UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT OF NORTH DAKOTA WESTERN DIVISION

CASE NO.:

BERNARD GREGORY AND CLINTON PERRY, on behalf of themselves and all others similarly situated,

Plaintiffs,

VS.

CREEK OILFIELD SERVICES, LLC,

Defendant.

COMPLAINT

{Jury Trial Demanded}

Plaintiffs, BERNARD GREGORY AND CLINTON PERRY, on behalf of themselves and all others similarly situated, by and through counsel, hereby set forth this Representative Action Complaint for Violation of the Fair Labor Standards Act as follows:

NATURE OF THE COMPLAINT

1. Plaintiffs, BERNARD GREGORY AND CLINTON PERRY, bring this action against Defendant, CREEK OILFIELD SERVICES, LLC (Hereinafter "Defendant") for unpaid overtime wages and related penalties. Plaintiffs allege, on behalf of themselves and all other similarly situated employees of Defendant, that Defendant failed and refused to pay Plaintiffs, and all others similarly situated, the proper overtime pay for time worked in violation of the Fair Labor Standards Act ("FLSA"), 29 U.S.C. § 201, Et. Seq.

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2. Plaintiffs seek declaratory relief, unpaid overtime pay, liquidated and/or other damages as permitted by applicable law, and attorney's fees, costs, and expenses incurred in this action.

3. At all times relevant hereto, Defendant had an illegal practice and policy in violation of the FLSA of underpaying Plaintiffs their hourly and overtime wages. Defendant routinely required Plaintiffs, and all other similarly situated employees, to work off the clock hours, for which they were not compensated, in violation of the FLSA.

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

4. This Court has original federal question jurisdiction pursuant to 28 U.S.C.
§ 1331 because this case is brought under the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA),
29 U.S.C. § 201, et seq.

5. The District of North Dakota has personal jurisdiction over Defendant because it is doing business in North Dakota and in this judicial District.

6. Venue is proper in this District pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1391(b) because Defendant resides in this district and a substantial part of the events giving rise to the claim occurred in this District.

A. Plaintiffs

Named Plaintiffs

7. Plaintiff, BERNARD GREGORY, is a resident of Watford City, North Dakota. Defendant employed Plaintiff as a driver from on or about December 20, 2016 to the present. Plaintiff's Consent to Join is attached as "Exhibit A."

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8. Plaintiff, CLINTON PERRY, is a resident of Gretna, Louisiana. Defendant employed Plaintiff as a fueler tech from on or about June 19, 2017 through on or about August 23, 2017. Plaintiff's Consent to Join is attached as "Exhibit B."

9. At all relevant times, Plaintiffs were employees of Defendant for FLSA purposes.

Representative Action Members

10. The putative members of the representative action are those current and former employees of Defendant who are similarly situated to Plaintiffs; i.e., those hourly compensated employees who were required to work off the clock and not compensated for those hours.

B. Defendant

11. Defendant, CREEK OILFIELD SERVICES, LLC is a limited liability company organized under the laws of the State of North Dakota and conducts business in said state.

12. Upon information and belief, Defendant employed or employs the Named Plaintiffs and the putative members in the representative action.

REPRESENTATIVE ACTION ALLEGATIONS

13. Plaintiffs bring this Complaint as a collective action pursuant to the FLSA, 29 U.S.C. § 216(b), on behalf of all persons who were, are, or will be employed by Defendants as non-exempt hourly employees who have been required to routinely work off the clock and have not been compensated their overtime premium rates for all hours worked in excess of 40 hours per week.

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14. This Complaint may be brought and maintained as an "opt-in" collective action, pursuant to 29 U.S.C. § 216(b), for all claims asserted by the Representative Plaintiffs because their claims are similar to the claims of the putative plaintiffs of the representative action.

15. The names and addresses of the putative members of this representative action are available from Defendant. To the extent required by law, notice will be provided to said individuals via First Class Mail and/or by the use of techniques and a form of notice similar to those customarily used in representative actions.

FACTUAL BACKGROUND

16. Defendant is an oilfield services company that provides fracing and fueling services to its clients in the oil and gas industry.

