## UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF FLORIDA FORT LAUDERDALE DIVISION

## MATTHEW DEAN, on behalf of himself and others similarly situated,

Plaintiff,

CASE NO.:

v.

W. AVIATION, LLC, A Florida Limited Liability Company,

Defendant.

## COMPLAINT AND DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL

Plaintiff, MATTHEW DEAN ("DEAN" or "Plaintiff"), files this Complaint on behalf of himself and those similarity situated, against Defendant, W. AVIATION, LLC ("WA" or "Defendant") and states as follows:

## **JURISDICTION**

1. Jurisdiction in this Court is proper as the claims are brought pursuant to the Fair Labor Standards Act, as amended (29 U.S.C. §201 and 215(a)(3), <u>et seq</u>., hereinafter called the "FLSA"), to recover unpaid overtime wages, an additional equal amount as liquidated damages, and to obtain declaratory relief, and reasonable attorney's fees and costs.

2. The jurisdiction of the Court over this controversy is based upon 29 U.S.C. §216(b).

3. This Court has the authority to grant declaratory relief pursuant to the FLSA and the Federal Declaratory Judgment Act ("DJA"), 28 U.S.C. §§ 2201-02.

## PARTIES

4. At all times material hereto, the named Plaintiff worked for Defendant in Broward

County, Florida.

5. Defendant is a Florida Limited Liability Company who performs substantial business in Broward County, Florida.

6. Defendant operates in interstate commerce, by, among other things, providing transportation services including luxury private aircraft for interstate travel.

7. Defendants' gross annual revenue for each year in which Plaintiff, and the putative class members worked, either individually, or jointly, exceeded \$500,000.00.

8. At all relevant times, Defendants are, and have been, "employers" engaged in interstate commerce and/or the production of goods for commerce, within the meaning of the FLSA, 29 U.S.C. §203(d).

9. Defendants are employers as defined by the FLSA, in that Defendants, during all times relevant and in each year during the relevant statute of limitations, had employees regularly engaged in interstate and intrastate commerce, and likewise engaged in business transactions across state lines and with products and goods created outside Florida, and imported in for local use.

#### **STATEMENT OF FACTS**

10. During the relevant limitations period, Plaintiff, and similarly situated class members, have been employed by Defendants as hourly paid employees.

11. In his/their capacity as hourly paid employees, Plaintiff, and the similarly situated class members regularly worked in excess of forty (40) hours per week.

12. In his/their capacity as hourly paid employees, Plaintiff, and the similarly situated class members who worked in excess of forty (40) hours per week were subjected to the

same common scheme and plan by Defendant to deprive them of overtime compensation.

13. Specifically, Defendant specifically engaged in a scheme, whereby management would alter, delete, and modify Plaintiff's, and the similarly situated class members' time records/recorded hours, so as to avoid the payment of overtime compensation to these employees.

14. Plaintiff and the similarly situated class members are/were non-exempt employees under the FLSA and are/were entitled to time and one half overtime compensation for all hours worked over forty (40) within a work week.

15. Plaintiff and the similarly situated class members performed non-exempt work that required payment of overtime compensation.

16. Based on the foregoing scheme, Defendant failed to compensate Plaintiff and similarly situated class members at a rate of one and one-half times their regular rate for all hours worked in excess of forty (40) hours in a single work week.

17. Based on the foregoing scheme, Defendant failed to track or maintain the actual records of the number of hours worked by Plaintiff or the similarly situated class members during his/their employment.

18. Plaintiff and the similarly situated class members should be compensated at the rate of one and one-half times his/their regular rate for all overtime hours worked, as required by the FLSA.

19. The proposed class of employees that Plaintiff seeks to conditionally certify, are all: "hourly paid employees who worked for Defendant at any time during the last three (3) years, and who were subjected to Defendant's common scheme of altering, deleting, and

modifying time records of employees to avoid the payment of overtime compensation under the FLSA."

20. Plaintiff has retained the law firm of RICHARD CELLER LEGAL, P.A. to represent him in the litigation and has agreed to pay the firm a reasonable fee for its services.

