U.S.C. §§ 203, 206, 207, and 216(b), Plaintiff brings his First and Second Causes of Action as a collective action under the FLSA on behalf of himself and the following collective:

All persons employed by Defendants at any time since February 19, 2015, and through the entry of judgment in this case (the "Collective Action Period") who worked as construction workers and other non-exempt employees (the "Collective Action Members").

65. A collective action is appropriate in these circumstances because Plaintiff and the Collective Action Members are similarly situated, in that they were all subject to Defendants' illegal policies of failing to pay minimum wage for all hours worked and overtime premiums for work performed in excess of forty (40) hours each week.

66. Despite slight variations in duties or payment structure, the minimum wage and overtime claims of the Plaintiff stated herein are similar to those of the other employees.

FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION

Fair Labor Standards Act – Minimum Wages

67. Plaintiff, on behalf of himself and the Collective Action Members, realleges and incorporates by reference the allegations made in all preceding paragraphs as if fully set forth herein.

68. At all relevant times, Plaintiff and the Collective Action Members were employees and employed by Defendants within the meaning of the FLSA, 29 U.S.C. § 203(d), (e)(1), and (g).

69. At all times relevant, Defendants have been employers of Plaintiff and the Collective Action Members, and were engaged in commerce and/or the production of goods for commerce within the meaning of 29 U.S.C. §§ 203 (s)(1) and 206 (a).

70. Defendants were required to pay directly to Plaintiff, and the Collective Action Members, the applicable Federal minimum wage rate for all hours worked pursuant to 29 U.S.C. § 206.

71. Defendants failed to pay Plaintiff, and the Collective Action Members, their earned minimum wages for all hours worked to which they were entitled to under the FLSA.

72. In fact, Defendants did not pay the Plaintiff <u>at all</u> for his hours worked during several months of his employment.

73. Defendants' unlawful conduct, as described in this Complaint, has been willful and intentional. Defendants were aware, or should have been aware, that the practices described in this Complaint were unlawful.

74. Defendants failed to post or keep posted conspicuous notices of Plaintiff's rights as required by the U.S. Department of Labor pursuant to 29 C.F.R. § 516.4, further evincing Defendants' lack of good faith.

75. Because Defendants' violations of the FLSA have been willful, a three-year statute of limitations applies pursuant to 29 U.S.C. § 255(a).

76. As a result of Defendants' violations of the FLSA, Plaintiff and the Collective Action Members have suffered damages by being denied minimum wages in accordance with the FLSA in amounts to be determined at trial, and are entitled to recovery of such amounts, liquidated damages, reasonable attorneys' fees, costs, and other compensation pursuant to 29 U.S.C. § 216(b).

SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION

Fair Labor Standards Act – Unpaid Overtime Wages

77. Plaintiff and the Collective Action Members reallege and incorporate by reference the allegations made in all preceding paragraphs as if fully set forth herein.

78. The overtime wage provisions set forth in the FLSA, 29 U.S.C. § 207 (a)(1) and the supporting federal regulations, apply to Defendants and protect Plaintiff and the Collective Action Members.

79. Defendants have failed to pay Plaintiff and the Collective Action Members overtime wages at a rate of one and one-half times the regular rate at which they were employed for but under no instance less than one and one-half times the statutory minimum wage for all of the hours that they worked in excess of forty (40) hours per workweek.

80. As a result of Defendants' violations of the FLSA, Plaintiff and the Collective Action Members have been deprived of overtime compensation and other wages in amounts to be determined at trial, and are entitled to recovery of such amounts, liquidated damages, attorneys' fees, costs, and other compensation pursuant to 29 U.S.C. § 216 (b).

THIRD CAUSE OF ACTION Fair Labor Standards Act – Late payment of wages

81. Plaintiff realleges and incorporates by reference all allegations in all preceding paragraphs.

82. The FLSA, 29 U.S.C. § 206(a), the supporting Federal regulations including but not limited to 29 C.F.R. §§ 553.224, 778.106, and 790.21 and its interpreting case law including *Rogers v. City of Troy, N.Y.*, 148 F.3d 52, 55 (2d Cir. 1998) require employers to pay employees their wages promptly.

83. In particular, Defendants were required to establish a fixed work period with respect to the payment of Plaintiff and to pay him on the regular pay day for the period in which the workweek ended and, in no event, delay compensation for a period longer than reasonably necessary.

84. Defendants have violated the FLSA, 29 U.S.C. 206(a) and the supporting federal regulations by consistently and repeatedly failing to pay Plaintiff his wages at the regular pay day as required.

85. Defendants' violation of the FLSA was willful and intentional since Plaintiff had repeatedly addressed the issue of delayed payments to Defendants on multiple occasions.

