#### UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT EASTERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

#### SAMUEL & STEIN

David Stein (DS 2119) 38 West 32<sup>nd</sup> Street Suite 1110 New York, New York 10001 (212) 563-9884 dstein@samuelandstein.com

Attorneys for Plaintiffs, Individually and on behalf of all others similarly situated

Alan Fabre, Cristhian Vega, and Aldo Jara, on behalf of themselves and all other persons similarly situated,

Plaintiffs,

DOCKET NO. 17-CV-984

COMPLAINT

- vs. -

Highbury Concrete Inc., Thomas Gorman, Thomas Fogarty, and Benny Griffin,

Defendants.

Plaintiffs Alan Fabre, Cristhian Vega, and Aldo Jara, by and through their undersigned attorneys, for their complaint against defendants Highbury Concrete Inc., Thomas Gorman, Thomas Fogarty, and Benny Griffin, allege as follows, on behalf of themselves and on behalf of all other persons similarly situated:

#### NATURE OF THE ACTION

1. Plaintiffs Alan Fabre, Cristhian Vega, and Aldo Jara allege on behalf of themselves and on behalf of other

#### Case 1:17-cv-00984 Document 1 Filed 02/22/17 Page 2 of 25 PageID #: 2

similarly situated current and former employees of defendants Highbury Concrete Inc., Thomas Gorman, Thomas Fogarty, and Benny Griffin, who elect to opt into this action pursuant to the Fair Labor Standards Act ("FLSA"), 29 U.S.C. § 216(b), that they are entitled to: (i) unpaid wages from defendants for overtime work for which they did not receive overtime premium pay as required by law; and (ii) liquidated damages pursuant to the FLSA, 29 U.S.C. §§ 201 et seq., because defendants' violations lacked a good faith basis.

2. Plaintiffs further complain on behalf of themselves and on behalf of a class of other similarly situated current and former employees of defendants, pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 23, that they are entitled to (i) back wages for overtime work for which defendants willfully failed to pay overtime premium pay as required by the New York Labor Law §§ 650 et seq. and the supporting State Department of Labor regulations; New York (ii) liquidated damages pursuant to New York Labor Law for these violations; and (iii) compensation for defendants' violation of the Wage Theft Prevention Act.

#### THE PARTIES

3. Plaintiff Mr. Fabre is an adult individual residing in Rye Brook, New York.

#### Case 1:17-cv-00984 Document 1 Filed 02/22/17 Page 3 of 25 PageID #: 3

4. Plaintiffs Mr. Vega and Mr. Jaro are adult individuals residing in Queens, New York.

5. Plaintiffs consent in writing to be parties to this action pursuant to 29 U.S.C. § 216(b); their written consents are attached hereto and incorporated by reference.

6. Upon information and belief, defendant Highbury Concrete Inc. is a New York corporation with a principal place of business at 53-19 46<sup>th</sup> St, Maspeth, New York.

7. At relevant times, defendant Highbury Concrete Inc. has been, and continues to be, an employer engaged in interstate commerce and/or the production of goods for commerce within the meaning of the FLSA, 29 U.S.C. § 207(a).

8. Upon information and belief, at all relevant times, Highbury has had gross annual revenues in excess of \$500,000.00.

9. Upon information and belief, at all relevant times herein, Highbury has used goods and materials produced in interstate commerce, and has employed at least two individuals who handled such goods and materials.

10. Upon information and belief, at all relevant times, defendant Highbury has constituted an "enterprise" as defined in the FLSA.

#### Case 1:17-cv-00984 Document 1 Filed 02/22/17 Page 4 of 25 PageID #: 4

11. Upon information and belief, defendant Thomas Gorman is an owner or part owner and principal of Highbury, who has the power to hire and fire employees, set wages and schedules, and maintain their records.

12. Defendant Thomas Gorman was involved in the dayto-day operations of Highbury and played an active role in managing the business.

13. Upon information and belief, defendant Thomas Fogarty is an owner or part owner and principal of Highbury, who has the power to hire and fire employees, set wages and schedules, and maintain their records.

14. Defendant Thomas Fogarty was involved in the dayto-day operations of Highbury and played an active role in managing the business.

15. Upon information and belief, defendant Benny Griffin is an owner or part owner and principal of Highbury, who has the power to hire and fire employees, set wages and schedules, and maintain their records.

16. Defendant Benny Griffin was involved in the dayto-day operations of Highbury and played an active role in managing the business.

17. For example, defendant Gorman hired plaintiffs Fabre and Vega and set their pay and schedules, while defendant Fogarty did the same for plaintiff Jaro, and

#### Case 1:17-cv-00984 Document 1 Filed 02/22/17 Page 5 of 25 PageID #: 5

defendants Gorman, Fogarty, and Griffin regularly supervised plaintiffs.

18. Defendants constituted "employers" of plaintiffs as that term is used in the Fair Labor Standards Act and New York Labor Law.

#### JURISDICTION AND VENUE

19. This Court has subject matter jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1331 and 1337 and supplemental jurisdiction over plaintiffs' state law claims pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1367. In addition, the Court has jurisdiction over plaintiffs' claims under the FLSA pursuant to 29 U.S.C. § 216(b).

