## COSTELLO & MAINS, LLC

By: Deborah L. Mains 18000 Horizon Way, Suite 800 Mt. Laurel, New Jersey 08054 (856) 751-3737 Attorneys for Plaintiffs

JENNA COLBURN and KIMBERLY GILLEN, individually and on behalf of themselves and all others similarly

situated,

:

**Electronically filed** 

Plaintiff(s),

VS.

Civil Action No.

ADELPHIA THREE CORP.;

PHILY DINER; AND JOHN DOES 1-5 AND 6-10,

COMPLAINT AND JURY DEMAND

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

DISTRICT OF NEW JERSEY

Defendants.

Plaintiffs Jenna Colburn and Kimberly Gillen ("plaintiffs"), individually and on behalf of themselves and all others similarly situated, by way Complaint against the defendants, say:

## **Preliminary Statement**

This action is brought by plaintiffs for and on behalf of themselves and other similarly situated employees ("similarly situated employees") to remedy violations of the Fair Labor Standards Act, as amended, 29 U.S.C. Sec. 201, et seq. ("FLSA").

Plaintiffs seek for themselves and similarly situated employees, declaratory and injunctive relief, unpaid wages, unpaid minimum wages, liquidated damages, reasonable attorneys' fees, and all other appropriate legal and equitable relief pursuant to the FLSA. This matter arises as the result of employer's failure to pay minimum wages to plaintiffs and other similarly situated.

## **Jurisdiction and Venue**

- Jurisdiction of the Court is invoked pursuant to 29 U.S.C. Sec. 216(b), 28
   U.S.C. Sec. 1331 and 28 U.S.C. Sec. 1332.
- 2. Because defendant is a resident of the district of New Jersey, venue is proper within this district pursuant to 28 U.S.C. Sec. 1391.

#### **Parties**

- 3. Plaintiff Jenna Colburn resides at 6 Flagstone Drive, Sicklerville, NJ 08081. At all pertinent times herein, Plaintiff Colburn was employed by defendants.
- Plaintiff Kimberly Gillen resides at 1104 Clements Bridge Road,
   Barrington, NJ 08007. At all pertinent times herein, Plaintiff Gillen has been employed by defendants.
- 5. Defendant Adelphia Three Corp. ("Adelphia") is, upon information and belief, a New Jersey corporation engaged in the restaurant business in New Jersey, maintaining a corporate residence and domicile in New Jersey and is an employer within the meaning of 29 U.S.C. Sec 203.
- 6. Defendant Phily Diner is, upon information and belief, a New Jersey business entity engaged in the restaurant business in New Jersey, maintaining a corporate residence and domicile in New Jersey and is an employer within the meaning of 29 U.S.C. Sec. 203.

- 7. Upon information and belief, Adelphia and Phily Diner have had and continue to have annual gross revenues of not less than \$500,000.00 during all relevant times.
- 7a. Upon information and belief, Adelphi and Phily Diner are an enterprise within the meaning of the FLSA.
- 8. At all relevant times herein, defendants John Does 1-5 and 6-10, currently unknown are, in the alternative, individuals on the one hand and other business entities on the other, who are liable to the plaintiffs as a result of their own acts or on the basis of *respondeat superior*.

## **General Allegations**

- 9. Plaintiffs and similarly situated employees are employed by defendants as servers at the Phily Diner located at 31 S. Blackhorse Pike, Runnemede, NJ 08078.
- 10. Plaintiffs and similarly situated employees are paid less than the minimum wage and also rely on gratuities for compensation.
- 11. Defendants employed Plaintiffs and similarly situated employees and has had substantial control over Plaintiffs' working conditions and the unlawful policies and practices alleged herein.
- 12. Defendants utilize the "tip credit" to pay Plaintiffs and similarly situated employees less than the minimum wage.
- 13. However, instead of paying Plaintiffs and similarly situated employees\$2.13 per hour, Defendants pay only \$1.94 per hour.

- 14. Moreover, there are weeks in which Plaintiffs and similarly situated employees do not earn sufficient tips to permit utilization of the tip credit, yet Defendants still pay only \$1.94 per hour.
- 15. The failure to properly utilize the tip credit has been continuous during the three years preceding the filing date of this complaint.
- 16. Defendants' failure to properly utilize the tip credit and deny Plaintiffs and similarly situated employees the appropriate minimum wage has been willful.
- 17. Defendants' failure to properly utilize the tip credit and deny Plaintiffs and similarly situated employees the appropriate minimum wage entitles Plaintiffs and similarly situated employees to an award of liquidated damages.