21. Plaintiff anticipates that other individuals will express their desire to opt-in to this case, and will be filing their Consents to Join, shortly.

## COUNT I VIOLATION OF 29 U.S.C. §207 OVERTIME COMPENSATION

22. Plaintiff re-alleges and reavers paragraphs 1 through 21 of the Complaint, as if fully set forth herein.

23. Plaintiff and the similarly situated class members worked in excess of forty (40) hours per week for which they were not compensated at the statutory rate of time and one-half their regular rate of pay.

24. Plaintiff and the similarly situated class members were/are entitled to be paid at the statutory rate of time and one half their regular rate of pay for those hours worked in excess of forty (40) hours.

25. Defendant's actions were willful and/or showed reckless disregard for the provisions of the FLSA, as evidenced by its intentional scheme to deprive Plaintiff and the similarly situated class members from overtime compensation when it knew that such payment was due and owing.

26. Defendant failed to properly disclose or apprise Plaintiff and the similarly class members of their rights under the FLSA.

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27. Due to the intentional, willful, and unlawful acts of Defendants, Plaintiff and the similarly situated class members, suffered and continue to suffer damages and lost compensation for time worked over forty (40) hours per week, plus liquidated damages.

28. Plaintiff and the similarly situated class members are entitled to an award of reasonable attorney's fees and costs pursuant to 29 U.S.C. §216(b).

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff respectfully requests that judgment be entered in his favor (and in favor of all consenting similarly situated class members) for overtime damages owed, liquidated damages, attorneys' fees and costs, and any and all relief that this Court deems proper under the FLSA. Plaintiff also seeks the conditional certification of a class of all similarly situated class members.

## JURY DEMAND

Plaintiff demands trial by jury on all issues so triable as a matter of right by jury. Dated: November 20<sup>TH</sup> 2017.

### RICHARD CELLER LEGAL, P.A.

7450 Griffin Road, Suite 230 Davie, Florida 33314 Telephone: (866) 344-9243 Facsimile: (954) 337-2771

> By: \_\_\_\_\_\_ Noah E. Storch, Esquire Florida Bar No/0085476 E-mail:<u>noah@floridaovertimelawyer.com</u> Richard Celler, Esquire Florida Bar No. 0173370 E-mail: <u>richard@floridaovertimelawyer.com</u>

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## UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF FLORIDA FORT LAUDERDALE DIVISION

# MATTHEW DEAN, on behalf of himself and others similarly situated,

**FIONEECC, A Florida Limited** 

CASE NO.:

Plaintiff,

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

## UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

for the

Southern District of Florida

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Civil Action No.

MATTHEW DEAN, on behalf of himself and others similarly situated,

Plaintiff(s)

v.

W. AVIATION, LLC, A Florida Limited Liability Company,

Defendant(s)

#### SUMMONS IN A CIVIL ACTION

To: (Defendant's name and address) W. AVIATION, LLC MARK B. GOLDSTEIN, P.A.-REGISTERED AGENT 2700 N. MILITARY TRAIL, SUITE 130 BOCA RATON, FL 33431

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: RICHARD CELLER LEGAL, P.A.

NOAH E. STORCH, ESQUIRE 7450 GRIFFIN ROAD, SUITE 230 DAVIE, FLORIDA 33314 (866) 344-9243 E-mail: noah@floridaovertimelawyer.com

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.

CLERK OF COURT

Date:

Signature of Clerk or Deputy Clerk

AO 440 (Rev. 06/12) 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 (l))

	This summons for (name	e of individual and title, if any)							
was re	ceived by me on (date)								
	□ I personally served t	he summons on the individual a	t (place)						
			on (date)	; or					
	□ I left the summons a								
		, a person of suitable age and discretion who resides there,							
	on (date), and mailed a copy to the individual's last known address; or								
	$\Box$ I served the summor	,	, who is						
	designated by law to ac								
			on (date)	; or					
	$\Box$ I returned the summ	ons unexecuted because			; or				
	<b>Other</b> ( <i>specify</i> ):								
	My fees are \$	for travel and \$	for services, for a total of \$	0.0	<u>0</u> .				
	I declare under penalty	of perjury that this information	is true.						
Date:									
Date.			Server's signature						
			Printed name and title						
			Printed name and title						