20. Venue is proper in this district pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1391 because defendants' business is located in this district.

#### COLLECTIVE ACTION AND CLASS ACTION ALLEGATIONS

21. Pursuant to 29 U.S.C. § 207, plaintiffs seek to prosecute their FLSA claims as a collective action on behalf of themselves and a collective defined as follows:

All persons who are or were employed by defendants in the United States at any time since February 14, 2014, to the entry of judgment in this case (the "Collective Action Period"), and who were not paid overtime compensation at rates at least one-and-one-half times the regular rate of pay for hours worked in excess of forty hours per workweek (the "Collective Action Members").

#### Case 1:17-cv-00984 Document 1 Filed 02/22/17 Page 6 of 25 PageID #: 6

22. Pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 23(a), (b)(2), and (b)(3), plaintiffs seek to prosecute their New York Labor Law claims on behalf of themselves and a class defined as follows:

All persons who are or were employed by defendants in the United States at any time since February 14, 2011, to the entry of judgment in this case (the "Class Period"), and who were not properly paid overtime compensation, and/or who were not provided with appropriate wage notices or weekly wage statements (the "Class Members").

23. Prosecution of this matter as a class is necessary because the persons in the putative Class identified above are so numerous that joinder of all members is impracticable.

24. Although the precise number of such persons is unknown, their identities are readily ascertainable from records within the sole control of defendants, and upon information and belief there are more than 40 members of the putative class during the Class Period, most of whom would not be likely to file individual suits because they lack adequate financial resources, access to attorneys, or knowledge of their claims.

25. Plaintiffs will fairly and adequately protect the interests of both the putative Class Members and the Collective Action Members and have retained counsel that is

#### Case 1:17-cv-00984 Document 1 Filed 02/22/17 Page 7 of 25 PageID #: 7

experienced and competent in the fields of employment law and class action litigation.

26. Plaintiffs' claims are typical of the claims of the putative Class and Collective Action Members, and plaintiffs have no interests that are contrary to, or in conflict with, those of the putative members of this class action or collective action.

27. Furthermore, inasmuch as the damages suffered by individual putative Class Members and Collective Action Members may be relatively small, the expense and burden of individual litigation make it virtually impossible for the members of the putative class and collective actions to individually seek redress for the wrongs done to them.

28. Questions of law and fact common to the members of the putative class and collective actions predominate over questions that may affect only individual members because defendants have acted on grounds generally applicable to all members.

29. Among the common questions of law and fact under the FLSA and New York wage and hour laws common to plaintiffs and other putative Class/Collective Action Members are the following:

a. Whether defendants failed and/or refused to pay plaintiffs and the Collective Action Members

premium pay for hours worked in excess of forty per workweek, in violation of the FLSA and the regulations promulgated thereunder;

- b. Whether defendants failed and/or refused to pay plaintiffs and the putative Class Members premium pay for hours worked in excess of forty per workweek, in violation of New York wage and hour laws and the regulations promulgated thereunder;
- c. Whether defendants failed and/or refused to provide plaintiffs and the putative Class Members with the wage notices and weekly pay statements required by New York Labor Law §§ 195.1, 195.3, and the Wage Theft Prevention Act;
- d. Whether defendants' violations of the FLSA were willful, or not made in good faith, as those terms are used within the context of the FLSA; and
- e. Whether defendants' violations of New York Labor Law were willful, or not made in good faith, as those terms are used within the context of New York Labor Law.

30. Plaintiffs know of no difficulty that will be encountered in the management of this litigation that will

#### Case 1:17-cv-00984 Document 1 Filed 02/22/17 Page 9 of 25 PageID #: 9

preclude its maintenance as a collective action or class action.

31. The Collective Action Members are similarly situated to plaintiffs in that they were employed by Highbury as non-exempt laborers, and were denied premium overtime pay for hours worked beyond forty hours in a week.

32. They are further similarly situated in that Highbury had a policy and practice of knowingly and willfully refusing to pay them overtime.

33. Plaintiffs and the Collective Action Members and Class Members perform or performed the same or similar primary duties, and were subjected to the same policies and practices by Highbury.

34. The exact number of such individuals is presently unknown, but is known by defendants and can be ascertained through appropriate discovery.

#### FACTS

35. At all relevant times herein, defendants owned and operated a concrete contracting business in Queens.

36. Plaintiffs worked on construction projects in Manhattan and Queens for defendants.

37. Mr. Fabre was employed at Highbury from approximately September 2015 through December 2016.

#### Case 1:17-cv-00984 Document 1 Filed 02/22/17 Page 10 of 25 PageID #: 10

38. Mr. Vega was employed at Highbury from approximately September 2016 through January 2017.

39. Mr. Jaro was employed at Highbury from approximately July 2016 through January 2017.

40. Mr. Fabre and Mr. Vega were employed as operators of concrete pumps, while Mr. Jaro was employed as a driver, whose job was to pick up supplies and tools from stores and deliver them to the various construction sites in New York.

