## UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF NORTHERN GEORGIA NEWNAN DIVISION

Kenneth Olmstead and similarly situated employees, Plaintiffs,

CASE NO.:

VS.

**RDJE, Inc., and Ronny D. Jones, Individually** 

Defendants.

/

## COLLECTIVE ACTION COMPLAINT AND DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL

Plaintiff, Kenneth Olmstead ("Olmstead"), on behalf of himself and those similarly situated, by and through the undersigned attorney, sues RDJE, Inc. ("RDJE") a Domestic Profit Corporation, and, Ronny D. Jones, Individually (collectively "Defendants") and alleges:

## **INTRODUCTION**

1. Plaintiff, Kenneth Olmstead, was an employee of RDJE and brings this action for unpaid overtime compensation, unpaid wages, declaratory relief, and other relief under the Fair Labor Standards Act, as amended, 29 U.S.C. § 216(b) ("FLSA").

2. Plaintiff was an hourly paid employee performing general labor duties within the last three years, *i.e.* from March 11, 2012 through April 23, 2016, for Defendant in Coweta County, Georgia.

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3. Defendant, RDJE is a Georgia Corporation that operates and conducts business in, among others, Coweta County, Georgia and is therefore, within the jurisdiction of this Court.

4. At all times relevant to this action, Owner Ronny D. Jones was an individual resident of the State of Georgia, who owned and operated RDJE and who regularly exercised the authority to: (a) hire and fire employees of RDJE; (b) determine the work schedules for the employees of RDJE and (c) control the finances and operations of RDJE.

5. By virtue of having regularly exercised that authority on behalf of RDJE, Ronny D. Jones was an employer as defined by 29 U.S.C. § 201, et seq.

6. This action is brought under the FLSA to recover from Defendants overtime compensation, unpaid wages, liquidated damages, and reasonable attorneys' fees and costs.

#### **JURISDICTION**

7. This Court has jurisdiction over Plaintiff's claims pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §1337 and the FLSA and the authority to grant declaratory relief under the FLSA pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §2201 et seq.

#### <u>VENUE</u>

8. The venue of this Court over this controversy is proper based upon the claim arising in Coweta County, Georgia.

#### **PARTIES**

9. Plaintiff was a non-exempt laborer who worked for the Defendants in Coweta County, Georgia in 2012-2016.

10. The proposed class members also worked for Defendants as

laborers in Coweta County, Georgia within the past three years.

11. Plaintiff and the proposed class members were subject to similar violations of the FLSA.

12. Defendant, RDJE, is a Domestic Profit Corporation which operates and conducts business from its headquarters in Newnan, Georgia, and is therefore within the jurisdiction of this Court.

13. At all times relevant to this action, Owner Ronny D. Jones was an individual resident of the State of Georgia, who owned and operated RDJE, and who regularly exercised the authority to: (a) hire and fire employees of RDJE; (b) determine the work schedules for the employees of RDJE and (c) control the finances and operations of RDJE.

14. By virtue of having regularly exercised that authority on behalf of RDJE, Ronny D. Jones is an employer as defined by 29 U.S.C. § 201, et seq.

#### FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS

15. Plaintiff, and those similarly situated employees, worked for Defendants and performed transport and related activities

16. Specifically, Plaintiff, and those similarly situated employees, performed laborer and related services for RDJE.

17. Plaintiff worked in this capacity from approximately March 11,2012 through April 23, 2016.

18. Plaintiff, and those similarly situated employees, were required to meet at the office headquarters ("the shop") and engage in work prior to driving to the work site.

19. Plaintiff and those similarly situated employees, were compensated on an hourly basis, but were not compensated for time worked

prior to arriving at the work site.

20. Defendants agreed to pay Plaintiff, and those similarly situated employees, wages for work performed by Plaintiff and those similarly situated employees. Plaintiff, and those similarly situated employees, accepted this agreement and did work for Defendants.

21. During his employment with Defendants, Plaintiff, and those similarly situated employees, regularly worked hours prior to arriving at the work site which were not compensated by Defendants.

22. During his employment with Defendants, Plaintiff, and those similarly situated employees, regularly worked more than forty (40) hours a week, but were not paid time and one-half his regular rate of pay for all hours worked in excess of forty (40) per work week during one or more work weeks.

23. Upon information and belief, the records, to the extent any exist, concerning the number of hours worked and amounts paid to Plaintiff, and those similarly situated employees, are in the possession and custody of Defendants.

#### **COVERAGE**

24. At all times relevant to this action (2013-2016), RDJE was an enterprise covered by the FLSA, and as defined by 29 U.S.C. § 203(r) and 203 (s).

