#### UNITED STATE DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF FLORIDA

CASE NO.:

**FREDERIC IMPORTE MOUILLET-GOLD** And other similarly situated individuals,

Plaintiff(s),

V,

FRANCIS AIR CONDITIONING & APPLIANCES INC. a Florida Profit Corporation; PERCIVAL FRANCIS, individually; ALEXANDRE COHEN, individually;

Defendant(s).

1

## **COMPLAINT**

Plaintiff FREDERIC IMPORTE MOUILLET-GOLD, and other similarly situated individuals, by and through the undersigned counsel, hereby sues Defendant, FRANCIS AIR CONDITIONING & APPLIANCES INC. a Florida Profit Corporation; PERCIVAL FRANCIS, individually; and ALEXANDRE COHEN, individually (collectively "Defendants"), and in support avers as follows:

## **GENERAL ALLEGATIONS**

- This is an action by the Plaintiff for damages exceeding \$15,000 excluding attorneys' fees or costs for unpaid wages under the Fair Labor Standards Act, 29 U.S.C. §§ 201-219 ("FLSA").
- 2. This Court has jurisdiction over Plaintiff's FLSA claims pursuant to the 29 U.S.C. § 216.
- Plaintiff was at all times relevant to this action, resident of Broward County Florida, within the jurisdiction of this Honorable Court. Plaintiff is covered employee for purposes of the FLSA.

- 4. Defendant, FRANCIS AIR CONDITIONING & APPLIANCES INC. a Florida Profit Corporation, located in Broward County, Florida where Plaintiff worked for Defendant, and at all times material hereto was and is engaged in interstate commerce.
- Defendant, PERCIVAL FRANCIS, is the Officer of, and exercised operational control over the activities of, corporate Defendant, FRANCIS AIR CONDITIONING & APPLIANCES INC.
- Defendant, ALEXANDRE COHEN, is the Officer of, and exercised operational control over the activities of, corporate Defendant, FRANCIS AIR CONDITIONING & APPLIANCES INC.
- Venue is proper in Broward County because all of the actions that form the basis of this Complaint occurred within Broward County and payment was due in Broward County.
- 8. Declaratory, injunctive, legal and equitable relief sought pursuant to the laws set forth above together with attorneys' fees, costs and damages.
- All conditions precedent for the filing of this action before this Court have been previously met, including the exhaustion of all pertinent administrative procedures and remedies.

#### FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS COMMON TO ALL COUNTS

- 10. Plaintiff performed work for Defendants from on or about March 26th, 2017, through on or about June 10, 2017.
- Plaintiff was a non-exempt employee, by virtue of the way Plaintiff was paid and/or Plaintiff's duties.
- 12. Throughout Plaintiff employment with Defendants, Plaintiff was not paid for all hours worked.

- 13. Throughout Plaintiff' employment, Plaintiff worked in excess of forty (40) hours per week.
- Plaintiff was not paid at the proper overtime rate for hours worked in excess of forty (40)each week, as proscribed by the laws of the United States and the State of Florida.
- 15. Plaintiff, during relevant time period, from on or about March 26th, 2017, through on or about June 10, 2017, worked approximately twenty (20) overtime hours for which Plaintiff was not paid 1.5 times his regular rate as provided by the FLSA.

## COUNT I Wage & Hour Federal Statutory Violation against FRANCIS AIR CONDITIONING & APPLIANCES INC.

- 16. Plaintiff re-adopts each and every factual allegation as stated in paragraphs 1 through 15 of this complaint as if set out in full herein.
- 17. This action is brought by Plaintiff to recover from Defendant unpaid overtime wage compensation, as well as an additional amount as liquidated damages, costs, and reasonable attorney's fees under the provisions of 29 U.S.C. § 201 *et seq.*
- 18. Jurisdiction is conferred on this Court by Title 29 U.S.C. § 216(b).
- 19. At all times pertinent to this Complaint, corporate Defendant operated as an organization which sells and/or markets its services and/or goods to customers from throughout the United States and also provides its services for goods sold and transported from across state lines of other states, and the corporate Defendant obtains and solicits funds from non-Florida sources, accepts funds from non-Florida sources, uses telephonic transmissions going over state lines to do its business, transmits funds outside the State of Florida, and otherwise regularly engages in interstate commerce, particularly with respect to its employees.

