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MP2 Enterprises, LLC; Bryant Peterson; Layne Peterson; Doe Corporation 1-10; John Doe 1-

Defendants.

10

The United States District Court District Of Utah

Rebecca Brandi-Vanmeter,	
On behalf of herself and those similarly situated,	PROPOSED CLASS AND COLLECTIVE ACTION COMPLAINT JURY DEMAND
Plaintiff, v.	Case No. Judge:

1. Rebecca Brandi-Vanmeter, on behalf of herself and similarly-situated individuals, brings this action against Defendants MP2 Enterprises, LLC, Bryant Peterson, Layne Peterson, Doe Corporation 1-10, and John Doe 1-10 ("Defendants"). Plaintiff seeks appropriate monetary, declaratory, and equitable relief based on Defendants' willful failure to compensate Plaintiff and

similarly-situated individuals with minimum wages as required by the Fair Labor Standards Act ("FLSA"), 29 U.S.C. § 201, et seq., the Nevada Constitution, Article 15, Section 16, Nevada Wage and Hour Law, NRS § 608 et seq, and for unjust enrichment.

- 2. Defendants operate Pizza Hut Locations in Alaska, Arizona, Utah, and Nevada (the "Defendants' Pizza Hut stores").
- 3. Plaintiff seeks to represent the delivery drivers who have worked at the Defendants' Pizza Hut stores.
- 4. Defendants repeatedly and willfully violated the Fair Labor Standards Act, the Nevada Constitution, and Nevada wage and hour laws by failing to adequately reimburse delivery drivers for their delivery-related expenses, thereby failing to pay delivery drivers the legally mandated minimum wages for all hours worked.
- 5. All delivery drivers at the Defendants' Pizza Hut stores, including Plaintiff, have been subject to the same or similar employment policies and practices.

I. Jurisdiction and Venue

- 6. Under 28 U.S.C. § 1331 and 29 U.S.C. § 216(b), this Court has jurisdiction over Plaintiff's FLSA claims.
- 7. Venue in this Court is proper under 28 U.S.C. § 1391(b) because Defendants reside in this district, and a substantial part of the events giving rise to the claim herein occurred in this district.

II. Parties

Plaintiff

Rebecca Brandi-Vanmeter

- 8. Plaintiff Rebecca Brandi-Vanmeter is a resident of Nevada.
- 9. Plaintiff was an "employee" of all of the Defendants as defined in the FLSA, the Nevada Constitution, and Nevada wage and hour laws.
 - 10. Plaintiff has given written consent to join this action.

Defendants

MP2 Enterprises, LLC

- 11. Defendants together operate the Pizza Hut stores.
- 12. Defendants suffer or permit Plaintiff and other delivery drivers to work.
- 13. Defendant MP2 Enterprises, LLC, is a domestic limited liability corporation, organized under the laws of the state of Utah, with its principal place of business at 222 W State Street #4, Hurricane, UT 84737, and authorized to do business under the laws of the state of Nevada.
- 14. Upon information and belief, MP2 Enterprises, LLC is owned and operated by Bryant Peterson and Layne Peterson.
 - 15. MP2 Enterprises, LLC was founded by Bryant Peterson and Layne Peterson.
- 16. At all relevant times, MP2 Enterprises, LLC can command where, when, and how much labor is performed by the delivery drivers at the Defendants' Pizza Hut stores.
- 17. At all relevant times, MP2 Enterprises, LLC has had substantial control over Plaintiff and similarly situated employees' working conditions, and over the unlawful policies and practices alleged herein.
- 18. At all relevant times, upon information and belief, MP2 Enterprises, LLC applies or causes to be applied substantially the same employment policies, practices, and procedures to

all delivery drivers at all of its locations, including policies, practices, and procedures relating to payment of minimum wages, and reimbursement of automobile expenses.

- 19. At all relevant times, MP2 Enterprises, LLC has direct or indirect control of the terms and conditions of Plaintiff's work and the work of similarly situated employees.
- 20. At all relevant times, MP2 Enterprises, LLC has maintained control, oversight, and direction over Plaintiff and similarly situated employees, including, but not limited to, hiring, firing, disciplining, timekeeping, payroll, reimbursements, pay rates, deductions, and other practices.
- 21. At all relevant times, MP2 Enterprises, LLC has been an "employer" of Plaintiff and similarly situated employees as that term is defined by the FLSA and Nevada law.
- 22. At all relevant times, MP2 Enterprises, LLC has been an enterprise engaged in "the production of goods for commerce" within the meaning of the phrase as used in the FLSA.
 - 23. MP2 Enterprises, LLC has grossed in excess of \$500,000 in revenue per year.