25. At all times relevant to this action (2013-2016), RDJE made gross earnings of at least \$500,000 annually.

26. At all times relevant to this action (2013-2016), Defendants accepted payments from customers based on credit cards issued by out of state banks.

27. At all times relevant to this action (2013-2016), Defendants had 2 or more employees engaged in commerce, handling or otherwise working with vehicles and equipment that have been moved in or produced for commerce.

28. At all times relevant to this action (2013-2016), Plaintiff was individually engaged in commerce during his employment with Defendants, by driving vehicles and using equipment from out of state.

29. At all times relevant to this action (2013-2016), Plaintiff and those similarly situated employees routinely traveled to other states in the course of performing the duties of his position.

30. At all times relevant to this action (2013-2016), Defendants used U.S. mail to send and receive letters to and from other states.

31. At all times relevant to this action (2013-2016), Defendants failed to comply with 29 U.S.C. §§ 201-209, because Plaintiff performed services for Defendant for which no provisions were made by Defendants to properly pay Plaintiff for those hours worked, including those hours worked in excess of forty (40) within a work week.

## **COLLECTIVE FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS**

32. Class members are treated equally by Defendants.

33. Defendants subjected class members to the same illegal practice policy by not paying Plaintiff and those similarly situated employees correct wages and overtime compensation.

34. Defendants employed several laborers who were compensated in the State of Georgia within the past three (3) years.

35. Defendants pay class members in the same manner.

36. Plaintiff and all class members worked in the State of Georgia.

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37. Plaintiff and all class members in the State of Georgia were not correctly paid for all hours worked, including overtime wages for all hours worked in excess of forty (40) hours.

38. Defendants failed to keep accurate time and pay records for Plaintiff and all class members pursuant to 29 U.S.C. § 211(c) and 29 C.F.R. Part 516.

39. During the relevant period, Defendants violated the FLSA by improperly refusing to paying Plaintiffs wages for all hours worked, including those in excess of forty (40) hours per week.

40. Defendants acted willfully in failing to pay Plaintiff and the class members in accordance with the law.

41. Plaintiff has hired the undersigned law firm to represent him in this matter and is obligated to pay them reasonable fees and costs if they prevail.

#### COUNT I

## **RECOVERY OF COMPENSATION PURSUANT TO THE FLSA**

42. Plaintiff reincorporates and readopts all allegations contained within Paragraphs 1-41 above.

43. Plaintiff, and those similarly situated employees, were entitled to be paid for all hours worked. During their employment with Defendants, Plaintiff, and those similarly situated employees, worked hours but did not receive compensation for same.

44. Plaintiff, and those similarly situated employees, were entitled to be paid time and one-half his regular rate of pay for each hour worked in excess of forty (40) per work week. During their employment with Defendants, Plaintiff, and those similarly situated employees, worked overtime hours but were not paid time and one-half compensation for same.

45. As a result of Defendants' intentional, willful and unlawful acts in refusing to pay Plaintiff time and one-half his regular rate of pay for each hour worked in excess of forty (40) per work week in one or more work week, Plaintiff, and those similarly situated employees, have suffered damages plus incurring reasonable attorneys' fees and costs.

46. As a result of Defendants' willful violation of the FLSA, Plaintiff, and those similarly situated employees, are entitled to liquidated damages.

47. Plaintiff demands a trial by jury.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff, Kenneth Olmstead, on behalf of himself and all other similarly situated employees, demands judgment against Defendant, RDJE, for the payment of all overtime hours at one and one-half the regular rate of pay for the hours for which Defendants did not properly compensate him, liquidated damages, reasonable attorneys' fees and costs incurred in this action, declaratory relief, and any and all further relief that this Court determines to be just and appropriate.

## <u>COUNT II</u> <u>RECOVERY OF COMPENSATION PURSUANT TO THE FLSA</u> <u>VERSUS RONNY D. JONES INDIVIDUALLY</u>

46. Plaintiff reincorporates and readopts all allegations contained within Paragraphs 1-41 above.

47. Defendant, Ronny D. Jones, is the owner and registered agent of Defendant, RDJE.

48. Defendants Ronny D. Jones was a manager who acted with direct control over the work, pay, and job duties of Plaintiff and similarly situated employees.

49. Defendant Ronny D. Jones: (1) had the power to hire and fire Plaintiff, (2) supervised and controlled Plaintiff's work schedules or conditions of employment, (3) determined Plaintiff's rate and method of payment, (4) maintained employment records, and determined RDJE'S compensation and overtime policies.