## **FLSA Collective Action Averments**

- 18. Plaintiffs repeat and reallege paragraphs 1 through 17 as though fully set forth herein.
- 19. The Fair Labor Standards Act specifically contemplates and permits collective actions in which putative "class" members are provided notice of the action and are permitted to opt into the action.
- 20. All potential collective action plaintiffs are sufficiently similarly situated, within the meaning of the FLSA, to permit efficient adjudication of claims as a collective action.

#### COUNT I

21. Plaintiffs repeat and reallege the allegations set forth in paragraphs 1 through 20 of the Complaint as if recited at length herein.

- 22. Plaintiffs and similarly situated employees have been subjected to an unlawful and invalid tip credit.
- 23. As a result, defendants have unlawfully taken advantage of the tip credit against the minimum wage and have denied the minimum wage to plaintiffs and similarly situated employees for all hours worked.
  - 24. Defendants, by the above acts, have violated 29 U.S.C. Sec. 207.
- 25. Said violations have been willful within the meaning of 29 U.S.C. Sec. 255(a).
- 26. Plaintiffs and similarly situated employees have suffered, are now suffering and will continue to suffer monetary damages as a result of defendants' acts unless and until this Court grants the relief requested herein.
  - 27. No previous application has been made for the relief requested herein.

    WHEREFORE, plaintiffs respectfully request that this Court enter a judgment;
- (a) declaring that the acts and practices complained of herein are in violation of the FLSA;
- (b) declaring that the acts and practices complained of herein are willful violations within the meaning of 29 U.S.C. Sec. 255(a);
- (c) directing defendants to make plaintiffs and similarly situated employees whole for all unpaid wages due as a consequence of defendants' violations of the FLSA, together with interest therefrom from the date(s) such wages were due but unpaid;

(d) directing defendants to pay plaintiffs and all similarly situated

employees an additional amount of liquidated damages as provided for in 29 U.S.C. Sec.

216(b);

(e) awarding plaintiffs the costs of this action together with reasonable

attorneys' fees, as provided in 29 U.S.C. Sec. 216(b); and

(f) granting such other and further relief as this Court deems necessary

and proper.

Respectfully submitted,

COSTELLO & MAINS, LLC

By: /s/ Deborah L. Mains\_\_\_

Deborah L. Mains

18000 Horizon Way, Suite 800

Mt. Laurel, New Jersey 08054

856-727-9700

856-727-9797 (fax)

Attorneys for Plaintiffs

Dated: February 14, 2017

**DEMAND FOR A TRIAL BY JURY** 

Plaintiffs, by and through their above-signed counsel, hereby demand, pursuant to

Rule 38(b) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, a trial by jury on all Counts in the

above-captioned action.

**COSTELLO & MAINS, LLC** 

By: /s/ Deborah L. Mains\_

Deborah L. Mains

**DESIGNATION OF TRIAL COUNSEL** 

Deborah L. Mains, Esquire, of the law firm of Costello & Mains, LLC, is hereby-

designated trial counsel.

**COSTELLO & MAINS, P.C.** 

By: /s/ Deborah L. Mains\_

Deborah L. Mains

**DEMAND TO PRESERVE EVIDENCE** 

1. All defendants are hereby directed and demanded to preserve all physical

and electronic information pertaining in any way to plaintiffs' employment, to plaintiffs'

cause of action and/or prayers for relief, to any defenses to same, and pertaining to any

party, including, but not limited to, electronic data storage, closed circuit TV footages,

digital images, computer images, cache memory, searchable data, emails, spread sheets,

employment files, memos, text messages and any and all online social or work related

websites, entries on social networking sites (including, but not limited to, Facebook,

twitter, MySpace, etc.), and any other information and/or data and/or things and/or

documents which may be relevant to any claim or defense in this litigation.

2. Failure to do so will result in separate claims for spoliation of evidence

and/or for appropriate adverse inferences.

COSTELLO & MAINS, LLC

By: /s/ Deborah L. Mains

Deborah L. Mains

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JS 44 (Rev. 07/16)