- 20. Upon information and belief, at all times material hereto, corporate Defendant's annual gross revenue exceeded \$500,000 per annum on its own, or as part of a joint enterprise with the other corporate Defendant named herein, or which are as of yet unknown but will be revealed through further discovery. To the extent that corporate Defendant operated as part of a joint enterprise, it did so with corporate entities that performed related activities, under the common control of the individual Defendant, and for common business purposes related to the work performed by Plaintiff for Defendant.
- 21. By reason of the foregoing, the Defendant is and was, during all times hereafter mentioned, an enterprise engaged in commerce or in the production of goods for commerce as defined in §§ 3 (r) and 3(s) of the FLSA, 29 U.S.C. § 203(r) and 203(s). Defendant's business activities involve those to which the Fair Labor Standards Act applies. The Plaintiff's work for the Defendant likewise affects interstate commerce.
- Plaintiff seeks to recover for unpaid wages accumulated from the date of hire and/or from three (3) years from the date of the filing of this complaint.
- 23. Defendant knew and/or showed reckless disregard of the provisions of the FLSA concerning the payment of overtime wages as required by the Fair Labor Standards Act and remain owing Plaintiff these unpaid wages since the commencement of Plaintiff's employment with Defendant as set forth above. As such, Plaintiff is entitled to recover double damages.
- 24. To the extent that Defendant never posted any notice, as required by the Fair Labor Standards Act and Federal Law, to inform employees of their federal rights to overtime and minimum wage payments, the statute of limitations for Plaintiff's FLSA claims is equitably tolled. See, e.g., Cruz v. Maypa, 773 F.3d 138, 147 (4th Cir. 2014) (extending failure-to-post tolling in the ADEA context to the FLSA); Yu G. Ke v. Saigon Grill, Inc.,

595 F. Supp. 2d 240, 259 (S.D.N.Y. 2008) ("[F]ailure to provide required notice of the governing legal requirements may be a sufficient basis for tolling."); *Kamens v. Summit Stainless, Inc.*, 586 F. Supp. 324, 328 (E.D. Pa. 1984) ("An employer's failure to post a statutorily required notice of this type tolls the running of any period of limitations.").

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff respectfully prays for the following relief against Defendant:

- A. Adjudge and decree that Defendant has violated the FLSA and has done so willfully, intentionally and with reckless disregard for Plaintiff's rights;
- B. Award Plaintiff actual damages in the amount shown to be due for unpaid overtime wage compensation for hours worked in excess of forty (40) weekly, with interest;
- C. Award Plaintiff an equal amount in double damages/liquidated damages;
- D. Award Plaintiff the costs of this action, together with a reasonable attorneys' fees; and
- E. Grant Plaintiff such additional relief as the Court deems just and proper under the circumstances.

#### <u>COUNT II</u> Wage & Hour Federal Statutory Violation against PERCIVAL FRANCIS

- 25. Plaintiff re-adopts each and every factual allegation as stated in paragraphs 1 through 15 of this complaint as if set out in full herein.
- 26. At the times mentioned, Defendant was, and is now, the Officer of corporate Defendant, FRANCIS AIR CONDITIONING & APPLIANCES INC.
- 27. Defendant was an employer of Plaintiff within the meaning of Section 3(d) of the "Fair Labor Standards Act" [29 U.S.C. § 203(d)], in that this individual Defendant acted directly in the interests of Defendant employer in relation to the employees of Defendant employer, including Plaintiff.

- Defendant had operational control of the business and is thus jointly liable for Plaintiff's damages.
- 29. Defendant willfully and intentionally refused to properly pay Plaintiff's wages as required by the law of the United States as set forth above and remains owing Plaintiff these wages since the commencement of Plaintiffs' employment with Defendant as set forth above.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff respectfully prays for the following relief against Defendant:

- A. Adjudge and decree that Defendant has violated the FLSA and has done so willfully, intentionally and with reckless disregard for Plaintiff's rights;
- B. Award Plaintiff actual damages in the amount shown to be due for unpaid overtime wage compensation for hours worked in excess of forty (40) weekly, with interest;
- C. Award Plaintiff an equal amount in double damages/liquidated damages;
- D. Award Plaintiff the costs of this action, together with a reasonable attorneys' fees; and
- E. Grant Plaintiff such additional relief as the Court deems just and proper under the circumstances.

#### <u>COUNT III</u> Wage & Hour Federal Statutory Violation against ALEXANDRE COHEN

- 30. Plaintiff re-adopts each and every factual allegation as stated in paragraphs 1 through 15 of this complaint as if set out in full herein.
- At the times mentioned, Defendant was, and is now, the Officer of corporate Defendant, FRANCIS AIR CONDITIONING & APPLIANCES INC.
- 32. Defendant was an employer of Plaintiff within the meaning of Section 3(d) of the "Fair Labor Standards Act" [29 U.S.C. § 203(d)], in that this individual Defendant acted

directly in the interests of Defendant employer in relation to the employees of Defendant employer, including Plaintiff.