50. As such, Defendant Ronny D. Jones is charged with responsibility for violations of Plaintiff's rights to overtime and resulting damages.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff, Kenneth Olmstead, on behalf of himself and those similarly situated, demands judgment against Defendant, Ronny D. Jones, for the payment of all hours worked, including overtime hours at one and one-half the regular rate of pay for the hours worked for which Defendant did not properly compensate them, liquidated damages, reasonable attorneys' fees and costs incurred in this action, and any and all further relief that this Court determines to be just and appropriate. In addition, Plaintiff seeks all damages sought above by virtue of joint and several liabilities versus Defendants RDJE and Ronny D. Jones.

#### **DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL**

51. Plaintiff demands a jury trial on all issues so triable against Defendants.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff demands judgment against Defendants for compensatory damages, an additional and equal amount of liquidated damages, reasonable attorneys' fees and costs incurred in this action, declaratory relief, and any and all further relief that this Court determines to be just and appropriate.

Dated this <u>14th</u> day of December, 2016.

<u>/s/ Adian Miller</u> Adian Miller GABN 794647 Morgan & Morgan, P.A. 191 Peachtree Street, N.E. Suite 4200 Atlanta, GA 30303 (404) 496-7332 Direct (404) 496-7428 Fax Email:ARMiller@forthepeople.com Attorneys for Plaintiff

## JS44 (Rev. 1/16 NDGA) Case 3:16-cv-00198-TCBIVDECEDVER SHEETED 12/14/16 Page 1 of 2

The JS44 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 is required for the use of the Clerk of Court for the purpose of initiating the civil docket record. (SEE INSTRUCTIONS ATTACHED)

I. (a) PLAINTIFF(S)		DEFENDANT(S)		
Kenneth Olmstead		RDJE, Inc. and Ronny D. Jones, Individually		
(b) COUNTY OF RESIDENCE OF FIRST LISTED PLAINTIFF (EXCEPT IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES)		COUNTY OF RESIDENCE OF FIRST LISTED DEFENDANT		
(c) ATTORNEYS (FIRM NAME, ADDRESS, TELEPHONE NUMBER, AND E-MAIL ADDRESS) Adian R. Miller, Esq., Morgan & Morgan, P.A., 191 Peachtree Street NE, P.O. Box 57007, Atlanta, Georgia 30343, (404) 965 - 8811		ATTORIVETS (IF KNOWN)		
II. BASIS OF JURISDICTION (PLACE AN "X" IN ONE BOX ONLY)		<b>TIZENSHIP OF PRINCIPAL PARTIES</b> CE AN "X" IN ONE BOX FOR PLAINTIFF AND ONE BOX FOR DEFENDANT) (FOR DIVERSITY CASES ONLY)		
1 U.S. GOVERNMENT       3 FEDERAL QUESTION (U.S. GOVERNMENT NOT A PARTY)         2 U.S. GOVERNMENT       4 DIVERSITY (INDICATE CITIZENSHIP OF PARTIES IN ITEM III)	PLF DEF 1 1 2 2 3 3 4 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5	PLF     DEF       CITIZEN OF THIS STATE     4       4     4       14     14       14     14       14     14       15     15       16     16       16     10		
	EINSTATED OR EOPENED	TRANSFERRED FROM 5 ANOTHER DISTRICT 6 MULTIDISTRICT 7 FROM MAGISTRATE JUDGE (Specify District) LITIGATION JUDGMENT		
V. CAUSE OF ACTION (CITE THE U.S. CIVIL STATUTE ) JURISDICTIONAL STATUTES	UNDER WHICH Y UNLESS DIVERSI	OU ARE FILING AND WRITE A BRIEF STATEMENT OF CAUSE - DO NOT CITE FY)		
29 U.S.C. 216(b) ; Actions for Unpaid Ove	ertime Wa	iges		
(IF COMPLEX, CHECK REASON BELOW)				
1. Unusually large number of parties.	6. Pr	oblems locating or preserving evidence		
2. Unusually large number of claims or defenses.	7. Pe	nding parallel investigations or actions by government.		
3. Factual issues are exceptionally complex	8. M	ultiple use of experts.		
4. Greater than normal volume of evidence.	9. N	eed for discovery outside United States boundaries.		
5. Extended discovery period is needed.	10. E	xistence of highly technical issues and proof.		
CONTINUED ON REVERSE				
FOR OFFICE USE ONLY	ADDAN			
RECEIPT # AMOUNT \$ JUDGE MAG. JUDGE		ING IFP MAG. JUDGE (IFP) E OF SUIT CAUSE OF ACTION		