17. Up until the present, Defendant employed Plaintiffs and other similarly situated employees to perform fracing and fueling operations for the benefit of Defendant's customers.

18. Defendant maintains locations throughout North Dakota.

19. Defendant failed or refused to pay Plaintiffs and other similarly situated employees overtime pay for all hours worked in excess of 40 hours per week. Specifically, for the duration of their employment with Defendants, Plaintiff and other similarly situated employees were required to work off the clock without any compensation. Off-the-clock work included, but was not limited to, attending daily safety meetings, loading and unloading equipment to and from work vehicles, and transporting other co-workers to job sites.

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20. Plaintiffs estimate that they worked an average of 5 to 10 hours off the clock every week.

21. Management directed and/or was aware of employees not being properly compensated for all hours worked in excess of 40 hours per week and therefore willfully violated the FLSA.

22. Plaintiffs are personally aware of many other employees employed by Defendant who were required to work off the clock and who were not paid their proper overtime pay for all hours worked in excess of 40 hours per week; however, said employees are reluctant to come forward in fear of losing their jobs.

VIOLATION OF THE FAIR LABOR STANDARDS ACT

23. Plaintiffs, BERNARD GREGORY AND CLINTON PERRY, on behalf of themselves and all other similarly situated employees of Defendant, reallege and incorporate herein the allegations contained in Paragraphs 1 through 22 as if they were set forth fully herein.

24. At all relevant times, Defendant has been and continues to be an "employer" engaged in the interstate "commerce" and/or in the production of "goods" for "commerce" (i.e. tortilla baking and distribution business) within the meaning of the FLSA, 29 U.S.C. § 203. At all relevant times, Defendant has employed and/or continues to employ "employee[s]," including Plaintiffs and each of the putative members of the FLSA representative action who themselves handled goods that had travelled in interstate "commerce." At all times, Defendant has had gross operating revenues in excess of \$500,000.00 per annum.

25. The FLSA requires each covered employer, such as Defendant, to

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compensate Plaintiffs, as well as other laborers, for all hours worked in excess of 40 hours per week at time and a half of the employee's regular rate of pay.

26. Plaintiffs and the putative members of the FLSA representative action are not exempt from the right to receive the appropriate overtime pay under the FLSA and in fact work overtime hours for which an overtime premium was not paid.

27. As a result of Defendant's failure to compensate its employees, including Plaintiffs BERNARD GREGORY AND CLINTON PERRY and all similarly situated employees at the overtime rate of pay for all hours worked in excess of 40 hours per week, including those hours worked off the clock. Defendant has violate—the FLSA, 29 U.S.C. § 207(a)(1).

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

28. Designation of this action as a collective action on behalf of the proposed members of the FLSA representative action and prompt issuance of notice pursuant to 29 U.S.C. § 216(b) to all similarly situated members of the FLSA opt-in class apprising them of the pendency of this action and permitting them to assert timely FLSA claims in this action by filing individual consents to join/sue pursuant to 29 U.S.C. § 216(b);

29. Designation of Plaintiffs, BERNARD GREGORY AND CLINTON PERRY, as Representative Plaintiffs of the putative members of the FLSA representative action;

30. A declaratory judgment that the practices complained of herein are unlawful under the FLSA;

31. An award of damages, including liquidated damages, to be paid by Defendant;

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32. Costs and expenses of this action incurred herein, including reasonable attorneys' fees and expert fees; Pre-Judgment and Post-Judgment interest, as provided by law; and

33. Any and all such other and further legal and equitable relief as this Court deems necessary, just, and proper.

DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL

Plaintiffs, BERNARD GREGORY AND CLINTON PERRY, on behalf of themselves and all others similarly situated, hereby demand a jury trial on all causes of action and claims with respect to which they and all members of the proposed representative action have a right to jury trial.