- Defendant had operational control of the business and is thus jointly liable for Plaintiff's damages.
- 34. Defendant willfully and intentionally refused to properly pay Plaintiff's wages as required by the law of the United States as set forth above and remains owing Plaintiff these wages since the commencement of Plaintiffs' employment with Defendant as set forth above.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff respectfully prays for the following relief against Defendant:

- A. Adjudge and decree that Defendant has violated the FLSA and has done so willfully, intentionally and with reckless disregard for Plaintiff's rights;
- B. Award Plaintiff actual damages in the amount shown to be due for unpaid overtime wage compensation for hours worked in excess of forty (40) weekly, with interest;
- C. Award Plaintiff an equal amount in double damages/liquidated damages;
- D. Award Plaintiff the costs of this action, together with a reasonable attorneys' fees; and
- E. Grant Plaintiff such additional relief as the Court deems just and proper under the circumstances.

Case 0:17-cv-61614-DPG Document 1 Entered on FLSD Docket 08/11/2017 Page 8 of 8

#### JURY DEMAND

Plaintiff demands trial by jury of all issues triable as of right by jury.

Dated: 8/10/17

۹ ;

÷

4

Respectfully submitted,

Anthony M. Georges-Pierre, Esq. Florida Bar No. 533637 **REMER & GEORGES-PIERRE, PLLC** 44 West Flagler St., Suite 2200 Miami, FL 33130 Telephone: 305-416-5000 Facsimile: 305-416-5005 agp@rgpattorneys.com rregueiro@rgpattorneys.com pn@rgpattorneys.com

## Case 0:17-cv-61614-DPG Document 1-1 Entered on FLSD Docket 08/11/2017 Page 1 of 1

SJS 44 (Rev. 2/08)

## **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 THE FORM.) NOTICE: Attorneys MUST Indicate All Re-filed Cases Below.