(Referral)

## VI. NATURE OF SUIT (PLACE AN "X" IN ONE BOX ONLY) Document 1-1 Filed 12/14/16 Page 2 of 2

ONTRACT - "0" MONTHS DISCOVERY TRACK	CIVIL RIGHTS - "4" MONTHS DISCOVERY TRACK	SOCIAL SECURITY - "0" MONTHS DISCOVERY
150 RECOVERY OF OVERPAYMENT &	441 VOTING	TRACK
ENFORCEMENT OF JUDGMENT	442 EMPLOYMENT	861 HIA (1395ff)
□152 RECOVERY OF DEFAULTED STUDENT	443 HOUSING/ ACCOMMODATIONS	862 BLACK LUNG (923)
LOANS (Excl. Veterans)	444 WELFARE	863 DIWC (405(g))
□ 153 RECOVERY OF OVERPAYMENT OF	440 OTHER CIVIL RIGHTS	<b>863</b> DIWW (405(g))
VETERAN'S BENEFITS	445 AMERICANS with DISABILITIES - Employment	864 SSID TITLE XVI
	446 AMERICANS with DISABILITIES - Other	<b>865</b> RSI (405(g))
ACT - "4" MONTHS DISCOVERY TRACK	448 EDUCATION	
110 INSURANCE		FEDERAL TAX SUITS - "4" MONTHS DISCOVERY
120 MARINE	IMMIGRATION - "0" MONTHS DISCOVERY TRACK	TRACK
130 MILLER ACT	462 NATURALIZATION APPLICATION	870 TAXES (U.S. Plaintiff or Defendant)
140 NEGOTIABLE INSTRUMENT	465 OTHER IMMIGRATION ACTIONS	871 IRS - THIRD PARTY 26 USC 7609
151 MEDICARE ACT		
160 STOCKHOLDERS' SUITS	PRISONER PETITIONS - "0" MONTHS DISCOVERY	OTHER STATUTES - "4" MONTHS DISCOVERY
190 OTHER CONTRACT		TRACK
195 CONTRACT PRODUCT LIABILITY	TRACK	375 FALSE CLAIMS ACT
196 FRANCHISE	463 HABEAS CORPUS- Alien Detainee 510 MOTIONS TO VACATE SENTENCE	$\square$ 375 FALSE CLAIMS ACT $\square$ 376 QUI TAM 31 USC 3729(a)
		400 STATE REAPPORTIONMENT
PROPERTY - "4" MONTHS DISCOVERY	☐ 530 HABEAS CORPUS ☐ 535 HABEAS CORPUS DEATH PENALTY	430 BANKS AND BANKING
X	535 HABEAS CORPOSIDEATH PENALTY 540 MANDAMUS & OTHER	450 COMMERCE/ICC RATES/ETC.
	550 CIVIL RIGHTS - Filed Pro se	460 DEPORTATION
210 LAND CONDEMNATION 220 FORECLOSURE	555 PRISON CONDITION(S) - Filed Pro se	470 RACKETEER INFLUENCED AND CORRUPT
230 RENT LEASE & EJECTMENT	560 CIVIL DETAINEE: CONDITIONS OF	ORGANIZATIONS
240 TORTS TO LAND	CONFINEMENT	480 CONSUMER CREDIT
245 TORT PRODUCT LIABILITY		490 CABLE/SATELLITE TV
290 ALL OTHER REAL PROPERTY	PRISONER PETITIONS - "4" MONTHS DISCOVERY	890 OTHER STATUTORY ACTIONS
	TRACK	■ 891 AGRICULTURAL ACTS
PERSONAL INJURY - "4" MONTHS	550 CIVIL RIGHTS - Filed by Counsel	■ 893 ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS
VERY TRACK	555 PRISON CONDITION(S) - Filed by Counsel	895 FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT
		899 ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES ACT /
310 AIRPLANE	EQREEITURE/DENALTY #4# MONTHS DISCOVERY	REVIEW OR APPEAL OF AGENCY DECISION
315 AIRPLANE PRODUCT LIABILITY	FORFEITURE/PENALTY - "4" MONTHS DISCOVERY	□950 CONSTITUTIONALITY OF STATE STATUTES
320 ASSAULT, LIBEL & SLANDER 330 FEDERAL EMPLOYERS' LIABILITY	TRACK	
330 FEDERAL EMPLOYERS' LIABILITY 340 MARINE	625 DRUG RELATED SEIZURE OF PROPERTY	OTHER STATUTES - "8" MONTHS DISCOVERY
340 MARINE 345 MARINE PRODUCT LIABILITY	21 USC 881	TRACK
345 MARINE PRODUCT EIABIEITT	690 OTHER	410 ANTITRUST
355 MOTOR VEHICLE PRODUCT LIABILITY		■ 410 ANTIROST ■ 850 SECURITIES / COMMODITIES / EXCHANGE
360 OTHER PERSONAL INJURY	LABOR - "4" MONTHS DISCOVERY TRACK	
362 PERSONAL INJURY - MEDICAL	710 FAIR LABOR STANDARDS ACT	
MALPRACTICE	720 LABOR/MGMT. RELATIONS	OTHER STATUTES - "0" MONTHS DISCOVERY
365 PERSONAL INJURY - PRODUCT LIABILITY	740 RAILWAY LABOR ACT	TRACK
367 PERSONAL INJURY - HEALTH CARE/	751 FAMILY and MEDICAL LEAVE ACT	896 ARBITRATION
PHARMACEUTICAL PRODUCT LIABILITY	☐ 790 OTHER LABOR LITIGATION ☐ 791 EMPL. RET. INC. SECURITY ACT	(Confirm / Vacate / Order / Modify)
368 ASBESTOS PERSONAL INJURY PRODUCT	191 EMPL. KET. INC. SECUKITY ACT	
LIABILITY		
	PROPERTY RIGHTS - "4" MONTHS DISCOVERY TRACK	
- PERSONAL PROPERTY - "4" MONTHS	820 COPYRIGHTS	* PLEASE NOTE DISCOVERY
YERY TRACK	■ 840 TRADEMARK	TDACK FOD FACILCASE TVDF
370 OTHER FRAUD		TRACK FOR EACH CASE TYPE.
371 TRUTH IN LENDING	PROPERTY RIGHTS - "8" MONTHS DISCOVERY TRACK	<b>SEE LOCAL RULE 26.3</b>
380 OTHER PERSONAL PROPERTY DAMAGE	830 PATENT	
385 PROPERTY DAMAGE PRODUCT LIABILITY		
RUPTCY - "0" MONTHS DISCOVERY TRACK		
422 APPEAL 28 USC 158		
423 WITHDRAWAL 28 USC 157		
└┙423 WITHDRAWAL 28 USC 157		