41. Plaintiffs' work was performed in the normal course of defendants' business and was integrated into the business of defendants, and did not involve executive or administrative responsibilities.

42. At all relevant times herein, plaintiffs were employees engaged in commerce and/or in the production of goods for commerce, as defined in the FLSA and its implementing regulations.

43. Plaintiffs each regularly worked six days each week of their employment at Highbury, except that in approximately mid-December 2016, plaintiff Jaro's schedule was cut back to five days per week.

44. Plaintiffs Fabre and Vega routinely worked from approximately 6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. daily, though they often started their shifts earlier in the morning or

#### Case 1:17-cv-00984 Document 1 Filed 02/22/17 Page 11 of 25 PageID #: 11

finished later in the evening. As a result, they worked between 75-80 hours almost every week of their employment.

45. Plaintiff Jaro routinely worked from approximately 6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. daily for the first six months of his employment, or approximately 72 hours per week; commencing in about mid-December 2016, his workload was slightly reduced, so that he often started later or finished earlier, and he would work between 50 and 60 hours per week.

46. Plaintiffs were paid on an hourly basis during their employment with defendants.

47. Mr. Fabre started at \$32 per hour, was given a raise to \$35 per hour in mid-2016, and was given a further raise to \$40 per hour in early-September 2016.

48. Mr. Vega was paid \$25 per hour throughout his employment, and Mr. Jaro was paid \$27 per hour throughout his employment.

49. Plaintiffs were paid at these regular rates of pay for all their hours worked, regardless of the number of hours they worked.

50. As a result, Highbury failed to pay plaintiffs any overtime "bonus" for hours worked beyond 40 hours in a workweek, in violation of the FLSA, the New York Labor Law,

#### Case 1:17-cv-00984 Document 1 Filed 02/22/17 Page 12 of 25 PageID #: 12

and the supporting New York State Department of Labor regulations.

51. Defendants' failure to pay plaintiffs the overtime bonus for overtime hours worked was willful, and lacked a good faith basis.

52. Originally, plaintiff Fabre was paid by business check with no paystub listing his hours or pay rate on it. Commencing in mid-2016, defendants began paying plaintiff Fabre by payroll check, which included a paystub.

53. However, even when defendants began issuing payroll checks with paystubs in mid-2016, they utilized a scheme in order to disguise the fact that defendants were not paying plaintiffs overtime premiums.

54. Specifically, defendants would pay plaintiffs with two separate checks: one would be a payroll check that listed 40 hours of pay on it, while the other, with all the overtime hours, would be a business check that did not include a paystub.

55. Defendants further instructed plaintiffs to supply another name to which defendants would issue these business checks.

56. Moreover, these business checks were often issued from another company's bank account, including RG Labor Services Inc. or The Laura Group Inc.

#### Case 1:17-cv-00984 Document 1 Filed 02/22/17 Page 13 of 25 PageID #: 13

57. Plaintiffs were never provided with paystubs or wage statements that accurately provided the information required by New York law, such as regular and overtime hours worked and regular and overtime pay.

58. Defendants failed to provide plaintiffs with written notices providing the information required by the Wage Theft Prevention Act - including, *inter alia*, defendants' contact information, plaintiffs' regular and overtime rates, and intended allowances claimed - and failed to obtain plaintiffs' signature acknowledging the same, upon their hiring or at any time thereafter, in violation of the Wage Theft Prevention Act in effect at the time.

59. Defendants failed to provide plaintiffs with accurate weekly records of their compensation and hours worked, in violation of the Wage Theft Prevention Act.

60. Upon information and belief, throughout the period of plaintiffs' employment, both before that time (throughout the Class and Collective Action Periods) and continuing until today, defendants have likewise employed other individuals like plaintiffs (the Class and Collective Action Members) in positions at defendants' contracting company that required little skill, no capital investment, and with duties and responsibilities that did not include

#### Case 1:17-cv-00984 Document 1 Filed 02/22/17 Page 14 of 25 PageID #: 14

any managerial responsibilities or the exercise of independent judgment.

61. Upon information and belief, these other individuals have worked in excess of forty hours per week, yet Highbury has likewise failed to pay them overtime compensation of one-and-one-half times their regular hourly rate, in violation of the FLSA and the New York Labor Law.

62. Upon information and belief, these other individuals were not provided with required wage notices or accurate weekly wage statements as specified in New York Labor Law §§ 195.1, 195.3, and the Wage Theft Prevention Act.

63. Upon information and belief, while defendants employed plaintiffs and throughout all relevant time periods, defendants failed to maintain accurate and sufficient time records or provide accurate records to employees.

64. Upon information and belief, while defendants employed plaintiffs and through all relevant time periods, defendants failed to post or keep posted accurate notices explaining the minimum wage and overtime pay rights provided by the FLSA or New York Labor Law.

Case 1:17-cv-00984 Document 1 Filed 02/22/17 Page 15 of 25 PageID #: 15

#### COUNT I

#### (Fair Labor Standards Act - Overtime)

65. Plaintiffs, on behalf of themselves and all Collective Action Members, repeat, reallege, and incorporate by reference the foregoing allegations as if set forth fully and again herein.