> Goldberg & Loren, P.A. 3523 45th Street, Suite 100 Fargo, North Dakota 58104 Main Phone: (954) 585-4878 Facsimile: (954) 585-4886 E-Mail: JLoren@goldbergloren.com

Jame Fr

James M. Loren, Esquire FL Bar No.: 55409

CONSENT TO JOIN PURSUANT TO 29 U.S.C. §216(b)

Name: BERNARD GREGORY

1. I hereby consent and agree and opt-in to become a plaintiff in the lawsuit brought under the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938, as amended, 29 U.S.C. § 201, et seq., to recover unpaid overtime and/or minimum wage compensation from my $X_{\text{current}}/$ ____former employer.

2. I hereby agree to be bound by any adjudication of this action by the Court, whether it is favorable or unfavorable. I further agree to be bound by any collective action settlement herein approved by my attorneys and approved by this Court as fair, adequate, and reasonable.

3. I intend to pursue my claim individually, unless and until the Court certifies this case as a collective action. I agree to serve as a class representative if the court approves. If someone else serves as a class representative, then I designate the class representatives as my agents to make decisions on my behalf concerning the litigation, the manner of conducting the litigation, the entering of an agreement with the Plaintiff's counsel concerning attorney's fees and costs, and all other matters pertaining to this lawsuit.

4. In the event the case is certified and then decertified, I authorize Plaintiffs' counsel to use this Consent Form to re-file my claims in a separate or related action against my employer.

5. I hereby designate the Law Offices of Goldberg & Loren, P.A. to represent me in this action.

Date: 8/25/17

Bernal C. Augory Signature

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CONSENT TO JOIN PURSUANT TO 29 U.S.C. §216(b)

Name: CLINTON PERRY

 I hereby consent and agree and opt-in to become a plaintiff in the lawsuit brought under the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938, as amended, 29 U.S.C. § 201, *et seq.*, to recover unpaid overtime and/or minimum wage compensation from my current / X former employer.

2. I hereby agree to be bound by any adjudication of this action by the Court, whether it is favorable or unfavorable. I further agree to be bound by any collective action settlement herein approved by my attorneys and approved by this Court as fair, adequate, and reasonable.

3. I intend to pursue my claim individually, unless and until the Court certifies this case as a collective action. I agree to serve as a class representative if the court approves. If someone else serves as a class representative, then I designate the class representatives as my agents to make decisions on my behalf concerning the litigation, the manner of conducting the litigation, the entering of an agreement with the Plaintiff's counsel concerning attorney's fees and costs, and all other matters pertaining to this lawsuit.

4. In the event the case is certified and then decertified, I authorize Plaintiffs' counsel to use this Consent Form to re-file my claims in a separate or related action against my employer.

5. I hereby designate the Law Offices of Goldberg & Loren, P.A. to represent me in this action.

Date:

Clinton Perry (Sep 11, 2017)

Signature

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 THE REVERSE OF THIS FORM.)