# **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.)

purpose of initiating the civil of	locket sheet. (SEE INSTRUC	CTIONS ON NEXT PAGE C	OF THIS FO	ORM.)					
JENNA COLBURN AND KIMBERLY GILLEN, on behalf of themse and others similarly situated			elves	ABETENPANTE	E CORP.	, et al.			
(b) County of Residence of First Listed Plaintiff Camden (EXCEPT IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES)  Costello & Mains, LLC, 18000 Horizon Way, Suite 800, Mt. Laurel 08054, 856-727-9700, dmains@costellomains.com				County of Residence of First Listed Defendant  (IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES ONLY)  NOTE: IN LAND CONDEMNATION CASES, USE THE LOCATION OF THE TRACT OF LAND INVOLVED.  Attorneys (If Known)			OF		
II. BASIS OF JURISD	ICTION (Place an "X" in G	One Box Only)	III. CI	 TIZENSHIP OF P	RINCIP.	AL PARTIES	(Place an "X" in	One Box	for Plaintif
□ 1 U.S. Government Plaintiff	→ 3 Federal Question (U.S. Government)			(For Diversity Cases Only) P	rf def 1 □ 1		and One Box for		dant) DEF
☐ 2 U.S. Government Defendant	☐ 4 Diversity (Indicate Citizenship of Parties in Item III)		Citizo	en of Another State	2 🗇 2	Incorporated and I of Business In A		<b>5</b>	□ 5
				en or Subject of a reign Country	3 🗇 3	Foreign Nation	V	□ 6	<b>□</b> 6
IV. NATURE OF SUIT									
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☐ 130 Miller Act ☐ 140 Negotiable Instrument	☐ 315 Airplane Product Liability	Product Liability  367 Health Care/ Pharmaceutical	□ 69	0 Other	28 1	USC 157	☐ 376 Qui Tam (31 USC 3729(a)) ☐ 400 State Reapportionment		
□ 150 Recovery of Overpayment     & Enforcement of Judgment     □ 151 Medicare Act     □ 152 Recovery of Defaulted     Student Loans	of Judgment Slander Personal Inju  330 Federal Employers' Product Liab				PROPERTY RIGHTS  820 Copyrights  830 Patent  840 Trademark		☐ 410 Antitrust ☐ 430 Banks and Banking ☐ 450 Commerce ☐ 460 Deportation ☐ 470 Racketeer Influenced and		
(Excludes Veterans)  153 Recovery of Overpayment of Veteran's Benefits  160 Stockholders' Suits  190 Other Contract  195 Contract Product Liability  196 Franchise	☐ 345 Marine Product Liability ☐ 350 Motor Vehicle ☐ 355 Motor Vehicle	PERSONAL PROPERT  370 Other Fraud  371 Truth in Lending  380 Other Personal Property Damage  385 Property Damage Product Liability	□ 72·	LABOR 0 Fair Labor Standards Act 0 Labor/Management Relations 0 Railway Labor Act 1 Family and Medical Leave Act 0 Other Labor Litigation	SOCIAL SECURITY  □ 861 HIA (1395ff) □ 862 Black Lung (923) □ 863 DIWC/DIWW (405(g)) □ 864 SSID Title XVI □ 865 RSI (405(g))		Corrupt Organizations  480 Consumer Credit 490 Cable/Sat TV 850 Securities/Commodities/ Exchange 890 Other Statutory Actions 891 Agricultural Acts 893 Environmental Matters 895 Freedom of Information		
REAL PROPERTY	CIVIL RIGHTS	PRISONER PETITION	NS 🗆 79	1 Employee Retirement		AL TAX SUITS	Act		
210 Land Condemnation 220 Forcelosure 230 Rent Lease & Ejectment 240 Torts to Land 245 Tort Product Liability	☐ 440 Other Civil Rights ☐ 441 Voting ☐ 442 Employment ☐ 443 Housing/ Accommodations	Habeas Corpus:  463 Alien Detaince  510 Motions to Vacate Sentence  530 General		Income Security Act	□ 870 Taxes (U.S. Plaintiff or Defendant) □ 871 IRS—Third Party 26 USC 7609		■ 896 Arbitration ■ 899 Administrative Procedure Act/Review or Appeal of Agency Decision ■ 950 Constitutionality of State Statutes		
□ 290 All Other Real Property	□ 445 Amer. w/Disabilities - Employment □ 446 Amer. w/Disabilities - Other □ 448 Education	Other:		IMMIGRATION  2 Naturalization Application  5 Other Immigration  Actions					
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VI. CAUSE OF ACTIO	ON 29 U.S.C. Sec. 20 Brief description of ca	01 et seq.		o not cite jurisdictional stati	utes unless di	iversity):			
Failure to pay minimum wage - collect  VII. REQUESTED IN  COMPLAINT:  CHECK IF THIS IS A CLASS ACTION  UNDER RULE 23, F.R.Cv.P.			EMAND \$		CHECK YES only URY DEMAND:		complai		
VIII. RELATED CASE IF ANY	E(S) (See instructions):	JUDGE			DOCKE	ET NUMBER			
DATE 02/14/2017		signature of att /s/ Deborah L M		F RECORD					
FOR OFFICE USE ONLY									
RECEIPT # AM	MOUNT	APPLYING IFP		JUDGE		MAG. JUD	OGE		

JS 44 Reverse (Rev. 07/16)

cases.)