66. At all relevant times, defendants employed plaintiffs and each of the Collective Action Members within the meaning of the FLSA.

67. At all relevant times, defendants had a policy and practice of refusing to pay overtime compensation to their employees for hours they worked in excess of forty hours per workweek.

68. As a result of defendants' willful failure to compensate their employees, including plaintiffs and the Collective Action Members, at a rate at least one-and-onehalf times their regular rates of pay for work performed in excess of forty hours per workweek, defendants have violated, and continue to violate, the FLSA, 29 U.S.C. §§ 201 et seq., including 29 U.S.C. §§ 207(a)(1) and 215(a).

69. The foregoing conduct, as alleged, constitutes a willful violation of the FLSA within the meaning of 29 U.S.C. § 255(a), and lacks a good faith basis within the meaning of 29 U.S.C. § 260.

70. Due to defendants' FLSA violations, plaintiffs and the Collective Action Members are entitled to recover from defendants their unpaid overtime compensation, liquidated damages, interest, reasonable attorneys' fees, and costs and disbursements of this action, pursuant to 29 U.S.C. § 216(b).

#### COUNT II

#### (New York Labor Law - Overtime)

71. Plaintiffs, on behalf of themselves and the members of the Class, repeat, reallege, and incorporate by reference the foregoing allegations as if set forth fully and again herein.

72. At all relevant times, plaintiffs and the members of the Class were employed by defendants within the meaning of the New York Labor Law, §§ 2 and 651.

73. Defendants willfully violated the rights of plaintiffs and the members of the Class by failing to pay them full overtime compensation at rates at least one-andone-half times their regular rates of pay for each hour worked in excess of forty hours per workweek in violation of the New York Labor Law §§ 650 et seq. and its supporting regulations in 12 N.Y.C.R.R § 142.

#### Case 1:17-cv-00984 Document 1 Filed 02/22/17 Page 17 of 25 PageID #: 17

74. Defendants' failure to pay overtime was willful, and lacked a good faith basis, within the meaning of New York Labor Law § 198, § 663 and supporting regulations.

75. Due to defendants' New York Labor Law violations, plaintiffs and the members of the Class are entitled to recover from defendants their unpaid overtime compensation, liquidated damages, interest, reasonable attorneys' fees, and costs and disbursements of the action, pursuant to New York Labor Law § 198, and § 663(1).

#### COUNT III

#### (New York Labor Law - Wage Theft Prevention Act)

76. Plaintiffs, on behalf of themselves and the members of the Class, repeat, reallege, and incorporate by reference the foregoing allegations as if set forth fully and again herein.

77. At all relevant times, plaintiffs and the members of the Class were employed by defendants within the meaning of the New York Labor Law, §§ 2 and 651.

78. Defendants willfully violated the rights of plaintiffs and the members of the Class by failing to provide them with the wage notices required by the Wage Theft Prevention Act when they were hired, or at any time thereafter.

#### Case 1:17-cv-00984 Document 1 Filed 02/22/17 Page 18 of 25 PageID #: 18

79. Defendants willfully violated the rights of plaintiffs and the members of the Class by failing to provide them with accurate weekly wage statements required by the Wage Theft Prevention Act at any time during their employment.

80. Due to defendants' New York Labor Law violations relating to the failure to provide wage statements, plaintiffs and the members of the Class are entitled to recover from the defendants statutory damages of \$100 per week through February 26, 2015, and \$250 per day from February 27, 2015 through the end of their employment, up to the maximum statutory damages.

81. Due to defendants' New York Labor Law violations relating to the failure to provide wage notices, plaintiffs and the members of the Class are entitled to recover from the defendants statutory damages of \$50 per week through February 26, 2015, and \$50 per day from February 27, 2015 to the termination of their employment, up to the maximum statutory damages.

#### PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, plaintiffs, on behalf of themselves and the members of the collective and class actions, respectfully request that this Court grant the following relief:

- a. Certification of this action as a class action pursuant to Fed.R.Civ.P. 23(b)(2) and (3) on behalf of members of the Class and appointing plaintiffs and their counsel to represent the Class;
- b. Designation of this action as a collective action on behalf of the Collective Action Members and prompt issuance of notice pursuant to 29 U.S.C. § 216(b) to all similarly situated members of an FLSA Opt-In Class, apprising them of the pendency of this action, permitting them to assert timely FLSA claims in this action by filing individual Consents to Sue pursuant to 29 U.S.C. § 216(b), and appointing plaintiffs and their counsel to represent the Collective Action members;
- c. A declaratory judgment that the practices complained of herein are unlawful under the FLSA and the New York Labor Law;
- d. An injunction against defendants and their officers, agents, successors, employees, representatives, and any and all persons acting in concert with them, as provided by law, from

engaging in each of the unlawful practices, policies, and patterns set forth herein;

- e. A compensatory award of unpaid compensation, at the statutory overtime rate, due under the FLSA and the New York Labor Law;
- f. An award of liquidated damages as a result of defendants' willful failure to pay statutory overtime compensation pursuant to 29 U.S.C. § 216;
- g. Liquidated damages for defendants' New York
  Labor Law violations;
- h. Statutory damages for defendants' violation of the New York Wage Theft Prevention Act;
- i. Back pay;
- j. Punitive damages;
- k. An award of prejudgment and postjudgment
  interest;
- An award of costs and expenses of this action together with reasonable attorneys' and expert fees; and
- m. Such other, further, and different relief as this Court deems just and proper.