I. (a) PLAINTIFF				DEFENDANT		
BERNARD GREGORY AND CLINTON PERRY				CREEK OILFILED SERVICES, LLC		
(b) COUNTY OF RESIDENCE OF FIRST LISTED PLAINTIFF (EXCEPT IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES) MCKENZIE				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 BURLEIGH		
(C) ATTORNEYS (FIRM NAME, ADDRESS AND TELEPHONE NUMBER) GOLDBERG & LOREN, P.A. 100 S. PINE ISLAND RD, SUITE # 132 PLANTATION, FLORIDA 33324 Tel. (954) 585-4878				ATTORNEYS (IF KNOWN)	LEIGH	
			III.	CITIZENSHIP OF F (FOR DIVERSITY CASES ONLY) PTF_E	ONE BOX FOR PLAINTIFF ANI	i i
1 U.S. Government Plaintiff	(0.0. Obvolimient Not a Faity)			zen of This State 1 [zen of Another State 2 [1 Incorporated or Princ	ipal Place
2 U.S. Government Defendant		Diversity (Indicates Citizenship of Parties in Item III		zen or Subject of a 3 Foreign Country	☐3 Incorporated and Print of Business in A Foreign Nation	•
IV. NATURE OF SUIT (PLACE AN X IN ONE BOX ONLY)						
CONTRACT TORT			FORFEITURE/PENALTY			
 110 Insurance 120 Marine 130 Miller Act 140 Negotiable Instrument 150 Recovery of Overpayment & Enforcement of Judgment 151 Medicare Act 152 Recovery of Defaulted Student Loans (Excl. Veterans) 153 Recovery of Overpayment of Veterans 153 Recovery of Overpayment of Veterans 160 Stockholders Suits 190 Other Contract 195 Contract Product Liab. REAL PROPERTY 210 Land Condemnation 220 Foreclosure 230 Rent, Lease & Eject. 240 Torts to Land 245 Tort Product Liability 290 All Other Real Prop. 	PERSONAL INJURY 310 Airplane 3115 Airplane Product Liability 320 Assault, Libel & Slander 330 Federal Employers' Liability 340 Marine 345 Marine Product Liability 350 Motor Vehicle 355 Motor Vehicle 7roduct Liability 360 Other Personal Injury CIVIL RIGHTS 441 Voting 442 Employment 443 Housing/ Accommodations 444 Welfare 440 Other Civil Rights	PERSONAL INJURY 362 Personal Injury— Med. Malpractice 365 Personal Injury— Product Liability 368 Asbestos Personal Injury Product Liability PERSONAL PROPERT 370 Other Fraud 371 Truth in Lending 380 Other Personal Property Damage Product Liability PRISONER PETITION \$10 Motions to Vacate Sentence Habeas Corpus \$35 Death Penalty \$540 Mandamus and O \$550 Other	S ther	 G10 Agriculture G20 Other Food & Drug G25 Drug-Related Seizure of Prop. 21 USC 881 G30 Liquor Laws G40 R.R. & Truck G50 Airline Regs G60 Occupational Safety/Health G90 Other LABOR T10 Fair Labor Standards T30 Labor/Mgmt. Roorl/Mgmt. Roorl/Mgmt. T40 Caluvay Labor Act T40 Other Labor Litigation T91 Empl. Ret. Inc. Security Act 	422 Appeal 28 USC 158 2423 Withdrawal 28 USC 157 PROPERTY RIGHTS 820 Copyrights 830 Patent 840 Trademark SOCIAL SECURITY 861 HIA (13958) 862 Black Lung (923) 863 DIWC/DIWW (405(g)) 864 SSID Title XVI 865 RSI (405(g)) FEDERAL TAX SUITS 870 Taxes (U.S. Plaintiff or Defendant) 871 IRS—Third Party 26 USC 7609	 400 State Reapportionment 410 Antitrust 430 Banks and Banking 450 Commerce/ICC Rates 460 Deportation 470 Racketeer Influenced & Corrupt Organization 810 Selective Service 850 Securities/Commodity/ Exchange 875 Customer Challenge 12 USC 3410 891 Agricultural Acts 892 Econ. Stabilization Act 893 Environmental Matters 894 Energy Allocation Act 900 Appeal of Fee Determ. Equal Access/Justice 950 Const. of State Statute 890 Other Statutory Actions
V. ORIGIN (PLACE AN X IN ONE BOX ONLY) I Original 2 Removed from 3 Remanded from 4 Reinstated or 5 Transferred from 6 Multidistrict 7 Appeal to District Judge						
			eopene		-	lagistrate Judgment
VI. CAUSE OF ACTION 29 USC § 201 Et Seq Brief Desription of Cause unpaid overtime Brief Desription of Cause unpaid overtime						
VII. REQUESTED IN COMPLAINT CHECK IF THIS IS A CLASS ACTION DEMAND \$ CHECK YES only if demanded in complain JURY DEMAND: Ø YES IN						•
VIII. RELATED CASE(S) (See instructions) IF ANY None JUDGE						
DATE SIGNATURE OF ATTORNEY OF RECORD						
FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:	\mathcal{O}					
	Amount:	Applying IFP		JUDGE	MAG. JUDO	GE

ClassAction.org

This complaint is part of ClassAction.org's searchable class action lawsuit database and can be found in this post: <u>Without a Paddle: Creek Oilfield Services Hit with Unpaid Overtime Lawsuit</u>