### VII. REQUESTED IN COMPLAINT:

CHECK IF CLASS ACTION UNDER F.R.Civ.P. 23 DEMAND \$\_\_\_\_

JURY DEMAND YES NO (CHECK YES ONLY IF DEMANDED IN COMPLAINT)

## VIII. RELATED/REFILED CASE(S) IF ANY

JUDGE
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DOCKET NO.

CIVIL CA	ASES ARE DEEMED RELATED IF THE PENDING CASE INVOLVES: (CHECK APPROPRIATE BOX)
<b>L</b> 1.	PROPERTY INCLUDED IN AN EARLIER NUMBERED PENDING SUIT.
<b></b> 2.	SAME ISSUE OF FACT OR ARISES OUT OF THE SAME EVENT OR TRANSACTION INCLUDED IN AN EARLIER NUMBERED PENDING SUIT.
<b>3</b> .	VALIDITY OR INFRINGEMENT OF THE SAME PATENT, COPYRIGHT OR TRADEMARK INCLUDED IN AN EARLIER NUMBERED PENDING SUIT.
<b>4</b> .	APPEALS ARISING OUT OF THE SAME BANKRUPTCY CASE AND ANY CASE RELATED THERETO WHICH HAVE BEEN DECIDED BY THE SAME
	BANKRUPTCY JUDGE.
5.	REPETITIVE CASES FILED BY PRO SE LITIGANTS.
6.	COMPANION OR RELATED CASE TO CASE(S) BEING SIMULTANEOUSLY FILED (INCLUDE ABBREVIATED STYLE OF OTHER CASE(S)):
_	
<b>—</b> 7.	EITHER SAME OR ALL OF THE PARTIES AND ISSUES IN THIS CASE WERE PREVIOUSLY INVOLVED IN CASE NO. , WHICH WAS
	DISMISSED. This case 🔲 IS 🔄 IS NOT (check one box) SUBSTANTIALLY THE SAME CASE.

/s/ Adian R. Miller

12/14/2016

# **ClassAction.org**

This complaint is part of ClassAction.org's searchable class action lawsuit database and can be found in this post: <u>RDJE</u>, Inc. Hit with Unpaid Wage Class Action Lawsuit