IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE MIDDLE DISTRICT OF TENNESSEE NASHVILLE DIVISION

KRISTIE SILCOX, individually on behalf of herself and all others similarly situated,

Plaintiff,

JURY DEMANDED FLSA COLLECTIVE ACTION

v.

No.: _____

CRUCIAL CUSTOMS AND RESTORATIONS, LLC., and DALLAS ATWOOD

Defendants.

COLLECTIVE ACTION COMPLAINT

PLAINTIFF, KRISTIE SILCOX, individually on behalf of herself and all others similarly

situated, bring this action against the Defendants and alleges as follows.

I. JURISDICTION, AND VENUE

- 1. This case arises under the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938, 29 U.S.C. § 201 et seq.
- 2. The Court has subject matter jurisdiction pursuant to the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938, 29 U.S.C. § 216(b) and 28 U.S.C. § 1331. The Court has personal jurisdiction over the Plaintiff who resides in Smith County, Tennessee, and the Defendants, who do business in Wilson County, Tennessee.
- 3. Venue also lies in the Middle District of Tennessee, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1391, because the Defendants do business in this district, and a substantial part of the alleged events or omissions giving rise to this action occurred in this district.

II. <u>PARTIES</u>

- 4. Plaintiff Kristie Silcox is an adult resident of Smith County, Tennessee. Plaintiff was employed by Defendants Crucial Customs and Restorations, LLC., and Dallas Atwood.
- 5. Defendant Crucial Customs and Restorations, LLC., ("Defendant CCR") is a domestic entity with its principal place of business located at 1221 Carthage Highway, Lebanon, Tennessee, and may be served with process through its registered agent, Dallas Atwood, at the same address.
- 6. Defendant Dallas Atwood is an individual who is acting directly or indirectly in the interest of Defendant CCR in relation to the Plaintiff. He has operational control over Defendant CCR. He is thus an "employer" within the meaning of the FLSA, 29 U.S.C. § 203(d).
- Defendants operate an enterprise engaged in commerce, and employ or employed Plaintiff within the meaning of those terms under the Fair Labor Standards Act.
- At all relevant times, Defendants are covered "employers" within the meaning of the FLSA, 29 U.S.C. § 203(d).
- 9. Plaintiff is a former employee of Defendants'. During her employment with Defendants, Plaintiff was a covered employee under the FLSA.
- 10. In addition to the named Plaintiff, Defendants employ and have employed other similarly situated employees.
- 11. Upon information and belief, at all times, the wage and hour and all related employee compensation policies of Defendants are and were centrally and collectively dictated, controlled, and ratified.

III. FACTUAL BASIS FOR SUIT

- 12. This is a collective action under the FLSA, 29 U.S.C. § 201 et seq. brought on behalf of all persons who, at any time during the past three years and up until the date of entry of judgment are or were employed by Defendants and who worked overtime without receiving proper overtime compensation for all of the hours worked.
- 13. The collective action claims are for unpaid overtime compensation, liquidated damages, interest, and attorneys' fees and costs pursuant to the FLSA, 29 U.S.C. §§ 207, 216(b).
- 14. Plaintiff brings this action on behalf of herself and other similarly situated employees as authorized under 29 U.S.C. § 216(b). Plaintiff's consent to be a party to this collective action pursuant to 29 U.S.C. §216(b) is attached to the Complaint.
- 15. This action is filed on behalf of all non-exempt employees of Defendants who worked over forty hours in a workweek, but did not receive overtime pay for all of their overtime worked.
- 16. Plaintiff was compensated by Defendant for her work at an hourly rate of \$10.00 per hour.
- 17. During Plaintiff's employment, she regularly and repeatedly performed work in excess of forty (40) hours per week.
- Defendants required Plaintiff and other employees to "clock in" and "clock out" using a cellular application on a cell phone belonging to Defendants.
- However, Defendants would regularly edit Plaintiff's time, in an effort to pay her for less overtime than she had actually worked.
- 20. Under the Fair Labor Standards Act, "overtime must be compensated at a rate not less than one and one-half times the regular rate at which the employee is actually

employed" during the first forty (40) hours of work. 29 C.F.R. § 778.107.