Case 1:17-cv-00984 Document 1 Filed 02/22/17 Page 21 of 25 PageID #: 21

Dated: February 14, 2017

2. Often

David Stein SAMUEL & STEIN 38 West 32<sup>nd</sup> Street Suite 1110 New York, New York 10001 (212) 563-9884

Attorneys for Plaintiffs, Individually and on behalf of others similarly situated 

# **EXHIBIT** A

#### **CONSENT TO SUE**

By my signature below, I hereby authorize the filing and prosecution of claims in my name and on my behalf to contest the failure of Highbury Concrete, Inc. and its owners and affiliates to pay me, *inter alia*, minimum wage and overtime wages as required under state and/or federal law and also authorize the filing of this consent in the lawsuit challenging such conduct, and consent to being named as a representative plaintiff in this action to make decisions on behalf of all other plaintiffs concerning all aspects of this lawsuit. I have been provided with a copy of a retainer agreement with the law firm of Samuel & Stein, and I agree to be bound by its terms.

Con mi firma abajo, autorizo la presentación y tramitación de reclamaciones en mi nombre y de mi parte para impugnar el fallo de Highbury Concrete, Inc. y sus propietarios y afiliados a me pagan, entre otras cosas, el salario mínimo y pago de horas extras, requerida en el estado y / o la ley federal y también autorizan la presentación de este consentimiento en la demanda contra ese tipo de conducta, y el consentimiento para ser nombrado como demandante representante en esta acción para tomar decisiones en nombre de todos los demás demandantes en relación con todos aspectos de esta demanda. Se me ha proporcionado una copia de un acuerdo de retención con la firma de abogados de Samuel y Stein, y estoy de acuerdo en estar obligado por sus términos..

Alan Fabre

Date: February 13, 2017

#### **CONSENT TO SUE**

By my signature below, I hereby authorize the filing and prosecution of claims in my name and on my behalf to contest the failure of Highbury Concrete, Inc. and its owners and affiliates to pay me, *inter alia*, minimum wage and overtime wages as required under state and/or federal law and also authorize the filing of this consent in the lawsuit challenging such conduct, and consent to being named as a representative plaintiff in this action to make decisions on behalf of all other plaintiffs concerning all aspects of this lawsuit. I have been provided with a copy of a retainer agreement with the law firm of Samuel & Stein, and I agree to be bound by its terms.

Con mi firma abajo, autorizo la presentación y tramitación de reclamaciones en mi nombre y de mi parte para impugnar el fallo de Highbury Concrete, Inc. y sus propietarios y afiliados a me pagan, entre otras cosas, el salario mínimo y pago de horas extras, requerida en el estado y / o la ley federal y también autorizan la presentación de este consentimiento en la demanda contra ese tipo de conducta, y el consentimiento para ser nombrado como demandante representante en esta acción para tomar decisiones en nombre de todos los demás demandantes en relación con todos aspectos de esta demanda. Se me ha proporcionado una copia de un acuerdo de retención con la firma de abogados de Samuel y Stein, y estoy de acuerdo en estar obligado por sus términos..

Cristhian Vega

Date: February 13, 2017

#### **CONSENT TO SUE**

By my signature below, I hereby authorize the filing and prosecution of claims in my name and on my behalf to contest the failure of Highbury Concrete, Inc. and its owners and affiliates to pay me, *inter alia*, minimum wage and overtime wages as required under state and/or federal law and also authorize the filing of this consent in the lawsuit challenging such conduct, and consent to being named as a representative plaintiff in this action to make decisions on behalf of all other plaintiffs concerning all aspects of this lawsuit. I have been provided with a copy of a retainer agreement with the law firm of Samuel & Stein, and I agree to be bound by its terms.

Con mi firma abajo, autorizo la presentación y tramitación de reclamaciones en mi nombre y de mi parte para impugnar el fallo de Highbury Concrete, Inc. y sus propietarios y afiliados a me pagan, entre otras cosas, el salario mínimo y pago de horas extras, requerida en el estado y / o la ley federal y también autorizan la presentación de este consentimiento en la demanda contra ese tipo de conducta, y el consentimiento para ser nombrado como demandante representante en esta acción para tomar decisiones en nombre de todos los demás demandantes en relación con todos aspectos de esta demanda. Se me ha proporcionado una copia de un acuerdo de retención con la firma de abogados de Samuel y Stein, y estoy de acuerdo en estar obligado por sus términos..