86. Due to Defendants' failure to pay Plaintiff his required compensation for any workweek at the regular pay day, Plaintiff has suffered damages and is entitled to an amount of liquidated damages equal to the amount of the late payments, as well as, attorneys' fees, and costs pursuant to 29 U.S.C. § 216(b).

FOURTH CAUSE OF ACTION New York Labor Law – Minimum Wage

87. Plaintiff realleges and incorporates by reference all allegations in all preceding paragraphs.

88. At all relevant times referenced herein, Plaintiff had been an employee of Defendants, and Defendants have been employers of Plaintiff within the meaning of the NYLL §§ 190, 651 (5), 652, and the supporting New York State Department of Labor Regulations.

89. Defendants were required to pay Plaintiff no less than the applicable statutory minimum wage for all hours worked under the NYLL § 652 and the supporting New York State Department of Labor regulations, 12 N.Y.C.R.R. Part 142-2.1.

90. Defendants either paid Plaintiff below minimum wage, or did not may Plaintiff at all, for his hours worked, thereby violating the provisions of the act.

91. Defendants' failure to pay Plaintiff at least at minimum wage was lacked a good faith basis within the meaning of NYLL § 663.

92. Defendants also failed to post conspicuous notices of the Plaintiff's rights under the law, as required by the NYLL § 661 and the New York State Department of Labor Regulations, 12 N.Y.C.R.R. Part 142-2.8, further evincing Defendants' lack of good faith. 93. Due to Defendants' violations of the NYLL, Plaintiff is entitled to recover from Defendants his unpaid minimum wages, liquidated damages as provided for by the NYLL, reasonable attorneys' fees, costs, and pre-judgment and post-judgment interest, pursuant to NYLL § 198 (1-a).

FIFTH CAUSE OF ACTION

New York Labor Law – Unpaid Overtime Wages

94. Plaintiff realleges and incorporates by reference all allegations in all preceding paragraphs.

95. The overtime wage provisions as set forth in NYLL §§ 190 *et seq.* and the supporting New York State Department of Labor Regulations apply to Defendants and protect Plaintiff.

96. Defendants have failed to pay Plaintiff at an overtime rate which he was entitled to at a wage rate of one and one-half times his regular rate of pay but under no instance less than one and one-half times the statutory minimum wage as defined by the New York State Department of Labor regulations, 12 N.Y.C.R.R. Part 142-2.2.

97. Through their knowing or intentional failure to pay Plaintiff proper overtime wages for hours worked in excess of forty (40) hours per workweek, Defendants have violated the NYLL §§ 190 *et seq.*, and the supporting New York State Department of Labor Regulations.

98. Defendants' failure to pay Plaintiff overtime compensation lacked a good faith basis within the meaning of NYLL § 663.

99. Due to Defendants' violations of the NYLL, Plaintiff is entitled to recover from Defendants their unpaid overtime wages, liquidated damages as provided for by the NYLL,

reasonable attorneys' fees and costs of the action, pre-judgment and post-judgment interest, pursuant to NYLL § 198 (1-a).

SIXTH CAUSE OF ACTION

New York Labor Law – Spread-of-Hours Pay

64. Plaintiff realleges and incorporates by reference all allegations in all preceding paragraphs.

65. The spread-of-hours provisions as set forth in NYLL §§ 190 *et seq.* and the supporting New York State Department of Labor Regulations apply to Defendants and protect Plaintiff.

66. Defendants have failed to pay Plaintiff spread-of-hours compensation of one hour's pay at the basic minimum hourly wage rate for each day during which the interval between the beginning and end of Plaintiff's shift exceeded ten (10) hours, as defined by the New York State Department of Labor regulations, 12 N.Y.C.R.R. Part 142-2.4.

67. Through their knowing or intentional failure to pay Plaintiff spread-of-hours compensation, Defendants have willfully violated the NYLL §§ 190 *et seq.*, and the supporting New York State Department of Labor Regulations.

68. Due to Defendants' violations of the NYLL, Plaintiff is entitled to recover from Defendants his unpaid spread-of-hours pay, liquidated damages as provided for by the NYLL, reasonable attorneys' fees, costs, and pre-judgment and post-judgment interest, pursuant to NYLL § 198 (1-a).

SEVENTH CAUSE OF ACTION

New York Labor Law- Late Payments and Unpaid Straight Wages

100. Plaintiff realleges and incorporates by reference all allegations in all preceding paragraphs.

101. Throughout his employment period, Defendants were required to pay Plaintiff not less frequently than semi-monthly, on regular pay days designated in advance by Defendants pursuant to NYLL § 191(1)(d).