Bryant Peterson

- 24. Bryant Peterson is an owner and officer of Defendants' Pizza Hut stores.
- 25. Bryant Peterson is the CEO of the Pizza Hut stores and MP2 Enterprises, LLC.
- 26. Bryant Peterson can command where, when, and how much labor is performed by the delivery drivers at the Defendants' Pizza Hut stores.
- 27. Bryant Peterson is individually liable to the Defendants' Pizza Hut stores' delivery drivers under the definitions of "employer" set forth in the FLSA and Nevada law because she owns and operates the Defendants' Pizza Hut stores, serves as a manager of the Defendants' Pizza Hut stores, ultimately controls significant aspects of the Defendants' Pizza Hut stores' day-

to-day functions, and ultimately has control over compensation and reimbursement of employees. 29 U.S.C. § 203(d); Nev. Const. art. 15, § 16(C); N.R.S. § 608.010.

- 28. At all relevant times, by virtue of his role as an owner and CEO of Defendants' Pizza Hut stores, Bryant Peterson has had financial control over the operations at each of the Defendants' Pizza Hut stores.
- 29. At all relevant times, by virtue of his role as an owner and CEO of Defendants' Pizza Hut stores, Bryant Peterson has a role in significant aspects of the Defendants' Pizza Hut stores' day to day operations.
- 30. At all relevant times, by virtue of his role as an owner and CEO of Defendants' Pizza Hut stores, Bryant Peterson has had control over the Defendants' Pizza Hut stores' pay policies.
- 31. At all relevant times, by virtue of his role as an owner and CEO of Defendants' Pizza Hut stores, Bryant Peterson has had power over personnel and payroll decisions at the Defendants' Pizza Hut stores, including but not limited to influence of delivery driver pay.
- 32. At all relevant times, by virtue of his role as an owner and CEO of Defendants' Pizza Hut stores, Bryant Peterson has had the power to hire, fire and discipline employees, including delivery drivers at Defendants' Pizza Hut stores.
- 33. At all relevant times, by virtue of his role as an owner and CEO of Defendants' Pizza Hut stores, Bryant Peterson has had the power to stop any illegal pay practices that harmed delivery drivers at the Defendants' Pizza Hut stores.
- 34. At all relevant times, by virtue of his role as an owner and CEO of Defendants' Pizza Hut stores, Bryant Peterson has had the power to transfer the assets and liabilities of the Defendants' Pizza Hut stores.

- 35. At all relevant times, by virtue of his role as an owner and CEO of Defendants' Pizza Hut stores, Bryant Peterson has had the power to declare bankruptcy on behalf of the Defendants' Pizza Hut stores.
- 36. At all relevant times, by virtue of his role as an owner and CEO of Defendants' Pizza Hut stores, Bryant Peterson has had the power to enter into contracts on behalf of each of the Defendants' Pizza Hut stores.
- 37. At all relevant times, by virtue of his role as an owner and CEO of Defendants' Pizza Hut stores, Bryant Peterson has had the power to close, shut down, and/or sell each of the Defendants' Pizza Hut stores.
- 38. At all relevant times, by virtue of his role as an owner and CEO of Defendants' Pizza Hut stores, Bryant Peterson has had authority over the overall direction of each of Defendants' Pizza Hut stores and was ultimately responsible for their operations.
 - 39. The Defendants' Pizza Hut stores function for Bryant Peterson's profit.
- 40. Bryant Peterson has influence over how the Defendants' Pizza Hut stores can run more profitably and efficiently.

Layne Peterson

- 41. Layne Peterson is the founder and owner of Defendants' Pizza Hut stores.
- 42. During some or all of the relevant time period, Layne Peterson has operated the Defendants' Pizza Hut stores.
- 43. During some or all of the relevant time period, Layne Peterson has had the authority to command where, when, and how much labor is performed by the delivery drivers at the Defendants' Pizza Hut stores.

- 44. During some or all of the relevant time period, Layne Peterson has been individually liable to the Defendants' Pizza Hut stores' delivery drivers under the definitions of "employer" set forth in the FLSA and Nevada law because he owns and operates the Defendants' Pizza Hut stores, serves as a manager of the Defendants' Pizza Hut stores, ultimately controls significant aspects of the Defendants' Pizza Hut stores' day-to-day functions, and ultimately has control over compensation and reimbursement of employees. 29 U.S.C. § 203(d); Nev. Const. art. 15, § 16(C); N.R.S. § 608.010.
- 45. During some or all of the relevant time period, by virtue of his role as founder and owner of Defendants' Pizza Hut stores, Layne Peterson has had financial control over the operations at each of the Defendants' Pizza Hut stores.
- 46. During some or all of the relevant time period, by virtue of his role as founder and owner of Defendants' Pizza Hut stores, Layne Peterson has a role in significant aspects of the Defendants' Pizza Hut stores' day to day operations.
- 47. During some or all of the relevant time period, by virtue of his role as founder and owner of Defendants' Pizza Hut stores, Layne Peterson has had control over the Defendants' Pizza Hut stores' pay policies.
- 48. During some or all of the relevant time period, by virtue of his role as founder and owner of Defendants' Pizza Hut stores, Layne Peterson has had power over personnel and payroll decisions at the Defendants' Pizza Hut stores, including but not limited to influence of delivery driver pay.