I. (a) PLAINTIFFS			DEFENDANTS							
(b) County of Residence of First Listed Plaintiff <u>Miami-Dade</u> (EXCEPT IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES)			Francis Air Conditioning & Appliances, Inc., Percival Francis, and Alexandre Cohen County of Residence of First Listed Defendant (IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES ONLY)							
						(c) Attorney's (Firm Name, Ac	ldress, and Telephone Number)	NOTE: IN LAND CONDEMNATION CASES, USE THE LOCATION OF THE TRACT LAND INVOLVED.		
						ANTHONY M. GEORGI	SPIERRE ESO			
REMER & GEORGES-P	IERRE, PLLC.		Attorneys (If Known)							
44 WEST FLAGLER STREET, SUITE 2200										
MIAMI FI 33130										
(d) Check County Where Actio		BROWARD	ЭРАЦМ ВЕАСН ЭМА	RTIN O ST LUCIE O INDI	AN RIVER J OKEECHOBEE HIGHLANDS					
II. BASIS OF JURISD	ICTION (Place an "X" in One Box Only	n <b>III. C</b> I	ITIZENSHIP OF P	RINCIPAL PARTIES	(Place an "X" in One Box for Plaintiff					
J U.S. Government Plaintiff	J 3 Federal Question		(For Diversity Cases Only) and One Box for Defendant) PTF DEF Citizen of This State I 1 Incorporated or Principal Place I 4 J 4 of Business In This State							
riginiifi	(U.S. Government Not a Party)	Citize								
2 U.S. Government	🗇 4 Diversity	<b>D</b> :/								
Defendant	(Indicate Citizenship of Parties in Ite		n of Another State 🗍	2 Incorporated and F of Business In A						
		· ·	n or Subject of a 🛛	.3 🏾 3 Foreign Nation	- <i>(</i> - <i>(</i>					
IV NATIOR OF OVER			reign Country	5 5 Foreign Matten	J 6 J 6					
IV. NATURE OF SUIT	(Place an "X" in One Box Only) TORTS	1808	FEITURE/PENALTY							
D 110 Insurance			10 Agriculture	BANKRUPTCY → 422 Appeal 28 USC 158	OTHER STATUTES					
<ul> <li>120 Marine</li> <li>130 Miller Act</li> </ul>	🗇 310 Airplane 🔲 362 Perso	onal Injary 🗐 😚	20 Other Food & Drug	J 423 Withdrawal	<ul> <li>400 State Reapportionment</li> <li>410 Antitrust</li> </ul>					
140 Negotiable Instrument		Malpractice 🗇 6: onal Injury	25 Drug Related Seizure	28 USC 157	430 Banks and Banking					
I 150 Recovery of Overpayment			of Property 21 USC 881 30 Liquor Laws	PROPERTY RIGHTS	<ul> <li>450 Commerce</li> <li>460 Deportation</li> </ul>					
& Enforcement of Judgment	Slander 🗇 368 Asber		40 R.R. & Truck	J 820 Copyrights	<ul> <li>460 Deportation</li> <li>470 Racketeer Influenced and</li> </ul>					
151 Medicare Act     152 Resources of Definition			50 Airline Regs.	3 830 Patent	Corrupt Organizations					
I 152 Recovery of Defaulted Student Loans	Liability Liabili 340 Marine PERSONAL		60 Occupational	3 840 Trademark	3 480 Consumer Credit					
(Excl Veterans)	J 345 Marine Product J 370 Other	PROPERTY	Safety/Health 90 Other		J 490 Cable/Sat TV					
I 153 Recovery of Overpayment		i in Lending	LABOR	SOCIAL SECURITY	3 810 Selective Service					
of Veteran's Benefits	🗇 350 Motor Vehicle 🌐 380 Other		10 Fair Labor Standards	□ 861 HIA (1395ff)	<ul> <li>850 Securities/Commodities/ Exchange</li> </ul>					
160 Stockholders' Suits 190 Other Contract		rty Damage	Act	3 862 Black Lung (923)	I 875 Customer Challenge					
3 195 Contract Product Liability			20 Labor/Mgmt, Relations	□ 863 DIWC/DIWW (405(g))	12 USC 3410					
3 196 Franchise	Injury		30 Labor/Mgmt.Reporting & Disclosure Act	□ 864 SSID Title XVI □ 865 RSI (405(g))	<ul> <li>890 Other Statutory Actions</li> <li>891 Agricultural Acts</li> </ul>					
REAL PROPERTY	CIVIL RIGHTS PRISONER	PETITIONS J 74	40 Railway Labor Act	FEDERAL TAX SUITS	<ul> <li>891 Agricultural Acts</li> <li>892 Economic Stabilization Act</li> </ul>					
210 Land Condemnation	f	ons to Vacate 🖾 79	90 Other Labor Litigation	3 870 Taxes (U.S. Plaintiff	D 893 Environmental Matters					
<ul> <li>220 Foreclosure</li> <li>230 Rent Lease &amp; Ejectment</li> </ul>	442 Employment Senten     443 Housing/ Habeas C		91 Empl. Ret. Inc. Security		3 894 Energy Allocation Act					
240 Torts to Land	Accommodations			C 871 IRS Third Party 26 USC 7609	895 Freedom of Information Act					
245 Tort Product Liability	444 Welfare 535 Desth		IMMIGRATION		900 Appeal of Fee Determination					
290 All Other Real Property	Employment 0 540 Mand		52 Naturalization polication		Under Equal Access to Justice					
	C 446 Amer. w/Disabilities - C 550 Civil.	Rinhis - 40	63 Habeas Corpus-Alien							
	o the f	n Condition	etainee 55 Other Immigration		- 950 Constitutionality of State					
V. ORIGIN (Place a		A	ctions	·	Staluțes					
(******	n "X" in One Box Only) emoved from 🗍 3 Re-filed-	🗂 4 Reins		ferred from	Appeal to District					
Proceeding St	tate Court (see VI below)	) Reop	ened (speci	er district	ict					
VI. RELATED/RE-FII		Case 🗆 YES 🎜	NO b) Relat	ed Cases 🗆 YES 🖉 NO	····					
CASE(S).	(See instructions second page): JUDGE			<b>DOCKET NUMBER</b>						
	Cite the U.S. Civil Statute under whi	ich you are filing a	nd Write a Brief Stateme	nt of Cause (Do not cite juris	dictional statutes unless					
VII. CAUSE OF ACTI	diversity): ON Fair Labor Standards Act									
	an Labor Standards Act									
VIII DRATING			oth sides to try entire case	e)						
VIII. REQUESTED IN COMPLAINT:	CHECK IF THIS IS A CLASS A UNDER F.R.C.P. 23	ACTION DE	EMAND \$	CHECK YES only JURY DEMAND:	if demanded in complaint: Ø Yes 🗇 No					
<b>ABOVE INFORMATION IS</b>	TRUE & CORRECT TO	TRE OF ATTORNEY	OF AFOODE							
THE BEST OF MY KNOWL	EDGE	ALE OF ALTORNEY	OF RECORD	DATE August I	1 2017					
		$\overline{-}$	<u> </u>	August I	1, 201/					
	2			ICE USE ONLY						
×			AMOUNT	RECEIPT #	IFP					

Case 0:17-cv-61614-DPG Document 1-2 Entered on FLSD Docket 08/11/2017 Page 1 of 1

## UNITED STATE DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF FLORIDA

CASE NO.: \_\_\_\_\_

FREDERIC IMPORTE MOUILLET-GOLD

And other similarly situated individuals,

Plaintiff(s),

v.