- When Plaintiff worked more than forty (40) hours during a week, Defendant did not compensate her at a rate of "one and one-half times the regular rate at which the employee is actually employed" for the first forty (40) hours of work. *See* 29 C.F.R. § 778.107.
- 22. Plaintiff's actual job duties were not those of an "exempt" employee.
- Moreover, Plaintiff was not paid on a "salary basis," as that term is defined by the FLSA.
- 24. These practices violate the provisions of the FLSA, 29 U.S.C. § 201 et seq., specifically § 207(a)(1). As a result, Plaintiff suffered lost wages.
- 25. Likewise, other similarly situated employees regularly and repeatedly worked over forty (40) hours per week.
- 26. When Defendants' employees worked more than forty (40) hours during a week, Defendants would edit their time to reflect fewer overtime hours than they had actually worked. Therefore, Defendants did not compensate them at a rate of "one and one-half times the regular rate at which the employee is actually employed" for the first forty (40) hours of work.
- 27. These practices violate the provisions of the FLSA, 29 U.S.C. § 201 et seq., specifically
 § 207(a)(1). As a result, Plaintiff and similarly situated employees have suffered lost wages.
- 28. Defendants are unable to bear their burden of showing that Plaintiff and similarly situated employees fell within any of the FLSA overtime exemptions, including but not limited to those announced in 29 C.F.R. §§ 541.300, 541.301, 541.302, 541.303, or

541.304.

- 29. Defendants' intentional failure to pay Plaintiff her proper overtime wages is a willful violation of the FLSA within the meaning of 29 U.S.C. § 255(a), as Defendants knew, or showed reckless disregard for the fact that its compensation practices were in violation of the law.
- 30. Defendants are unable to bear their "substantial burden" of showing their failure to comply with the FLSA was in good faith and predicated on reasonable grounds. *Laffey v. Northwest Airlines*, 567 F.2d 429, 464 (D.C. Cir. 1976); 29 U.S.C. §216(b); 29 U.S.C. §260.
- 31. Some evidence generally reflecting the number of uncompensated hours worked by each class member and the compensation rates for the relevant work periods is in the possession of Defendants. While Plaintiff is unable to state at this time the exact amount owing to the class, Plaintiff proposes to obtain such information by appropriate and focused discovery proceedings to be taken promptly in this action, and request that damages or restitution be awarded according to proof thus obtained and presented to the Court.
- 32. This action is maintainable as an "opt-in" collective action pursuant to 29 U.S.C. §216(b) as to claims for overtime compensation, liquidated damages, interest, attorneys' fees and costs under the FLSA. In addition to Plaintiff, numerous current and former employees of Defendants are similarly situated to Plaintiffs with regard to their wages and damages, in that they have been denied proper overtime compensation. Plaintiff is representative of those other current and former employees and is acting on behalf of their interests as well as Plaintiff's own interests in bringing this action.

Those similarly situated employees are known to Defendants and are readily identifiable, and may be located through Defendants' records. These similarly situated employees may readily notified of this action and allowed to "opt in" pursuant to 29 U.S.C. § 216(b), for purposes of collectively adjudicating their claims for unpaid straight time, overtime compensation, liquidated damages, interest, attorneys' fees, and costs under the FLSA.

IV. CAUSES OF ACTION

- 33. The forgoing facts are incorporated by reference as if fully stated herein.
- 34. Plaintiff brings the following claim against Defendants:
 - a. Failure to pay overtime wages in violation of the Fair Labor Standards Act, 29
 U.S.C. § 201 *et seq*.
- 35. Plaintiff demands a jury.

V. <u>PRAYER FOR RELIEF</u>

WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, PLAINTIFF prays for the following relief:

- A. An Order designating this action as an opt in collective action for claims under the FLSA and directing the issuance of notice pursuant to 29 U.S.C. §216(b) for the claims of the class;
- B. An Order appointing Plaintiff and Plaintiff's counsel to represent those individuals opting into the collective action;
- C. A declaratory judgment that Defendants have willfully violated the FLSA;
- D. An award to Plaintiff and others similarly situated who opt into this action of damages in the amount of all applicable statutory and common law damages;

- E. An award to Plaintiff and others similarly situated who opt into this action of interest and liquidated damages in an amount equal to the compensation shown to be owed to them pursuant to 29 U.S.C. § 216(b);
- F. An award to Plaintiff and others similarly situated who opt into this action of reasonable attorneys' fees and costs, pursuant to 29 U.S.C. § 216(b); and
- G. An award of such other and further legal and equitable relief as may be appropriate.