- 49. During some or all of the relevant time period, by virtue of his role as founder and owner of Defendants' Pizza Hut stores, Layne Peterson has had the power to hire, fire and discipline employees, including delivery drivers at Defendants' Pizza Hut stores.
- 50. During some or all of the relevant time period, by virtue of his role as founder and owner of Defendants' Pizza Hut stores, Layne Peterson has had the power to stop any illegal pay practices that harmed delivery drivers at the Defendants' Pizza Hut stores.
- 51. During some or all of the relevant time period, by virtue of his role as founder and owner of Defendants' Pizza Hut stores, Layne Peterson has had the power to transfer the assets and liabilities of the Defendants' Pizza Hut stores.
- 52. During some or all of the relevant time period, by virtue of his role as founder and owner of Defendants' Pizza Hut stores, Layne Peterson has had the power to declare bankruptcy on behalf of the Defendants' Pizza Hut stores.
- 53. During some or all of the relevant time period, by virtue of his role as founder and owner of Defendants' Pizza Hut stores, Layne Peterson has had the power to enter into contracts on behalf of each of the Defendants' Pizza Hut stores.
- 54. During some or all of the relevant time period, by virtue of his role as founder and owner of Defendants' Pizza Hut stores, Layne Peterson has had the power to close, shut down, and/or sell each of the Defendants' Pizza Hut stores.
- 55. During some or all of the relevant time period, by virtue of his role as founder and owner of Defendants' Pizza Hut stores, Layne Peterson had authority over the overall direction of each of Defendants' Pizza Hut stores and was ultimately responsible for their operations.

56. During some or all of the relevant time period, the Defendants' Pizza Hut stores have functioned for Layne Peterson's profit.

57. During some or all of the relevant time period, Layne Peterson has had influence over how the Defendants' Pizza Hut stores can run more profitably and efficiently.

John Doe Corp. 1-10

58. Upon information and belief, Defendants own, operate, and control other entities and/or limited liability companies that also comprise part of the Defendants' Pizza Hut stores, and qualify as "employers" of Plaintiff and the delivery drivers at the Defendants' Pizza Hut stores as that term is defined by the FLSA, the Nevada Constitution, and Nevada wage and hour laws. ("Doe Corporation 1-10").

59. The identities of these additional Defendants should be revealed as discovery progresses and can be named at that time.

John Doe Individuals 1-10

60. Upon information and belief, there are additional individuals who also qualify as "employers" of Plaintiff and the delivery drivers at the Defendants' Pizza Hut stores as that term is defined by the FLSA, the Nevada Constitution, and Nevada wage and hour laws. ("John Doe 1-10").

61. The identities of these additional Defendants should be revealed as discovery progresses and can be named at that time.

IV. Facts

Class-wide Factual Allegations

- 62. During all relevant times, Defendants have operated the Defendants' Pizza Hut stores.
- 63. Plaintiff and the similarly situated persons Plaintiff seeks to represent are current and former delivery drivers at the Defendants' Pizza Hut stores.
- 64. At all relevant times, Plaintiff and the similarly situated persons Plaintiff seeks to represent have been "employees" of Defendants as that term is defined by the FLSA and Nevada law.
- 65. During the relevant time period, all delivery drivers employed at the Defendants' Pizza Hut stores have had essentially the same job duties.
- 66. Plaintiff asserts the claims herein on behalf of herself and similarly situated employees relating to the hours they worked on the road making deliveries.
- 67. Plaintiff and similarly situated delivery drivers have been paid a wage rate of minimum wage or slightly above minimum wage for the hours they worked delivering for Defendants' Pizza Hut stores.
- 68. Defendants require delivery drivers at Defendants' Pizza Hut stores to provide cars to use while completing deliveries for Defendants.
- 69. Defendants require delivery drivers to maintain and pay for operable, safe, and legally compliant automobiles to use in delivering Defendants' pizza and other food items.
- 70. Defendants require delivery drivers to incur and/or pay job-related expenses, including but not limited to automobile costs and depreciation, gasoline expenses, automobile maintenance and parts, insurance, financing charges, licensing and registration costs, and storage costs.

- 71. Pursuant to such requirements, Plaintiff and other similarly situated employees purchase gasoline, vehicle parts and fluids, automobile repair and maintenance services, automobile insurance, suffered automobile depreciation and damage, financing, licensing, and registration charges, and pay to safely and securely store their vehicles all for the primary benefit of Defendants.
- 72. Plaintiff and similarly situated delivery drivers received a per-delivery reimbursement payment that resulted in them receiving less than the IRS standard business mileage rate for each mile they drove.
- 73. Defendants' reimbursement payments are not based on the actual expenses incurred by the delivery drivers.
- 74. The Defendants' Pizza Hut stores do not track or record the delivery drivers' actual expenses.
- 75. The Defendants' Pizza Hut stores do not collect receipts from their delivery drivers related to the automobile expenses they incur.
- 76. The Defendants' Pizza Hut stores do not collect receipts of delivery drivers' gasoline purchases during weeks when the delivery drivers worked for Defendants.
- 77. The Defendants' Pizza Hut stores do not collect receipts of delivery drivers' automobile maintenance, repair, and parts purchased or paid for during weeks when the delivery drivers worked for Defendants.
- 78. The Defendants' Pizza Hut stores do not collect receipts of delivery drivers' monthly or annual automobile insurance costs.