102. Defendants have violated NYLL § 191(1)(d) by consistently and repeatedly failing to pay Plaintiff at regular semi-monthly intervals.

103. Defendants have further violated NYLL § 191(3) which requires employers to pay an employee's wages not later than the regular pay day after termination of employment has occurred.

104. Defendants' violation of the NYLL was willful and intentional since Plaintiff had repeatedly addressed the issue of delayed payments to Defendants on multiple occasions.

105. To date, Plaintiff is still owed considerable sums of money from Defendants.

106. Due to Defendants' failure to pay Plaintiff his required compensation at the agreed upon weekly date, Plaintiff has suffered damages and is entitled to an amount of all unpaid wages due, liquidated damages equal to the amount of the unpaid wages, liquidated damages amounting to all of Defendants' late payments, pre-judgment and post-judgment interest, attorneys' fees, and costs pursuant to NYLL § 198(1-a).

EIGHTH CAUSE OF ACTION

New York Labor Law- Failure to Provide Notice at the Time of Hiring

107. Plaintiff realleges and incorporates by reference all allegations in all preceding paragraphs.

108. Defendants have failed to provide Plaintiff at the time of hiring or at any point thereafter, a notice containing the rate of pay and basis thereof, whether paid by the hour, shift, day, week, salary, piece, commission, or other; the regular pay day designated by the employer; the physical address of the employer's main office or principal place of business; the telephone number of the employer, and anything otherwise required by law, in violation of NYLL § 195(1).

109. Due to Defendants' violations of the NYLL § 195(1), Plaintiff is entitled to recover from Defendants statutory damages of Fifty dollars (\$50) per workday that the violation occurred, up to a maximum of Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000), pursuant to NYLL § 198 (1-b).

NINTH CAUSE OF ACTION

New York Labor Law– Failure to Provide Wage Statements

110. Plaintiff realleges and incorporates by reference all allegations in all preceding paragraphs.

111. Defendants have failed to provide Plaintiff with wage statements listing, *inter alia*, his regular rate of pay; basis of pay; and overtime rate of pay, in violation NYLL § 195 (3).

112. Due to Defendants' violations of the NYLL, Plaintiff is entitled to recover from Defendants statutory damages of Two Hundred and Fifty dollars (\$250) per workday that the

violation occurred, up to a maximum of Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000), pursuant to NYLL § 198 (1-d).

TENTH CAUSE OF ACTION

New York Labor Law – Unreimbursed Business Expenses

113. Plaintiff realleges and incorporates by reference the allegations made in all preceding paragraphs as if fully set forth herein.

114. Defendants provided Plaintiff with two \$900.00 paychecks without having sufficient funds in their bank account. As a result, the checks bounced, and Plaintiff had to incur a fee through his bank. Defendants failed to reimburse Plaintiff for the bounced check fees.

115. Accordingly, Defendants are required to compensate Plaintiff for all business expenses that Defendants required Plaintiff to incur without reimbursement.

116. Defendants' practices were also unlawful pursuant to NYLL § 198-b, since it caused his wages to be further reduced below the minimum wage.

117. Due to Defendants' NYLL violations, Plaintiff is entitled to recover damages from Defendants in the amount of Defendants' unreimbursed business expenses for which Plaintiff incurred, plus liquidated damages, damages for unreasonably delayed payment of wages, interest, reasonable attorneys' fees and costs and disbursements of the action pursuant to NYLL § 663(1) et seq. and § 196-d.

ELEVENTH CAUSE OF ACTION

New York State Common Law - Breach of contract

118. Plaintiff realleges and incorporates by reference all allegations in all preceding paragraphs.

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119. An enforceable agreement existed between Plaintiff and Defendants whereby Plaintiff agreed to perform work for Defendants and, in turn, be remunerated at a rate of One Hundred and Twenty Dollars (\$120.00) per eight-hour shift of work.

120. Plaintiff satisfactorily performed work for Defendants from September 10, 2016 to September 30, 2017, thereby performing fully his obligations under the agreement.

121. Defendants did not remunerate Plaintiff for all the work he performed at the agreed-upon rate; instead, they paid him a total of \$10,930 at varying and infrequent intervals, which represents only a fraction of the money owed to him for this period of time. Therefore, Defendants breached the agreement.

122. As a direct result of Defendants' breach, Plaintiff sustained damages in an amount to be determined at trial based upon an accounting of the amount Plaintiff should have been paid as contemplated by his employment agreement with Defendants minus the amount actually paid to Plaintiff, with an award of interest, costs, disbursements, and attorneys' fees.