Additional information regarding attempted service, etc:

Server's address

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JS 44 (Rev. 12/12) (Modified by FLSD - April 29, 2013)

**CIVIL COVER SHEET** 

	IATTHEW DEAN, or		DEFENDANTS			
hi	imself and others simil	arly situated	W. AVIATION, LLC, A Florida Limited Liability Company,			
(b) County of Residence o	of First Listed Plaintiff Brock CEPT IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CA		County of Residence of First Listed Defendant Broward (IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES ONLY)			
			NOTE:	IN LAND CONDEMNATION OF THE TRACT OF LAND INVOL	CASES, USE THE LOCATION OF	
(c) Attorneys (Firm Name, A	•		Attorneys (If Known)			
RICHARD CELLER L	EGAL P.A. NOAH E.	STORCH, Esq.				
7450 GRIFFIN ROAD			0			
(d) Check County Where Actio	on Arose: 🔲 MIAMI- DADE	🗆 MONROE 💉 BROWARD I	D PALM BEACH D MARTIN D ST. LU	JĈIE 🔲 INDIAN RIVER 🔲 OKEECH	JOBEE 🗖 HIGHLANDS	
II. BASIS OF JURISDI		n One Box Only)	I. CITIZENSHIP OF PI (For Diversity Cases Only)	RINCIPAL PARTIES	(Place an "X" in One Box for Plaintiff, and One Box for Defendant)	
1 U.S. Government	•	eral Question	P1	IF DEF	PTF DEF	
Plaintiff	(U.S. Government	Not a Party)	Citizen of This State	I I Incorporated or Pr of Business In Thi		
2 U.S. Government Defendant			Citizen of Another State	2 2 Incorporated and Principal Place 5 5 5 of Business In Another State		
			Citizen or Subject of a	3 🔲 3 Foreign Nation		
IV. NATURE OF SUIT	(Place an "X" in One Box Or	(y)				
CONTRACT		RTS	FORFEITURE/PENALTY	BANKRUPTCY	OTHER STATUTES	
110 Insurance 120 Marine	PERSONAL INJURY 310 Airplane	PERSONAL INJURY 365 Personal Injury -	625 Drug Related Seizure of Property 21 USC 881	422 Appeal 28 USC 158 423 Withdrawal	<ul> <li>375 False Claims Act</li> <li>400 State Reapportionment</li> </ul>	
130 Miller Act	315 Airplane Product	Product Liability	690 Other	28 USC 157	410 Antitrust	
140 Negotiable Instrument 150 Recovery of Overpayment	Liability 320 Assault, Libel &	367 Health Care/ Pharmaceutical		PROPERTY RIGHTS	430 Banks and Banking 450 Commerce	
& Enforcement of Judgment	Slander	Personal Injury		820 Copyrights	450 Commerce	
151 Medicare Act 152 Recovery of Defaulted	330 Federal Employers' Liability	Product Liability 368 Asbestos Personal		B30 Patent	470 Racketeer Influenced and	
Student Loans	☐ 340 Marine	Injury Product		840 Trademark	Corrupt Organizations	
(Excl. Veterans)	345 Marine Product	Liability	LABOR	SOCIAL SECURITY	490 Cable/Sat TV	
153 Recovery of Overpayment of Veteran's Benefits	Liability 350 Motor Vehicle	PERSONAL PROPERTY	X 710 Fair Labor Standards Act	861 HIA (1395ff) 862 Black Lung (923)	850 Securities/Commodities/	
160 Stockholders' Suits	355 Motor Vehicle	☐ 371 Truth in Lending	720 Labor/Mgmt. Relations	863 DIWC/DIWW (405(g))	Exchange 890 Other Statutory Actions	
190 Other Contract     195 Contract Product Liability	Product Liability 360 Other Personal	380 Other Personal Property Damage	740 Railway Labor Act 751 Family and Medical	864 SSID Title XVI	☐ 891 Agricultural Acts	
196 Franchise	Injury	385 Property Damage	Leave Act	☐ 865 RSI (405(g))	893 Environmental Matters 895 Freedom of Information	
	362 Personal Injury - Med. Malpractice	Product Liability	790 Other Labor Litigation		Act	
REAL PROPERTY	CIVIL RIGHTS	PRISONER PETITIONS	791 Empl. Ret. Inc. Security Act	FEDERAL TAX SUITS	896 Arbitration 899 Administrative Procedure	
210 Land Condemnation	440 Other Civil Rights	Habeas Corpus:		870 Taxes (U.S. Plaintiff	Act/Review or Appeal of	