#### INSTRUCTIONS FOR ATTORNEYS COMPLETING CIVIL COVER SHEET FORM JS 44

Authority For Civil Cover Sheet

The JS 44 civil cover sheet and the information contained herein neither replaces nor supplements the filings and service of pleading or other papers as required by law, except as provided by local rules of court. This form, approved by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required for the use of the Clerk of Court for the purpose of initiating the civil docket sheet. Consequently, a civil cover sheet is submitted to the Clerk of Court for each civil complaint filed. The attorney filing a case should complete the form as follows:

- **I.(a)** Plaintiffs-Defendants. Enter names (last, first, middle initial) of plaintiff and defendant. If the plaintiff or defendant is a government agency, use only the full name or standard abbreviations. If the plaintiff or defendant is an official within a government agency, identify first the agency and then the official, giving both name and title.
- (b) County of Residence. For each civil case filed, except U.S. plaintiff cases, enter the name of the county where the first listed plaintiff resides at the time of filing. In U.S. plaintiff cases, enter the name of the county in which the first listed defendant resides at the time of filing. (NOTE: In land condemnation cases, the county of residence of the "defendant" is the location of the tract of land involved.)
- (c) Attorneys. Enter the firm name, address, telephone number, and attorney of record. If there are several attorneys, list them on an attachment, noting in this section "(see attachment)".
- II. Jurisdiction. The basis of jurisdiction is set forth under Rule 8(a), F.R.Cv.P., which requires that jurisdictions be shown in pleadings. Place an "X" in one of the boxes. If there is more than one basis of jurisdiction, precedence is given in the order shown below. United States plaintiff. (1) Jurisdiction based on 28 U.S.C. 1345 and 1348. Suits by agencies and officers of the United States are included here. United States defendant. (2) When the plaintiff is suing the United States, its officers or agencies, place an "X" in this box. Federal question. (3) This refers to suits under 28 U.S.C. 1331, where jurisdiction arises under the Constitution of the United States, an amendment to the Constitution, an act of Congress or a treaty of the United States. In cases where the U.S. is a party, the U.S. plaintiff or defendant code takes precedence, and box 1 or 2 should be marked.
  Diversity of citizenship. (4) This refers to suits under 28 U.S.C. 1332, where parties are citizens of different states. When Box 4 is checked, the citizenship of the different parties must be checked. (See Section III below; NOTE: federal question actions take precedence over diversity
- III. Residence (citizenship) of Principal Parties. This section of the JS 44 is to be completed if diversity of citizenship was indicated above. Mark this section for each principal party.
- IV. Nature of Suit. Place an "X" in the appropriate box. If the nature of suit cannot be determined, be sure the cause of action, in Section VI below, is sufficient to enable the deputy clerk or the statistical clerk(s) in the Administrative Office to determine the nature of suit. If the cause fits more than one nature of suit, select the most definitive.
- V. Origin. Place an "X" in one of the seven boxes.
  - Original Proceedings. (1) Cases which originate in the United States district courts.

Removed from State Court. (2) Proceedings initiated in state courts may be removed to the district courts under Title 28 U.S.C., Section 1441. When the petition for removal is granted, check this box.

Remanded from Appellate Court. (3) Check this box for cases remanded to the district court for further action. Use the date of remand as the filing date.

Reinstated or Reopened. (4) Check this box for cases reinstated or reopened in the district court. Use the reopening date as the filing date. Transferred from Another District. (5) For cases transferred under Title 28 U.S.C. Section 1404(a). Do not use this for within district transfers or multidistrict litigation transfers.

Multidistrict Litigation – Transfer. (6) Check this box when a multidistrict case is transferred into the district under authority of Title 28 U.S.C. Section 1407.

Multidistrict Litigation – Direct File. (8) Check this box when a multidistrict case is filed in the same district as the Master MDL docket.

PLEASE NOTE THAT THERE IS NOT AN ORIGIN CODE 7. Origin Code 7 was used for historical records and is no longer relevant due to changes in statue.