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff seeks the following relief:

A. Designating this action as a collective action and authorizing prompt issuance of notice pursuant to 29 U.S.C. § 216(b) to all putative collective action members, apprising them of the pendency of this action, and permitting them promptly to file consents to be Plaintiff in the FLSA claims in this action;

B. Issuance of a declaratory judgment that the practices complained of in this complaint are unlawful under the Fair Labor Standards Act, 29 U.S.C. §§ 201 *et seq.*, New York Labor Law, Article 6, §§ 190 *et seq.*, and Article 19, §§ 650 *et seq.*, and the supporting New York State Department of Labor Regulations;

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C. Unpaid minimum wages and overtime pay under the FLSA and an additional and equal amount as liquidated damages pursuant to 29 U.S.C. § 216(b) and the supporting United States Department of Labor regulations;

D. Liquidated damages equal to the amount of all late payments received by Plaintiff, pursuant to 29 U.S.C. § 216(b) and 29 C.F.R. § 790.21;

E. Unpaid minimum and overtime wages, and spread-of-hours pay under NYLL, and an additional and equal amount as liquidated damages pursuant to NYLL § 198(1-a) and § 663(1);

F. Unpaid straight wages for the time period of September 10, 2016 to September 30, 2017, and an additional and equal amount as liquidated damages pursuant to NYLL § 198(1-a);

G. Liquidated damages equal to the amount of all late payments received by Plaintiff, pursuant to NYLL § 198 (1-a);

H. An award of damages arising out of unreimbursed business expenses, and an additional and equal amount as liquidated damages pursuant to NYLL §198(1-a);

I. Civil penalties of One Thousand One Hundred Dollars (\$1,100) for each of Defendants' willful and repeated violations of the FLSA pursuant to 29 U.S.C. § 216(b);

J. An award of statutory damages for Defendants' failure to provide Plaintiff with a wage notice at the time of hiring pursuant to NYLL § 198 (1-b);

K. An award of statutory damages for Defendants' failure to provide Plaintiff with wage statements pursuant to NYLL § 198 (1-d);

L. Compensatory damages due to Defendants' breach of contract in an amount to be determined at trial;

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1	М.	A permanent injunction requiring D	befendants to pay all statutorily required
2	wages pursual	nt to the FLSA and NYLL;	
3	N.	If liquidated damages pursuant to FL	SA, 29 U.S.C. § 216(b), are not awarded,
4	an award of p	prejudgment interest pursuant to 28 U.S.	C. § 1961;
5	O.	An award of pre-judgment interest of	nine per centum per annum (9%) pursuant
6 7	to the New Yo	ork Civil Practice Law and Rules §§ 50	01-5004;
8	P.		pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1961 and/or the
9		vil Practice Law and Rules § 5003;	
10			and further expenses up to fifty dollars,
11	Q.	• • • •	
12	-	9 U.S.C. § 216(b), and NYLL §§ 198 an	
13	R.	Such other relief as this Court shall de	em just and proper.
14			
15 16	Dated:	: New York, New York February 19, 2018	
17			
18			Respectfully submitted, PARDALIS & NOHAVICKA, LLP
19			I ARDALIS & NOHAVICKA, LLP
20		By:	/s/Ariadne Panagopoulou
21		P	Ariadne Panagopoulou (AP-2202) Attorneys for the Plaintiff
22			35-10 Broadway, Suite 201 Astoria, New York 11106
23 24			Fel: 718.777.0400 Fax: 718.777.0599 Email: ari@pnlawyers.com
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NOTICE OF CONSENT TO JOIN, PURSUANT TO 29 U.S.C. §216(b)

FAIR LABOR STANDARDS ACT CONSENT FORM

I consent to be a party plaintiff in a lawsuit against Adam Construction Co., and/or related entities and individuals in order to seek redress for violations of Fair Labor Standards Act, pursuant to 29 U.S.C. section § 216(b) and New York Labor Law. I hereby designate Pardalis & Nohavicka LLP to represent me in such a lawsuit.

Dated: 1/30/2018

Signature

vtar Singl

Print

119kt 13 101 Avenue

Richmond Hill, NY 11419 South Address

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Telephone

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PO Box 841002, Boston MA 02284 1-877-768-2265

Date: Sep 12, 2017 Advice 000219

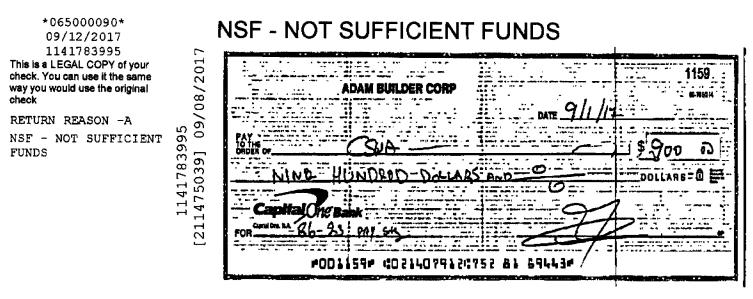
> **AVTAR SINGH** 9572 115TH ST S RICHMOND HL NY 11419-1126

We are charging your accounts for items returned unpaid and applicable fees. Please see details listed below.