220 Foreclosure	441 Voting	463 Alicn Detainee 510 Motions to Vacate		or Defendant)	Agency Decision	
230 Rent Lease & Ejectment	442 Employment	Sentence		USC 7609	D 950 Constitutionality of State Statutes	
240 Torts to Land	443 Housing/ Accommodations	Other:				
<ul> <li>245 Tort Product Liability</li> <li>290 All Other Real Property</li> </ul>	445 Amer. w/Disabilities - Employment	530 General 535 Death Penalty	IMMIGRATION			
	446 Amer. w/Disabilities -	540 Mandamus & Other	☐ 462 Naturalization Application ☐ 465 Other Immigration			
	Other 448 Education	550 Civil Rights 555 Prison Condition	Actions			
		560 Civil Detainee -				
		Conditions of Confinement				
V. ORIGIN (Place a					Appeal to	
I Original □ <sup>2</sup> Rem	m "X" in One Box Only) oved from 3 Re-file Court VI bel		or 5 Transferred from another district (specify)	☐ 6 Multidistrict Litigation ☐ 7	District Judge from 18 Remanded from Appellate Court Magistrate	
VI. RELATED/	a) Re-fi	led Case □YES 2 N		-	Judgment	
RE-FILED CASE(S)	(See instructions):			-		
······································	JUDGE			DOCKET NUMBER		
VII. CAUSE OF ACTIC	Cite the U.S. Civil Sta 29 U.S.C. §216(b) LENGTH OF TRIAL		ling and Write a Brief Statemen for both sides to try entire case)	t of Cause <i>(Do not cite jurisdice</i>	tional statutes unless diversity):	
VIII. REQUESTED IN COMPLAINT: CHECK IF THIS IS A CLASS ACTION UNDER F.R.C.P. 23			DEMAND \$	CHECK YES only if demanded in complaint: JURY DEMAND:  Yes  No		
ABOVE INFORMATION IS T		HE BEST OF MY KNOW		JUNI DEMAND;		
DATE			TORNEY OF RECORD	>		
November 20, 2017		C	-			
FOR OFFICE USE ONLY RECEIPT #	AMOUNT	IFP	JUDGE	MAG JUDGE		

JS 44 Reverse (Rev. 12/12)

## **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.C.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; federal question actions take precedence over diversity cases.)

III. Residence (citizenship) of Principal Parties. This section of the JS 44 is to be completed if diversity of citizenship was indicated above. Mark this section for each principal party.

IV. Nature of Suit. Place an "X" in the appropriate box. If 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 clerks 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.

Refiled (3) Attach copy of Order for Dismissal of Previous case. Also complete VI.

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. (6) Check this box when a multidistrict case is transferred into the district under authority of Title 28 U.S.C. Section 1407. When this box is checked, do not check (5) above.

Appeal to District Judge from Magistrate Judgment. (7) Check this box for an appeal from a magistrate judge's decision.

Remanded from Appellate Court. (8) Check this box if remanded from Appellate Court.

VI. Related/Refiled Cases. This section of the JS 44 is used to reference related pending cases or re-filed cases. Insert the docket numbers and the corresponding judges name for such cases.

 VII.
 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

VIII. 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 dollar amount (in thousands of dollars) 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.

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

# **ClassAction.org**

This complaint is part of ClassAction.org's searchable class action lawsuit database and can be found in this post: Lawsuit: W. Aviation Altered, Deleted Employee Time Records to Avoid Paying OT