- VI. Cause of Action. Report the civil statute directly related to the cause of action and give a brief description of the cause. Do not cite jurisdictional statutes unless diversity. Example: U.S. Civil Statute: 47 USC 553 Brief Description: Unauthorized reception of cable service
- VII. Requested in Complaint. Class Action. Place an "X" in this box if you are filing a class action under Rule 23, F.R.Cv.P. Demand. In this space enter the actual dollar amount being demanded or indicate other demand, such as a preliminary injunction. Jury Demand. Check the appropriate box to indicate whether or not a jury is being demanded.
- VIII. Related Cases. This section of the JS 44 is used to reference related pending cases, if any. If there are related pending cases, insert the docket numbers and the corresponding judge names for such cases.

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

AO 440 (Rev. 12/09) Summons in a Civil Action

Date:

AO 440 (Rev. 12/07) Sullinois in a Civil Action	
United State	S DISTRICT COURT
District	of New Jersey
JENNA COLBURN AND KIMBERLY GILLEN	)
Plaintiff	) )
ADELPHIA THREE CORP.; PHILY DINER; ET AL.	) Civil Action No. )
Defendant	)
SUMMONS IN	N A CIVIL ACTION
To: (Defendant's name and address) Adelphia Three Corp. 31 S. Black Horse Pike Runnemede, NJ 08078	
are the United States or a United States agency, or an offi	you (not counting the day you received it) — or 60 days if you icer or employee of the United States described in Fed. R. Civ. nswer to the attached complaint or a motion under Rule 12 of icon must be served on the plaintiff or plaintiff's attorney,
If you fail to respond, judgment by default will b You also must file your answer or motion with the court.	e entered against you for the relief demanded in the complaint.
	CLERK OF COURT

Signature of Clerk or Deputy Clerk

AO 440 (Rev. 12/09) Summons in a Civil Action (Page 2)

Civil Action No.

# PROOF OF SERVICE

(This section should not be filed with the court unless required by Fed. R. Civ. P. 4 (1))

woo		nme of individual and title, if any)				
was	received by me on (date)	•				
	☐ I personally serve	d the summons on the individual	at (place)			
			on (date)	; or		
	☐ I left the summons	at the individual's residence or	usual place of abode with (name)			
	on (date) , a person of suitable age and discretion who resides there, and mailed a copy to the individual's last known address; or					
		ons on (name of individual)		, who is		
	designated by law to	accept service of process on beha	alf of (name of organization)			
			on (date)	; or		
	☐ I returned the summ	nons unexecuted because				
	☐ Other (specify):					
	My fees are \$	for travel and \$	for services, for a total of \$	0.00		
	I declare under penalty	of perjury that this information i	is true.			
Date:						
			Server's signature			
			Printed name and title			
			Server's address			
Additio	nal information regardin	g attempted service, etc:				

AO 440 (Rev. 12/09) Summons in a Civil Action

Date:

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT						
District of	f New Jersey					
JENNA COLBURN AND KIMBERLY GILLEN	)					
Plaintiff	)					
v. ADELPHIA THREE CORP.; PHILY DINER; ET AL.	Civil Action No.					
Defendant	)					
SUMMONS IN	A CIVIL ACTION					
To: (Defendant's name and address) Phily Diner 31 S. Black Horse Pike Runnemede, NJ 08078						
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:						
If you fail to respond, judgment by default will be e You also must file your answer or motion with the court.	entered against you for the relief demanded in the complaint.					

CLERK OF COURT

Signature of Clerk or Deputy Clerk

AO 440 (Rev. 12/09) Summons in a Civil Action (Page 2)

Additional information regarding attempted service, etc:

Civil Action No.

## PROOF OF SERVICE

(This section should not be filed with the court unless required by Fed. R. Civ. P. 4 (1))

	This summons for (nar	ne of individual and title, if any)		
was re	eceived by me on (date)			
	☐ I personally served	the summons on the individual at	(place)	
			on (date)	; or
	☐ I left the summons	at the individual's residence or us	ual place of abode with (name)	
		, a person of	suitable age and discretion who resi	des there,
	on (date)	, and mailed a copy to th	e individual's last known address; or	,
	☐ I served the summo	ons on (name of individual)		, who is
	designated by law to a	accept service of process on behalf	of (name of organization)	
			on (date)	; or
	☐ I returned the sumn	nons unexecuted because		; or
	☐ Other (specify):			
	My fees are \$	for travel and \$	for services, for a total of \$	0.00
	I declare under penalty	of perjury that this information is	true.	
Date:			Server's signature	
			Printed name and title	
			Server's address	

# **ClassAction.org**

This complaint is part of ClassAction.org's searchable class action lawsuit database and can be found in this post: <u>Employees Sue Adelphia Three Corp.</u>, <u>Phily Diner Over Unpaid Minimum Wages</u>