- 79. The Defendants' Pizza Hut stores do not collect receipts of delivery drivers' automobile registration costs.
- 80. The Defendants' Pizza Hut stores do not collect receipts of delivery drivers' automobile financing or purchase costs.
- 81. The Defendants' Pizza Hut stores do not collect receipts of delivery drivers' automobile storage costs.
- 82. The Defendants' Pizza Hut stores do not collect any other receipts from delivery drivers related to the automobile expenses they incur as delivery drivers at the Defendants' Pizza Hut stores.
- 83. The Defendants' Pizza Hut stores do not reimburse their delivery drivers for the actual expenses delivery drivers incur.
- 84. The Defendants' Pizza Hut stores do not reimburse their delivery drivers at the IRS standard business mileage rate.
- 85. The Defendants' Pizza Hut stores do not reasonably approximate the delivery drivers' expenses.
- 86. The Defendants' Pizza Hut stores' reimbursement payments result in reimbursements that are less than the IRS standard business mileage rate for each mile driven.
- 87. According to the Internal Revenue Service, the standard mileage rate for the use of a car during the relevant time periods have been:
 - a. 2019: 58 cents/mile
 - b. 2020: 57.5 cents/mile
 - c. 2021: 56 cents/mile
 - d. Jan. to June 2022: 58.5 cents/mile
 - e. July to December 2022: 62.5 cents/mile
 - f. 2023: 65.5 cents/mile

- 88. The delivery drivers at the Defendants' Pizza Hut stores have incurred even more in expenses than those contemplated by the IRS standard business mileage rate—*e.g.*, the increased wear and tear, accelerated depreciation, and insurance costs associated with using a car for pizza delivery.
- 89. The delivery drivers incurred cell phone related expenses for the benefit of Defendants.
- 90. As a result of the automobile and other job-related expenses incurred by Plaintiff and other similarly situated delivery drivers, they were deprived of minimum wages guaranteed to them by the FLSA, the Nevada Constitution, and Nevada wage and hour law.
- 91. Defendants have applied the same or similar pay policies, practices, and procedures to all delivery drivers at the Defendants' Pizza Hut stores.
- 92. Because Defendants paid their drivers a gross hourly wage at precisely, or at least very close to, the applicable minimum wage, and because the delivery drivers incurred unreimbursed automobile expenses, the delivery drivers "kicked back" to Defendants an amount sufficient to cause minimum wage violations.
- 93. Defendants have willfully failed to pay federal and Nevada state minimum wage to Plaintiff and similarly situated delivery drivers at the Defendants' Pizza Hut stores and have been unjustly enriched by the delivery drivers' incurring automobile expenses for their benefit.
- 94. Defendants' compensation and reimbursement policies result in illegal deductions taken from the delivery drivers' wages.

- 95. Defendants have withheld or diverted the delivery drivers' wages by failing to properly reimburse them for vehicle-related expenses incurred to advance Defendants' business.
 - 96. Defendants have failed to timely pay the delivery drivers their wages.
- 97. The delivery drivers at the Defendants' Pizza Hut stores advance a business expense, interest free, to Defendants when they provide cars to use at work.
- 98. Defendants reimburse their delivery drivers amounts less than they would have had to be pay if they had rented vehicles each day to use to make deliveries.
- 99. Defendants reimburse their delivery drivers amounts less than they would have had to pay to own and maintain a fleet of vehicles to complete their deliveries.
- 100. Defendants benefit because they do not have to employ additional individuals or expend additional time managing, monitoring, and maintaining a fleet of vehicles.
- 101. Defendants benefit from the delivery drivers at the Defendants' Pizza Hut stores spending time off the clock repairing and maintaining their vehicles.
- 102. Defendants reimburse their delivery drivers amounts less than they would have had to pay to store a fleet of vehicles to complete their deliveries.
- 103. Defendants benefit from delivery drivers at the Defendants' Pizza Hut stores taking on the risk of using their vehicles to drive for Defendants' business.
- 104. Defendants save substantial insurance costs and exposure to liability by requiring their judgment proof minimum wage workers to take on the risk of accident or injury for them.
- 105. Defendants benefit from not having to store the delivery drivers' vehicles when they are not in use for business purposes.