Date: February 13, 2017

### JS 44 (Rev. 07/16) Case 1:17-cv-00984 Document coverage of 2 Page 1 of 2 Page 1 D #: 26

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 DEFENDANTS Alan Fabre, Cristhian Vega, and Aldo Jara, on behalf of themselves and Highbury Concrete Inc., Thomas Gorman, Thomas Fogarty, and Benny Griffin all other persons similarly situated (b) County of Residence of First Listed Plaintiff Westchester County, NY Queens County, NY County of Residence of First Listed Defendant (EXCEPT IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES) (IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES ONLY) IN LAND CONDEMNATION CASES, USE THE LOCATION OF THE TRACT OF LAND INVOLVED. NOTE: Attorneys (If Known) (c) Attorneys (Firm Name, Address, and Telephone Number) Samuel & Stein / 38 West 32nd Street, Suite 1110 / New York, NY 10001 / (212) 563-9884 II. BASIS OF JURISDICTION (Place an "X" in One Box Only) III. CITIZENSHIP OF PRINCIPAL PARTIES (Place an "X" in One Box for Plaintiff (For Diversity Cases Only) and One Box for Defendant) ★ 3 Federal Ouestion I U.S. Government PTF DEF PTF DEF Plaintiff (U.S. Government Not a Party) Citizen of This State 01 □ 1 Incorporated or Principal Place of Business In This State □ 2 U.S. Government □ 4 Diversity Citizen of Another State □ 2 0 2 Incorporated and Principal Place Π 5 Π 5 Defendant (Indicate Citizenship of Parties in Item III) of Business In Another State Citizen or Subject of a □ 3 Foreign Nation □ 6 Foreign Country IV. NATURE OF SUIT (Place an "X" in One Box Only) CONTRACT FORFEITURE/PENALTY BANKRUPTCY OTHER STATUTES TORTS □ 110 Insurance PERSONAL INJURY PERSONAL INJURY 625 Drug Related Seizure 422 Appeal 28 USC 158 375 False Claims Act D 120 Marine 310 Airplane □ 365 Personal Injury of Property 21 USC 881 □ 423 Withdrawal 376 Qui Tam (31 USC D 130 Miller Act □ 315 Airplane Product Product Liability □ 690 Other 28 USC 157 3729(a)) Liability D 367 Health Care/ □ 400 State Reapportionment 140 Negotiable Instrument PROPERTY RIGHTS □ 320 Assault, Libel & Pharmaceutical 150 Recovery of Overpayment T 410 Antitrust & Enforcement of Judgmen Slander Personal Injury □ 820 Copyrights □ 430 Banks and Banking □ 151 Medicare Act 330 Federal Employers' Product Liability D 830 Patent □ 450 Commerce □ 152 Recovery of Defaulted Liability 368 Asbestos Personal □ 840 Trademark 460 Deportation Student Loans D 340 Marine Injury Product 470 Racketeer Influenced and (Excludes Veterans) □ 345 Marine Product Liability LABOR SOCIAL SECURITY Corrupt Organizations ✗ 710 Fair Labor Standards 153 Recovery of Overpayment Liability PERSONAL PROPERTY □ 861 HIA (1395ff) 480 Consumer Credit of Veteran's Benefits □ 350 Motor Vehicle □ 370 Other Fraud □ 862 Black Lung (923) □ 490 Cable/Sat TV Act □ 371 Truth in Lending □ 720 Labor/Management □ 863 DIWC/DIWW (405(g)) □ 355 Motor Vehicle 160 Stockholders' Suits □ 850 Securities/Commodities/ □ 190 Other Contract Product Liability 380 Other Personal Relations 864 SSID Title XVI Exchange □ 740 Railway Labor Act 195 Contract Product Liability □ 360 Other Personal Property Damage □ 865 RSI (405(g)) 890 Other Statutory Actions □ 196 Franchise Injury □ 385 Property Damage □ 751 Family and Medical 891 Agricultural Acts 362 Personal Injury -Product Liability Leave Act 893 Environmental Matters Medical Malpractice 790 Other Labor Litigation □ 895 Freedom of Information REAL PROPERTY PRISONER PETITIONS 791 Employee Retirement CIVIL RIGHTS FEDERAL TAX SUITS Act 210 Land Condemnation □ 440 Other Civil Rights Income Security Act D 870 Taxes (U.S. Plaintiff Habeas Corpus: □ 896 Arbitration □ 220 Foreclosure □ 441 Voting □ 463 Alien Detainee or Defendant) □ 899 Administrative Procedure □ 442 Employment D 510 Motions to Vacate D 871 IRS-Third Party Act/Review or Appeal of □ 230 Rent Lease & Ejectment 240 Torts to Land □ 443 Housing/ Sentence 26 USC 7609 Agency Decision 245 Tort Product Liability Accommodations □ 530 General 950 Constitutionality of □ 290 All Other Real Property □ 445 Amer. w/Disabilities □ 535 Death Penalty IMMIGRATION State Statutes Employment Other: 462 Naturalization Application □ 446 Amer. w/Disabilities 540 Mandamus & Other □ 465 Other Immigration Other □ 550 Civil Rights Actions □ 555 Prison Condition □ 448 Education □ 560 Civil Detainee Conditions of Confinement V. ORIGIN (Place an "X" in One Box Only) XI Original □ 2 Removed from Remanded from □ 4 Reinstated or D 6 Multidistrict □ 5 Transferred from D 8 Multidistrict Appellate Court Proceeding State Court Litigation -Litigation -Direct File Reopened Another District Transfer (specify) Cite the U.S. Civil Statute under which you are filing (Do not cite jurisdictional statutes unless diversity): 29 U.S.C. § 201, et seq. **VI. CAUSE OF ACTION** Brief description of cause: Failure to pay overtime **VII. REOUESTED IN** R CHECK IF THIS IS A CLASS ACTION **DEMAND S** CHECK YES only if demanded in complaint: UNDER RULE 23, F.R.Cv.P. **COMPLAINT:** JURY DEMAND: □ Yes XNo VIII. RELATED CASE(S) (See instructions). IF ANY JUDGE DOCKET NUMBER DATE SIGNATURE O AT TORNEY OF RECORD February 14, 2017 FOR OFFICE USE ONLY **RECEIPT** # AMOUNT APPLYING IFP JUDGE MAG. JUDGE