REASON **NSF - NOT SUFFICIENT FUNDS**

SEQ# 1141783995 **ITEM AMOUNT** \$9.00.00

1 Item(s) charged totaling \$900.00 1 Return item fee(s) totaling \$10.00



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Case 1:18-cv-01059 Document 1-2 Filed 02/19/18 Page 2 of 5 PageID #: 38



AVTAR SINGH

Account number:2313726913711728316 A list of recent transactions on your account

Mini-statement

BALANCE SUMMARY

Туре	Amount (\$)
Available	685.23
Ledger	685.23

POSTED ACTIVITY

Balance (\$	Withdrawal(\$)	Deposit(\$)	Details	Date
1,151.2		86.00	ATM DEPOSIT D681 Richmond	09/21/2017
1,065.2	-700.00		CASH WITHDRAWAL SANTANDER	09/20/2017
1,765.2	-100.00		BEST BUY O FLUSHING /NY US	09/20/2017
1,865.2	-20.00		CASH WITHDRAWAL SANTANDER	09/18/2017
1,885.2		700.00	BRANCH TRANSACTION AT	09/18/2017
1,185.2		400.00	ATM DEPOSIT D681 Richmond	09/15/2017
785.2	-10.00		RETURN DEPOSITED ITEM FEE	09/12/2017
795.2	5-900.000		RETURN DEPOSITED ITEM NSF -	09/12/2017
1,695.2	-60,00		CASH WITHDRAWAL SANTANDER	09/11/2017
1,755.2	-40.00		CASH WITHDRAWAL SANTANDER	09/11/2017



AVTAR SINGH

Mini-statement Account number: 2313726913711728316 A list of recent transactions on your account

BALANCE SUBMARY

Туре	Amount (\$)
Available	685.23
Ledger	685.23

POSTED ACTIVITY

Balance(\$	Withdrawal(\$)	Deposit(\$)	Details	Date
819.7		60.00	ATM DEPOSIT D508 Bronx /NY	08/24/2017
759.7	-10.00		RETURN DEPOSITED ITEM FEE	08/23/2017
769.7	-900.00		RETURN DEPOSITED ITEM NSF -	08/23/2017
1.669.7	-800.00		CASH WITHDRAWAL SANTANDER	08/23/2017
2.469.7			ATM CHECK DEPOSIT D508 463	08/21/2017
1,569,7	-20.00		CASH WITHDRAWAL SANTANDER	08/16/2017
1,589.7		900.00	ATM CHECK DEPOSIT D509 112	08/16/2017
689.7		140.00	ATM DEPOSIT D508 Bronx /NY	08/14/2017
549.7	-1,000.00		BRANCH TRANSACTION AT THE	08/04/2017
1,549.7	-,	150.00	ATM DEPOSIT D508 Bronx /NY	08/04/2017

Decument 1-2 Filed 02/19/18 Page 5 of 5 PageID #: 41



What You Need to Know about Overdrafts and Overdraft Fees

Over	view		
overo 1. 2.	verdraft occurs when you do not have enough money in your account to co drafts in two different ways: We have <u>standard overdraft practices</u> that come with your account. We also offer an <u>overdraft protection plan</u> which allows you to link of of Credit, to cover overdrafts in your checking account. This plan may b more, ask us about this plan. notice explains our <u>standard overdraft practices</u> .	other acco	ounts such as a savings account or an Overdraft Line
	t are the standard overdraft practices that come with my account?		
	o authorize and pay overdrafts for the following types of transactions:		
Þ	Checks and other transactions made using your checking account number	Þ	Recurring debit card transactions
Þ	Automatic bill payments	Þ	Online Banking payments and transfers
We d	o not authorize and pay overdrafts for the following types of transactions	unless yo	u ask us to (see below):
Þ	ATM transactions		
₽	One-time Debit Card purchases	•	
We p <u>not</u> a	ay overdrafts at our discretion, which means we do <u>not quarantee</u> that we uthorize and pay an overdraft, your transaction will be declined.	will alwa	ys authorize and pay any type of transaction. If we do
	t fees will I be charged if Santander pays an overdraft? r our standard overdraft practices:		
Þ	We will charge you a fee of up to \$35 each time we pay an overdraft. T overdrawing your account.	here is a	limit of 6 fees per day we can charge you for
₽	An additional one-time fee of \$35 will be charged on the 6th business of business days. This charge applies to checking, savings and money mark Schedule for details.	day after ; et saving	your account has been overdrawn for 5 consecutive s accounts. See your Personal Deposit Account Fee
What	t if I want Santander to authorize and pay overdrafts on my ATM a	nd one-ti	me debit card transactions?
If you	want us to authorize and pay overdrafts on ATM and one-time debit card		
Can I	change my mind later?		
tell us	i tell us that we are permitted to pay any overdrafts caused by ATM or one- s you no longer want us to do this. You can visit any branch or call us a a types of overdrafts .		