- 106. Defendants are more easily able to secure loans or financing because the delivery drivers take on the substantial costs associated with providing cars needed to operate their business.
- 107. Defendants need less up-front capital because the delivery drivers provide cars to make Defendants' deliveries.
- 108. The delivery drivers at the Defendants' Pizza Hut stores worked dual jobs, one where they complete deliveries and received tips, and another when they help inside the store and did not receive tips.
- 109. The delivery drivers' non-tipped job duties are not related to and are not completed simultaneously with their tipped job duties. For example, when there are no deliveries to make, Defendants' delivery drivers are required to work inside the Defendants' Pizza Hut stores folding boxes, doing dishes, stocking coolers, mopping and sweeping the floor, taking the trash out, preparing food, and completing other duties inside the restaurant as necessary.

Plaintiff's Individual Factual Allegations

- 110. Plaintiff worked at the Pizza Hut located at 615 E Williams Ave, Fallon, NV 89406 from approximately May 2022 to July 2023.
- 111. Plaintiff works dual jobs: one job where Plaintiff is on the road making deliveries and receiving tips, and another job when Plaintiff helps with tasks inside the store and does not receive tips.
 - 112. Plaintiff's non-tipped job duties were not related to her tipped job duties.

- 113. Plaintiff's non-tipped job duties were not completed contemporaneously with her tipped job duties.
 - 114. Plaintiff was paid Nevada minimum wage for all hours worked.
- 115. When Plaintiff was not delivering food, she worked inside the restaurant. Her work inside the restaurant includes doing dishes, cleaning, preparing food, and completing other duties inside the restaurant as necessary.
 - 116. Plaintiff is required to use her own car to deliver pizzas.
- 117. Plaintiff was reimbursed a per-mile amount, \$0.37 per mile, for each order she delivered for Defendants.
- 118. Plaintiff is required to maintain and pay for operable, safe, and legally compliant automobiles to use in delivering Defendants' pizza and other food items.
- 119. Plaintiff is required to incur and/or pay job-related expenses, including but not limited to automobile costs and depreciation, gasoline expenses, automobile maintenance and parts, insurance, cell phone service, GPS service, automobile financing, licensing and registration costs, and other equipment necessary for delivery drivers to complete their job duties.
- 120. Plaintiff has purchased gasoline, vehicle parts and fluids, automobile repair and maintenance services, automobile insurance, suffered automobile depreciation and damage, automobile financing, licensing and registration costs, stored her vehicle, and incurred cell phone and data charges all for the primary benefit of Defendants.
 - 121. Defendants do not track the actual expenses incurred by Plaintiff.
- 122. Defendants do not ask Plaintiff to provide receipts of the expenses she incurs while delivering pizzas for Defendants.

- 123. Defendants do not reimburse Plaintiff based on her actual delivery-related expenses.
- 124. Plaintiff is not reimbursed at the IRS standard mileage rate for the miles she drives while completing deliveries.
- 125. Defendants do not reimburse Plaintiff based on a reasonable approximation of his expenses.
- 126. Plaintiff regularly makes approximately 3-4 deliveries per hour during the hours she works on the road making deliveries.
 - 127. Plaintiff regularly drove approximately 6 miles per round trip delivery.
- 128. In 2023, for example, the IRS business mileage reimbursement was \$.575 per mile. http://www.irs.gov/Tax-Professionals/Standard-Mileage-Rates. As a result, in 2023, Plaintiff estimates that Defendants under-reimbursed her by \$.342 per mile (\$.655-\$.37=\$.342), \$1.539 per delivery (\$.342 × 4.5 miles per delivery), and \$4.617 per hour (\$1.539 × 3 deliveries per hour).
 - 129. Defendants failed to pay Plaintiff minimum wage as required by law.

Collective Action Allegations

130. Plaintiff brings the First Count on behalf of herself and

All similarly situated current and former delivery drivers employed at the Defendants' Pizza Hut stores during the three years prior to the filing of this Class Action Complaint and the date of final judgment in this matter, who elect to optin to this action (the "FLSA Collective").

131. At all relevant times, Plaintiff and the FLSA Collective have been similarly situated, have had substantially similar job duties, requirements, and pay provisions, and have all been subject to Defendants' decision, policy, plan, practices, procedures, protocols, and rules of willfully refusing to pay Plaintiff and the FLSA Collective minimum wage for all hours worked and

failing to reimburse delivery drivers for automobile expenses and other job-related expenses.

Plaintiff's claims are essentially the same as those of the FLSA Collective.

- 132. Defendants' unlawful conduct is pursuant to a company policy or practice.
- 133. Defendants are aware or should have been aware that federal law required them to pay employees minimum wage for all hours worked and to fully reimburse for "tools of the trade."
 - 134. Defendants' unlawful conduct has been widespread, repeated, and consistent.
- 135. The First Count is properly brought under and maintained as an opt-in collective action under 29 U.S.C. § 216(b).
 - 136. The FLSA Collective members are readily identifiable and ascertainable.
- 137. In recognition of the services Plaintiff has rendered and will continue to render to the FLSA Collective, Plaintiff will request payment of a service award upon resolution of this action.