FRANCIS AIR CONDITIONING & APPLIANCES INC. a Florida Profit Corporation; PERCIVAL FRANCIS, individually; ALEXANDRE COHEN, individually;

Defendant(s).

\_\_\_\_\_/

#### SUMMONS IN A CIVIL CASE

FRANCIS AIR CONDITIONING & APPLIANCES INC. Registered agent: ALEXANDRE COHEN 1838 NW 38<sup>th</sup> Ave Lauderhill, FL 33311

## YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and required to serve upon PLAINTIFF'S ATTORNEY

ANTHONY M. GEORGES-PIERRE, ESQ. REMER & GEORGES-PIERRE, PLLC. 44 WEST FLAGLER STREET. STE. 2200 MIAMI, FL 33130

an answer to the complaint which is herewith served upon you, within <u>20 days</u> after service of this summons upon you, exclusive of the day of service. If you fail to do so, judgment by default will be taken against you for the relief demanded in the complaint. You must also file your answer with the Clerk of this Court within a reasonable period of time after service.

CLERK

DATE

(BY) DEPUTY CLERK

Case 0:17-cv-61614-DPG Document 1-3 Entered on FLSD Docket 08/11/2017 Page 1 of 1

## UNITED STATE DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF FLORIDA

CASE NO.: \_\_\_\_\_

FREDERIC IMPORTE MOUILLET-GOLD

And other similarly situated individuals,

Plaintiff(s),

V,

FRANCIS AIR CONDITIONING & APPLIANCES INC. a Florida Profit Corporation; PERCIVAL FRANCIS, individually; ALEXANDRE COHEN, individually;

Defendant(s).

\_\_\_\_\_/

## SUMMONS IN A CIVIL CASE

## ALEXANDER COHEN

12026 NE 1012 AVE North Miami, FL 33161

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and required to serve upon PLAINTIFF'S ATTORNEY

ANTHONY M. GEORGES-PIERRE, ESQ. REMER & GEORGES-PIERRE, PLLC. 44 WEST FLAGLER STREET. STE. 2200 MIAMI, FL 33130

an answer to the complaint which is herewith served upon you, within <u>20 days</u> after service of this summons upon you, exclusive of the day of service. If you fail to do so, judgment by default will be taken against you for the relief demanded in the complaint. You must also file your answer with the Clerk of this Court within a reasonable period of time after service.

CLERK

DATE

(BY) DEPUTY CLERK

Case 0:17-cv-61614-DPG Document 1-4 Entered on FLSD Docket 08/11/2017 Page 1 of 1

## UNITED STATE DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF FLORIDA

CASE NO.: \_\_\_\_\_

FREDERIC IMPORTE MOUILLET-GOLD

And other similarly situated individuals,

Plaintiff(s),

٧.

FRANCIS AIR CONDITIONING & APPLIANCES INC. a Florida Profit Corporation; PERCIVAL FRANCIS, individually; ALEXANDRE COHEN, individually;

Defendant(s).

\_\_\_\_

## SUMMONS IN A CIVIL CASE

#### PERCIVAL FRANCIS

1521 NW 43<sup>rd</sup> Ave., Apt. 107 Lauderhill, FL 33313

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and required to serve upon PLAINTIFF'S ATTORNEY

ANTHONY M. GEORGES-PIERRE, ESQ. REMER & GEORGES-PIERRE, PLLC. 44 WEST FLAGLER STREET, STE. 2200 MIAMI, FL 33130

an answer to the complaint which is herewith served upon you, within <u>20 days</u> after service of this summons upon you, exclusive of the day of service. If you fail to do so, judgment by default will be taken against you for the relief demanded in the complaint. You must also file your answer with the Clerk of this Court within a reasonable period of time after service.

CLERK

DATE

(BY) DEPUTY CLERK

# **ClassAction.org**

This complaint is part of ClassAction.org's searchable class action lawsuit database and can be found in this post: <u>Francis Air Conditioning & Appliances Pegged with FLSA Lawsuit</u>