...

Adam Builders Construction CO Brooklyn, New York

Adam Builders Construction CO

We are a privately held company in Brooklyn, NY proudly doing business for 8 years.

Featured Content



8 Things Your Marketing Pro Wants You to Know About SEO Facebook Lingo: 6 Basic Terms & What They Mean Facebook Ads: 19 Ways to Get More Sales with Social Media Marketing

2/19/2018 Case 1:18-cv-010959 uil 19/09 - Frikelyn 02/19/18 Bullargige Bookfr NPagel D #: 43

Contact

Adam Builders Construction CO

View Contact Info

Jamshaid Akhter, Owner

Owner

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lemonade.com

Nynex Construction	Inc
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Brooklyn, NY

Website Directions Call

Rexha Construction Corporation

Brooklyn, NY

Website Directions Call

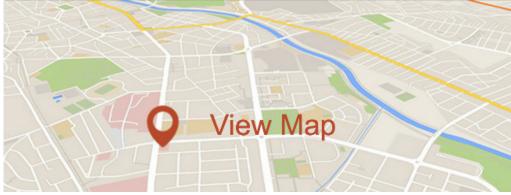
Add your company here

Keystone Contracting Brooklyn, NY Website Directions Call
J&H Construction of NY LLC Brooklyn, NY Website Directions Call
Modern Construction Brooklyn, NY Website Directions Call

Directions

Adam Builders Construction CO

View Contact Info



Recommendations

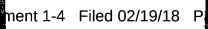
Had a good experience with us? Leaving your recommendation can really go a long way to help us grow, even if your recommendation falls under the category of constructive criticism.

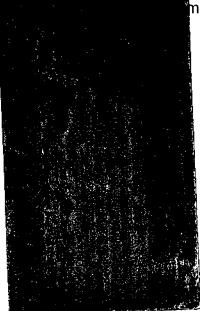
Add Your Recommendation

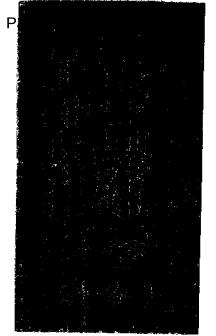
Detailed Information

Location Type	Unknown
Year Established	2010
Annual Revenue Estimate	\$500,000 to \$1 million
SIC Code	1521, General Contractors-Single-Family Houses

This page is administered by Sammy Khan







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P[^]