Class Action Allegations

138. Plaintiff brings the Second, Third, and Fourth Counts under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 23, on behalf of herself and a class of persons consisting of:

All current and former delivery drivers employed by Defendants at the Defendants' Pizza Hut stores in the State of Nevada between the date two years prior to the filing of the original complaint and the date of final judgment in this matter ("Nevada Wage Class").

139. Plaintiff brings the Fifth Count under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 23, on behalf of herself and a class of persons consisting of:

All current and former delivery drivers employed by Defendants at the Defendants' Pizza Hut stores in the State of Nevada between the date four years

prior to the filing of the original complaint and the date of final judgment in this matter ("Nevada Unjust Enrichment Class") (Combined with Nevada Wage Class "Rule 23 Classes")

- 140. Excluded from the Rule 23 Classes are Defendants' legal representatives, officers, directors, assigns, and successors, or any individual who has, or who at any time during the class period has had, a controlling interest in Defendants; the Judge(s) to whom this case is assigned and any member of the Judges' immediate family; and all persons who will submit timely and otherwise proper requests for exclusion from the Rule 23 Classes.
- 141. The number and identity of the Nevada Wage Class members are ascertainable from Defendants' records.
- 142. The number and identity of the Nevada Unjust Enrichment Class members are ascertainable from Defendants' records.
- 143. The hours assigned and worked, the positions held, deliveries completed, and the rates of pay and reimbursements paid for each member of the Rule 23 Classes are determinable from Defendants' records.
- 144. All of the records relevant to the claims of members of the Rule 23 Classes should be found in Defendants' records.
- 145. For the purpose of notice and other purposes related to this action, their names and contact information are readily available from Defendants.
 - 146. Notice can be provided by means permissible under Rule 23.
- 147. The members of the Rule 23 Classes are so numerous that joinder of all members is impracticable, and the disposition of their claims as a class will benefit the parties and the Court.

- 148. There are more than 50 Nevada Wage Class members.
- 149. There are more than 50 Nevada Unjust Enrichment Class members.
- 150. Plaintiff's claims are typical of those claims which could be alleged by any member of the Rule 23 Classes, and the relief sought is typical of the relief which would be sought by each member of the Rule 23 Classes in separate actions.
- 151. Plaintiff and the members of the Rule 23 Classes were subject to the same practices of Defendants, as alleged herein, of failing to pay minimum wage, untimely payment of wages, and being unjustly enriched by their automobile policy.
- 152. Plaintiff and the Nevada Wage Class members have all sustained similar types of damages as a result of Defendants' failure to comply with the Nevada Constitution and Nevada wage law.
- 153. Plaintiff and the Nevada Unjust Enrichment Class members have all unjustly enriched Defendants in the same way.
- 154. Plaintiff and the members of the Rule 23 Classes sustained similar losses, injuries, and damages arising from the same unlawful practices, polices, and procedures.
- 155. Plaintiff is able to fairly and adequately protect the interests of the Nevada Wage Class and has no interests antagonistic to the Nevada Wage Class.
- 156. Plaintiff is able to fairly and adequately protect the interests of the Nevada Unjust Enrichment Class and has no interests antagonistic to the Nevada Unjust Enrichment Class.
- 157. Plaintiff is represented by attorneys who are experienced and competent in both class action litigation and employment litigation.

- 158. A class action is superior to other available methods for the fair and efficient adjudication of the controversy, particularly in the context of wage and hour litigation on behalf of minimum wage employees where individual class members lack the financial resources to vigorously prosecute a lawsuit against corporate defendants. Class action treatment will permit a large number of similarly situated persons to prosecute their common claims in a single forum simultaneously, efficiently, and without the unnecessary duplication of efforts and expense that numerous individual actions engender.
- 159. This action is properly maintainable as a class action under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 23(b)(3).
- 160. The Nevada Wage Class and the Nevada Unjust Enrichment Class are properly treated as subclasses pursuant to Rule 23(c)(5).
- 161. Common questions of law and fact exist as to the Nevada Wage Class that predominate over any questions only affecting Plaintiff and the Nevada Wage Class members individually and include, but are not limited to:
 - a. Whether Plaintiff and the Nevada Wage Class were subject to a policy that required them to maintain and pay for safe, operable, and legally compliant automobiles to use in completing deliveries;
 - Whether Plaintiff and the Nevada Wage Class incurred expenses for the benefit of Defendants in the course of completing deliveries;
 - c. Whether Defendants reimbursed Plaintiff and the Nevada Wage Class members for their actual expenses;
 - d. Whether Defendants reimbursed Plaintiff and the Nevada Wage Class members at the IRS standard business mileage rate for the miles they drove in making deliveries;