#### Case 1:17-cv-00984 Document 1-1 Filed 02/22/17 Page 2 of 2 PageID #: 27 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.

L David Stein I, <u>David Stein</u>, counsel for <u>plaintiffs</u>, 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:

#### None

#### **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 "Presumptively, and subject to the power of a judge to determine otherwise pursuant to paragraph (d), civil cases 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 being filed in the Eastern District removed from a New York State Court located in Nassau or Suffolk County: NO

2.)	If you answered "no" above:
	a) Did the events or omissions giving rise to the claim or claims, or a substantial part thereof, occur in Nassau or Suffolk
	County? NO

b) Did the events or omissions giving rise to the claim or claims, or a substantial part thereof, occur in the Eastern District? Yes

If your answer to question 2 (b) is "No," does the defendant (or a majority of the defendants, if there is more than one) reside in Nassau or Suffolk County, or, in an interpleader action, does the claimant (or a majority of the claimants, if there is more than one) reside in Nassau or Suffolk County? N/A

(Note: A corporation shall be considered a resident of the County in which it has the most significant contacts).

#### **BAR ADMISSION**

I am currently admitted in the Eastern District of New York and currently a member in good standing of the bar of this court. X Yes No

Are you currently the subject of any disciplinary action (s) in this or any other state or federal court? (If yes, please explain) X No

Yes

I certify the accuracy of all information provided above.

Signature:

Case 1:17-cv-00984 Document 1-2 Filed 02/22/17 Page 1 of 2 PageID #: 28

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

## UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

for the

)

)

) ) )

)

)

Civil Action No. 17-cv-984

Eastern District of New York

Alan Fabre, Cristhian Vega, and Aldo Jara, on behalf of themselves and all other persons similarly situated

Plaintiff(s) V.

Highbury Concrete Inc., Thomas Gorman, Thomas Fogarty, and Benny Griffin

Defendant(s)

#### SUMMONS IN A CIVIL ACTION

To: (Defendant's name and address)

Highbury Concrete Inc. 5319 46th Street Maspeth, New York 11378

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:

David Stein, Esq. Samuel & Stein 38 West 32nd Street, Suite 1110 New York, NY 10001

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

#### Case 1:17-cv-00984 Document 1-2 Filed 02/22/17 Page 2 of 2 PageID #: 29

AO 440 (Rev. 06/12) Summons in a Civil Action (Page 2)

Civil Action No. 17-cv-984

#### **PROOF OF SERVICE**

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

	This summons for (nam	ne of individual and title, if any)						
vas re	ceived by me on (date)	·						
	□ I personally served	I personally served the summons on the individual at (place)						
	on (date) ; or							
	$\Box$ I left the summons	□ I left the summons at the individual's residence or usual place of abode with (name)						
	, a person of suitable age and discretion who resides there,							
	on <i>(date)</i> , and mailed a copy to the individual's last known address; or							
	□ I served the summo	ns on (name of individual)		, who	is			
	designated by law to a	accept service of process on beha	alf of (name of organization)					
			on (date)	; or				
	□ I returned the summons unexecuted because	nons unexecuted because		; (	; or			
	□ Other ( <i>specify</i> ):							
	My fees are \$	for travel and \$	for services, for a total of \$	0				
	I declare under penalty of perjury that this information is true.							
Date:								
Jaic.			Server's signature					
			Printed name and title					

Server's address

Additional information regarding attempted service, etc:

Case 1:17-cv-00984 Document 1-3 Filed 02/22/17 Page 1 of 2 PageID #: 30

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

## UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

for the

)

)

) ) )

)

)

Civil Action No. 17-cv-984

Eastern District of New York

Alan Fabre, Cristhian Vega, and Aldo Jara, on behalf of themselves and all other persons similarly situated

Plaintiff(s) V.