Case 1:18-cv-01059 Document 1-5 Filed 02/19/18 Page 1 of 2 PageID #: 46 JS 44 (Rev. 01/29/2018) 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	·*···	<u> </u>		DEFENDANTS		tion Co., Sammy Khan, and
Avtar Singh, on behalf of	himself and others sir	nilarly situated		Adam Builder Corr Jamshaid Akhter, j	 d/b/a Adam Construct jointly and severally, 	tion Co., Sammy Khan, and
(b) County of Residence of First Listed Plaintiff				County of Residence	of First Listed Defendant	Kings
· · ·	XCEPT IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CA	ISES)			(IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES (0
				NOTE: IN LAND CO THE TRACT	ONDEMNATION CASES, USE T OF LAND INVOLVED.	THE LOCATION OF
(c) Attorneys (Firm Name, 2	Address, and Telephone Numbe	r)		Attorneys (If Known)		
Pardalis & Nohavicka LL	P					
950 Third Ave, 25th Floo Tel: 718-777-0400	r, new York, NY 1002	2				
II. BASIS OF JURISDI	CTION (Place an "X" in O	ne Box Only)			RINCIPAL PARTIES	(Place an "X" in One Box for Plaintiff
□ 1 U.S. Government			((For Diversity Cases Only) [P]	FF DEF	and One Box for Defendant) PTF DEF
Plaintiff	(U.S. Government)	Not a Party)	Citize		1 D 1 Incorporated or Pr of Business In 7	rincipal Place 🗖 4 🗖 4
2 U.S. Government Defendant	☐ 4 Diversity (Indicate Citizensh	ip of Parties in Item III)	Citize	n of Another State 🛛	2 D 2 Incorporated and of Business In	
				n or Subject of a 🛛 🗖 reign Country	3 🗖 3 Foreign Nation	□ 6 □ 6
IV. NATURE OF SUIT						of Suit Code Descriptions.
 I10 Insurance 	PERSONAL INJURY	PERSONAL INJUR		RESELUCIE/PONALITY	□ 422 Appeal 28 USC 158	□ 375 False Claims Act
🗇 120 Marine	310 Airplane	□ 365 Personal Injury -		5 Drug Related Seizure of Property 21 USC 881	□ 422 Appeal 28 USC 158 □ 423 Withdrawal	□ 375 Paise Claims Act □ 376 Qui Tam (31 USC
130 Miller Act	□ 315 Airplane Product	Product Liability 367 Health Care/	1 69	0 Other	28 USC 157	3729(a))
 140 Negotiable Instrument 150 Recovery of Overpayment 	Liability I 320 Assault, Libel &	D 367 Health Care/ Pharmaceutical			(の言)の(を)のななをして(の)を見ている。	 400 State Reapportionment 410 Antitrust
& Enforcement of Judgment	Slander	Personal Injury			820 Copyrights	430 Banks and Banking
 151 Medicare Act 152 Recovery of Defaulted 	330 Federal Employers' Liability	Product Liability 368 Asbestos Personal	1		 830 Patent 835 Patent - Abbreviated 	450 Commerce 460 Deportation
Student Loans	🗇 340 Marine	Injury Product			New Drug Application	470 Racketeer Influenced and
(Excludes Veterans) 153 Recovery of Overpayment	345 Marine Product Liability	Liability PERSONAL PROPER		U.Ror	840 Trademark SOCIAL SECURITY	Corrupt Organizations
of Veteran's Benefits	□ 350 Motor Vehicle	□ 370 Other Fraud		0 Fair Labor Standards	□ 861 HIA (1395ff)	□ 490 Cable/Sat TV
160 Stockholders' Suits	355 Motor Vehicle	□ 371 Truth in Lending		Act	□ 862 Black Lung (923)	850 Securities/Commodities/
 190 Other Contract 195 Contract Product Liability 	Product Liability 360 Other Personal	380 Other Personal Property Damage		0 Labor/Management Relations	□ 863 DIWC/DIWW (405(g)) □ 864 SSID Title XVI	Exchange 890 Other Statutory Actions
196 Franchise	Injury	385 Property Damage	7 4	0 Railway Labor Act	865 RSI (405(g))	B 891 Agricultural Acts
	362 Personal Injury - Medical Malpractice	Product Liability		I Family and Medical Leave Act		 893 Environmental Matters 895 Freedom of Information
REAL PROPERTY	CIVIL RIGHTS	PRISONERIPETITIO		0 Other Labor Litigation	REDERALTAX SUITS	Act
 210 Land Condemnation 220 Foreclosure 	 440 Other Civil Rights 441 Voting 	Habeas Corpus: 463 Alien Detainee	79	I Employee Retirement Income Security Act	870 Taxes (U.S. Plaintiff or Defendant)	 896 Arbitration 899 Administrative Procedure
230 Rent Lease & Ejectment	442 Employment	□ 510 Motions to Vacate	.	moome becamy net	□ 871 IRS—Third Party	Act/Review or Appeal of
 240 Torts to Land 245 Tort Product Liability 	443 Housing/ Accommodations	Sentence 530 General			26 USC 7609	Agency Decision 950 Constitutionality of
243 Ton Product Liability 290 All Other Real Property	445 Amer. w/Disabilities -	□ 535 Death Penalty	nts: 1900	IMMIGRATION		State Statutes
	Employment	Other:		2 Naturalization Application	1	
	446 Amer. w/Disabilities - Other	540 Mandamus & Oth 550 Civil Rights	ier 📋 463	5 Other Immigration Actions		
	448 Education	555 Prison Condition				
		560 Civil Detainee - Conditions of				
		Confinement				
V. ORIGIN (Place an "X" in	n One Box Only)					
	moved from 3 te Court	Remanded from Appellate Court	□ 4 Reins Reop	stated or 5 Transfe bened Anothe (specify)	r District Litigation	
VI. CAUSE OF ACTIO	29 U.S.C. §§ 201	et. seq	re filing (D	Do not cite jurisdictional stat	tutes unless diversity):	
The CAUSE OF ACTIN	Bher description of ca	iuse: nd overtime wage '	violation	8		
VII. REQUESTED IN	<u>v</u>	IS A CLASS ACTION		S EMAND S	CHECK YES only	/ if demanded in complaint:
COMPLAINT:	UNDER RULE 2		•	200,000.00	JURY DEMAND	
VIII. RELATED CASI IF ANY	E (S) (See instructions):	JUDGE			DOCKET NUMBER	
DATE		SIGNATURE OF AT	TORNEY C	F RECORD		
02/19/2018 FOR OFFICE USE ONLY		\sim //.	ad	ne		
	MOUNT	APPLYING IFP		JUDGE	MAG. JUI	DGE