- e. Whether Defendants properly reimbursed Plaintiff and the Nevada Wage Class members;
- f. Whether Plaintiff and the Nevada Wage Class members were subject to a common expense reimbursement policy;
- g. Whether Plaintiff and the Nevada Wage Class were actually paid the wage rate they were promised by Defendants;
- h. Whether Defendants improperly deducted or withheld wages from Plaintiff and the Nevada Wage Class;
- i. Whether Defendants timely paid Plaintiff and the Nevada Wage Class the wages earned by them;
- j. The nature and extent of class-wide injury and the measure of damages for those injuries
- 162. Common questions of law and fact exist as to the Nevada Unjust Enrichment Class that predominate over any questions only affecting Plaintiff and the Nevada Unjust Enrichment Class members individually and include, but are not limited to:
 - a. Whether Plaintiff and the Nevada Unjust Enrichment Class members were subject to a common policy that required them to provide cars to complete deliveries for Defendants;
 - b. Whether Plaintiff and the Nevada Unjust Enrichment Class members were subject to a common automobile expense reimbursement policy;
 - c. Whether Plaintiff and the Nevada Unjust Enrichment Class incurred expenses for the benefit of Defendants in the course of completing deliveries;
 - d. Whether Plaintiff and the Nevada Unjust Enrichment Class conferred a measurable benefit on Defendants;
 - e. Whether Defendants avoided business expenses they would have otherwise been required to cover but for Plaintiff and the Nevada Unjust Enrichment Class providing cars to use to make deliveries;

- f. How much it would have cost Defendants to operate their business but for Plaintiff and the Nevada Unjust Enrichment Class providing cars to use to make deliveries;
- g. Whether Defendants benefited from Plaintiff and the Nevada Unjust Enrichment Class providing vehicles and thereby covering substantial business expenses for Defendants;
- h. Whether Defendants were aware of the benefit that was being conferred on them by Plaintiff and the Nevada Unjust Enrichment Class;
- i. The nature and extent of class-wide injury and the measure of damages for those injuries.
- 163. In recognition of the services Plaintiff has rendered and will continue to render to the Rule 23 Classes, Plaintiff will request payment of a service award upon resolution of this action.

V. Causes of Action

Count 1

Failure to Pay Minimum and Overtime Wages - Fair Labor Standards Act (On Behalf of Plaintiff and the FLSA Collective)

- 164. Plaintiff restates and incorporates the foregoing allegations as if fully rewritten herein.
- 165. Plaintiff and the FLSA Collective are or were non-exempt, hourly employees entitled to receive no less than minimum wage for all hours worked.
- 166. Defendants paid Plaintiff and the FLSA Collective at or close to Nevada minimum wage for all hours worked.

- 167. Defendants required Plaintiff and the FLSA Collective to pay for automobile expenses and other job-related expenses out of pocket, and failed to properly reimburse Plaintiff and the FLSA Collective for said expenses.
- 168. As a result of Defendants' vehicle and vehicle expense reimbursement policy, Plaintiff and the FLSA Collective kicked back a portion of their wages to Defendants, resulting in Plaintiff and the FLSA Collective receiving effective wages less than minimum wage and, in weeks where they worked more than 40 hours, less than time and a half their regular rate.
- 169. By the acts and conduct described above, Defendants willfully violated the provisions of the FLSA and disregarded the rights of Plaintiff and the FLSA Collective.
- 170. Plaintiff and the FLSA Collective have been damaged by Defendants' willful failure to pay minimum wage as required by law.
- 171. As a result of Defendants' willful violations, Plaintiff and the FLSA Collective are entitled to damages, including, but not limited to, unpaid wages, unreimbursed expenses, liquidated damages, costs, and attorneys' fees.

Count 2

Failure to Pay Minimum Wages –
Nev. Const. Art. 15, Sec. 16 & Nev. Rev. Stat. § 608 et seq.
(On Behalf of Plaintiff and the Nevada Wage Class)

- 172. Plaintiff restates and incorporates the foregoing allegations as if fully rewritten herein.
- 173. Defendants are "employers" as that term is defined under Nevada wage and hour law. Nev. Const. Art. 15, § 16(C); Nev. Rev. Stat. § 608 et seq.

- 174. Defendants paid Plaintiff and the Nevada Wage Class below state minimum wage for the hours they worked by requiring them to cover automobile expenses and other jobrelated expenses.
- 175. Defendants ostensibly paid Plaintiff and the Nevada Wage Class at or close to minimum wage for the hours they worked.
- 176. Because Defendants required Plaintiff and the Nevada Wage Class to pay for automobile expenses and other job-related expenses out of pocket, Defendants failed pay Plaintiff and the Nevada Wage Class minimum wage.
- 177. By not paying Plaintiff and the Nevada Wage Class at least minimum wage for each hour worked, Defendants have violated NRS § 608.250 and Article 15, Section 16 of the Nevada Constitution.
- 178. As a result of Defendants' violations, Plaintiff and the Nevada Wage Class are entitled to unpaid minimum wages, unreimbursed expenses, liquidated damages, attorneys' fees and costs. Nev. Rev. Stat. § 208.260.