Highbury Concrete Inc., Thomas Gorman, Thomas Fogarty, and Benny Griffin

Defendant(s)

#### SUMMONS IN A CIVIL ACTION

To: (Defendant's name and address)

Thomas Gorman % Highbury Concrete Inc. 5319 46th Street Maspeth, New York 11378

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:

David Stein, Esq. Samuel & Stein 38 West 32nd Street, Suite 1110 New York, NY 10001

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

#### Case 1:17-cv-00984 Document 1-3 Filed 02/22/17 Page 2 of 2 PageID #: 31

AO 440 (Rev. 06/12) Summons in a Civil Action (Page 2)

Civil Action No. 17-cv-984

#### **PROOF OF SERVICE**

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

	This summons for (nam	ne of individual and title, if any)						
was re	ceived by me on (date)							
	□ I personally served the summons on the individual at ( <i>place</i> )							
vas rece	on (date) ; or							
	□ I left the summons at the individual's residence or usual place of abode with <i>(name)</i>							
		, a person of suitable age and discretion who resides there,						
	on <i>(date)</i> , and mailed a copy to the individual's last known address; or							
	$\Box$ I served the summo	ons on (name of individual)				, who is		
	designated by law to accept service of process on behalf of (name of organization)							
			on	(date)	; or			
	$\Box$ I returned the summ	nons unexecuted because				; or		
	□ Other <i>(specify)</i> :							
	My fees are \$	for travel and \$		for services, for a total of \$		0		
	I declare under penalty of perjury that this information is true.							
Date								
Date.				Server's signature				
				Printed name and title				

Server's address

Additional information regarding attempted service, etc:

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

## UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

for the

)

)

) ) )

)

)

Civil Action No. 17-cv-984

Eastern District of New York

Alan Fabre, Cristhian Vega, and Aldo Jara, on behalf of themselves and all other persons similarly situated

Plaintiff(s) V.

Highbury Concrete Inc., Thomas Gorman, Thomas Fogarty, and Benny Griffin

Defendant(s)

#### SUMMONS IN A CIVIL ACTION

To: (Defendant's name and address)

Thomas Fogarty % Highbury Concrete Inc. 5319 46th Street Maspeth, New York 11378

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:

David Stein, Esq. Samuel & Stein 38 West 32nd Street, Suite 1110 New York, NY 10001

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

#### Case 1:17-cv-00984 Document 1-4 Filed 02/22/17 Page 2 of 2 PageID #: 33

AO 440 (Rev. 06/12) Summons in a Civil Action (Page 2)

Civil Action No. 17-cv-984

#### **PROOF OF SERVICE**

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

	This summons for (nam	e of individual and title, if any)					
vas re	ceived by me on (date)						
	<b>I</b> personally served	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 <i>(name)</i>						
	, a person of suitable age and discretion who resides there,						
	on <i>(date)</i> , and mailed a copy to the individual's last known address; or						
	□ I served the summo			, who is			
		ccept service of process on beh	alf of (name of organization)	, who is			
			on (date)	; or			
		ions unexecuted because		· or			
	□ Other (specify):						
	My fees are \$	for travel and \$	for services, for a	a total of \$			
	I declare under penalty of perjury that this information is true.						
Date:							
			Server's signa	ture			
			Printed name an	d title			

Server's address

Additional information regarding attempted service, etc:

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

## UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

for the

)

)

) ) )

)

)

Civil Action No. 17-cv-984

Eastern District of New York

Alan Fabre, Cristhian Vega, and Aldo Jara, on behalf of themselves and all other persons similarly situated

Plaintiff(s) V.

Highbury Concrete Inc., Thomas Gorman, Thomas Fogarty, and Benny Griffin

Defendant(s)

#### SUMMONS IN A CIVIL ACTION

To: (Defendant's name and address)

Benny Griffin % Highbury Concrete Inc. 5319 46th Street Maspeth, New York 11378

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:

David Stein, Esq. Samuel & Stein 38 West 32nd Street, Suite 1110 New York, NY 10001

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

#### Case 1:17-cv-00984 Document 1-5 Filed 02/22/17 Page 2 of 2 PageID #: 35

AO 440 (Rev. 06/12) Summons in a Civil Action (Page 2)

Civil Action No. 17-cv-984

#### **PROOF OF SERVICE**

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

	This summons for (nam	ne of individual and title, if any)						
vas re	ceived by me on (date)	·						
	□ I personally served	I personally served the summons on the individual at (place)						
	on (date) ; or							
	$\Box$ I left the summons	□ I left the summons at the individual's residence or usual place of abode with (name)						
	, a person of suitable age and discretion who resides there,							
	on <i>(date)</i> , and mailed a copy to the individual's last known address; or							
	□ I served the summo	ns on (name of individual)		, who	is			
	designated by law to a	accept service of process on beha	alf of (name of organization)					
			on (date)	; or				
	□ I returned the summons unexecuted because	nons unexecuted because		; (	; or			
	□ Other ( <i>specify</i> ):							
	My fees are \$	for travel and \$	for services, for a total of \$	0				
	I declare under penalty of perjury that this information is true.							
Date:								
Jaic.			Server's signature					
			Printed name and title					

Server's address

Additional information regarding attempted service, etc:

## **ClassAction.org**

This complaint is part of ClassAction.org's searchable class action lawsuit database and can be found in this post: <u>Highbury Concrete Facing FLSA Class Action Over Unpaid Wages</u>