CERTIFICATION OF ARBITRATION ELIGIBILITY

Local Arbitration Rule 83.10 provides that with certain exceptions, actions seeking money damages only in an amount not in excess of \$150,000, exclusive of interest and costs, are eligible for compulsory arbitration. The amount of damages is presumed to be below the threshold amount unless a certification to the contrary is filed.

I, Ariadne Panagopoulou, Esq.

, counsel for Plaintiff

_, do hereby certify that the above captioned civil action

is ineligible for compulsory arbitration for the following reason(s):

monetary damages sought are in excess of \$150,000, exclusive of interest and costs,

the complaint seeks injunctive relief,

the matter is otherwise ineligible for the following reason

DISCLOSURE STATEMENT - FEDERAL RULES CIVIL PROCEDURE 7.1

Identify any parent corporation and any publicly held corporation that owns 10% or more or its stocks:

RELATED CASE STATEMENT (Section VIII on the Front of this Form)

Please list all cases that are arguably related pursuant to Division of Business Rule 50.3.1 in Section VIII on the front of this form. Rule 50.3.1 (a) provides that "A civil case is "related" to another civil case for purposes of this guideline when, because of the similarity of facts and legal issues or because the cases arise from the same transactions or events, a substantial saving of judicial resources is likely to result from assigning both cases to the same judge and magistrate judge." Rule 50.3.1 (b) provides that "A civil case shall not be deemed "related" to another civil case merely because the civil case: (A) involves identical legal issues, or (B) involves the same parties." Rule 50.3.1 (c) further provides that "A civil case shall not be deemed to be "related" unless both cases are still pending before the court."

NY-E DIVISION OF BUSINESS RULE 50.1(d)(2)

1.)	Is the civil action County?	being	filed in th Yes	e Easte	ern District removed fror No	m a New	York State Court located in Nassau or Suffolk
2.)	If you answered ' a) Did the events County?	no" at or om	oove: lissions g Yes	iving ris	se to the claim or claims No	s, or a sul	ostantial part thereof, occur in Nassau or Suffolk
	b) Did the events District?	or om	iissions g Yes	iving ris	se to the claim or claims No	, or a sul	ostantial part thereof, occur in the Eastern
	c) If this is a Fair I received:	Debt Co	ollection P	ractice	Act case, specify the Cour	nty in whic	ch the offending communication was
Suffolk (County, or, in an inte	erplead Yes	er action,	does the No	e claimant (or a majority of	the claim	nts, if there is more than one) reside in Nassau or ants, if there is more than one) reside in Nassau or the most significant contacts).
					BAR ADMIS	SSION	
	I am currently adm	itted in	the Easte	rn Distri	ct of New York and current	tly a mem	ber in good standing of the bar of this court.
		Z		Yes			No
	Are you currently	the su	ubject of a	any dis	ciplinary action (s) in thi	s or any o	other state or federal court?
				Yes	(If yes, please explain	\checkmark	No
	I certify the accu	racy of	f all inform	nation p	provided above.		
	Signature:		Ar,	iae	he	<u></u>	

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

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

for the

Eastern District of New York

)))

)

)

Avtar Singh, on behalf of himself and others similarly situated					
Plaintiff(s)					
V.					

Civil Action No.

Adam Builder Corp. d/b/a Adam Construction Co., Sammy Khan, and Jamshaid Akhter, jointly and severally

Defendant(s)

SUMMONS IN A CIVIL ACTION

)

To: (Defendant's name and address) Adam Builder Corp. d/b/a Adam Construction Co., Sammy Khan, and Jamshaid Akhter 27 Brighton 4th Terr Brooklyn, New York 11235

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: Ariadne Panagopoulou, Esq.

Pardalis & Nohavicka LLP 950 Third Avenue 25th Floor New York NY 10022

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.

> DOUGLAS C. PALMER CLERK OF COURT

Date:

Signature of Clerk or Deputy Clerk

ClassAction.org

This complaint is part of ClassAction.org's searchable class action lawsuit database and can be found in this post: <u>Construction Worker Claims Employers Owe Him 'Several Months' of Unpaid Wages</u>