Count 3

Unlawful Deductions From Wages – Nev. Rev. Stat. § 608 et seq. (On Behalf of Plaintiff and the Nevada Wage Class)

- 179. Plaintiff restates and incorporates the foregoing allegations as if fully rewritten herein.
- 180. Defendants did not fully reimburse Plaintiff and the Nevada Wage Class for the expenses they incurred in operating their motor vehicles for Defendants' business purposes.
- 181. As a result of Defendants' failure to reimburse delivery drivers for the expenses they incurred in operating their motor vehicles for Defendants' business purposes, Plaintiff and

the Nevada Wage Class were each required to rebate, refund, offset, or return a part of the wage or compensation due to the Plaintiff and the Nevada Wage Class in violation of NRS § 608.100.

- 182. As a result of requiring Plaintiff and the Nevada Wage Class to rebate, refund, offset, or return a part of the wage or compensation toward vehicle expenses that benefited the company, Defendants made an unlawful direct or indirect deductions that resulted in their wages falling below the minimum wage.
- 183. As a result, Defendants did not furnish the Plaintiff and the Nevada Wage Class employee with a statement showing the total amount of each deduction in violation of NRS § 608.110.
- 184. As a result of Defendants' violations, Plaintiff and the Nevada Wage Class are entitled to unpaid minimum wages, unreimbursed expenses, additional statutory damages, and attorneys' fees and costs.

Count 4

Untimely Payment of Wages – Nev. Rev. Stat. § 608 et seq. (On Behalf of Plaintiff and the Nevada Wage Class)

- 185. Plaintiff restates and incorporates the foregoing allegations as if fully rewritten herein.
- 186. Nevada Revised Statutes § 608.060 requires that Defendants pay Plaintiff and the Nevada Wage Class all wages earned by the employee at least semimonthly and on a regular payday designated in advance.
- 187. By failing to pay Plaintiff and the Nevada Wage Class all wages due to them under the FLSA and Nevada wage and hour law, Defendants have violated NRS § 608.060.

- 188. Plaintiff and the Nevada Wage Class's unpaid wages and unreimbursed expenses have remained unpaid for more than thirty-one (31) days beyond their regularly scheduled payday.
- 189. As a result of Defendants' violations, Plaintiff and the Nevada Wage Class are entitled to unpaid wages, additional statutory damages, and attorney's fees and costs. Nev. Rev. Stat. § 608.140.

Count 5 Unjust Enrichment (On Behalf of Plaintiff and the Nevada Unjust Enrichment Class)

- 190. Plaintiff restates and incorporates the foregoing allegations as if fully rewritten herein.
- 191. The Nevada Unjust Enrichment Class has conferred a benefit on Defendants by using their own cars to work for Defendants.
- 192. Defendants are aware of and have accepted the benefit conferred on them by the Nevada Unjust Enrichment Class.
- 193. It would be unjust for Defendants to be permitted to retain the benefit conferred on them by Plaintiff and the Nevada Unjust Enrichment Class without payment of its value.
- 194. Plaintiff and the Nevada Unjust Enrichment Class are entitled to equitable restitution of the benefits conferred on Defendants.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff Rebecca Brandi-Vanmeter prays for all of the following relief:

A. Designation of this action as a collective action on behalf of the collective action members and prompt issuance of notice to all similarly-situated members of an opt-in class, apprising them of this action, permitting them to assert timely wage and hour claims in this

action, and appointment of Plaintiff and their counsel to represent the collective action

members.

B. Unpaid minimum and overtime wages, reimbursement of expenses, and an

additional and equal amount as liquidated damages pursuant to the FLSA and supporting

regulations.

C. Certification of this case as a class action pursuant to Rule 23 of the Federal Rules

of Civil Procedure.

D. Designation of Plaintiff as representative of the Nevada Wage Class and the

Nevada Unjust Enrichment Class and counsel of record as Class Counsel of both Rule 23 Classes.

E. An award of unpaid minimum wages, unreimbursed expense, unlawful

deductions, and untimely paid wages due under NRS §§ 608.005 et seq..

F. An award of restitution as a result of unjust enrichment to the Nevada Unjust

Enrichment Class.

G. An award of pre-judgment and post-judgment interest.

H. An award of costs and expenses of this action, together with reasonable attorneys'

fees and expert fees.

I. Such other legal and equitable relief as the Court deems appropriate.

PLAINTIFF DEMANDS A JURY AS TO ALL TRIABLE ISSUES

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Randall Jeffs

Randall L. Jeffs (Utah Bar # 12129)

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ClassAction.org

This complaint is part of ClassAction.org's searchable class action lawsuit database and can be found in this post: <u>Lawsuit Claims Pizza Hut Operator Failed to Reimburse Delivery Drivers for Expenses</u>