Respectfully submitted,

GILBERT McWHERTER SCOTT BOBBITT PLC

<u>s/ Emily S. Alcorn</u> EMILY S. EMMONS (#33281) 341 Cool Springs Boulevard, Suite 230 Franklin, Tennessee 37067 Telephone: 615-354-1144 Email: <u>eemmons@gilbertfirm.com</u>

ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF AND SIMILARLY SITUATED EMPLOYEES

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 NEXT PAGE OF THIS FORM.)*

I. (a) PLAINTIFFS Kristie Silcox, individually and on behalf of all other similarly situated DEFENDANTS Crucial Customs and Restorations, LLC, and Dallas Atwoo					
(b) County of Residence of First Listed Plaintiff <u>Smith</u> (EXCEPT IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES)			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.		
(c) Attorneys (Firm Name, Gilbert McWherter Scott 341 Cool Springs Blvd., S Franklin, TN 37067 615	Bobbitt PLC Suite 230	r)	Attorneys (If Known)		
II. BASIS OF JURISDI	CTION (Place an "X" in C	One Box Only)	III. CITIZENSHIP OF P	RINCIPAL PARTIES	
□ 1 U.S. Government Plaintiff	3 Federal Question (U.S. Government)	Not a Party)		IF DEF 1 □ 1 Incorporated or Pr of Business In 1	
2 U.S. Government Defendant	☐ 4 Diversity (Indicate Citizensh	ip of Parties in Item III)		2 🗖 2 Incorporated and of Business In .	Another State
			Citizen or Subject of a Foreign Country	3 🗖 3 Foreign Nation	
IV. NATURE OF SUIT			EQDEEITUDE/DENALTV	DANKDUDTOV	OTHED STATUTES
CONTRACT 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 (Excludes Veterans) 153 Recovery of Overpayment of Veteran's Benefits 160 Stockholders' Suits 190 Other Contract 195 Contract Product Liability 196 Franchise REAL PROPERTY 210 Land Condemnation 220 Foreclosure 230 Rent Lease & Ejectment 245 Tort Product Liability 290 All Other Real Property	PERSONAL INJURY ☐ 310 Airplane ☐ 315 Airplane Product Liability ☐ 320 Assault, Libel &	PRTS PERSONAL INJURY Gamma Service Ser	of Property 21 USC 881 Geodetic formula for the second se	BANKRUPTCY 422 Appeal 28 USC 158 423 Withdrawal 28 USC 157 PROPERTY RIGHTS 820 Copyrights 830 Patent 840 Trademark SOCIAL SECURITY 861 HIA (1395ff) 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	OTHER STATUTES 375 False Claims Act 376 Qui Tam (31 USC 3729(a)) 400 State Reapportionment 410 Antitrust 430 Banks and Banking 450 Commerce 460 Deportation 470 Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations 480 Consumer Credit 490 Cable/Sat TV 850 Securities/Commodities/Exchange 890 Other Statutory Actions 891 Agricultural Acts 895 Freedom of Information Act 896 Arbitration 899 Administrative Procedure Act/Review or Appeal of Agency Decision 950 Constitutionality of State Statutes
	moved from \Box 3	Remanded from Appellate Court	☐ 4 Reinstated or ☐ 5 Transfe Reopened Anothe (specify)	er District Litigation	
VI. CAUSE OF ACTION	DN 29 U.S.C. § 201 Brief description of ca	et seq	re filing (Do not cite jurisdictional stat	tutes unless diversity):	
VII. REQUESTED IN COMPLAINT: CHECK IF THIS IS A CLA UNDER RULE 23, F.R.CV		IS A CLASS ACTION	DEMAND \$ CHECK YES only if demanded in complaint: JURY DEMAND: Yes No		
VIII. RELATED CASI IF ANY	E(S) (See instructions):	JUDGE		DOCKET NUMBER	
DATE 02/12/2018		SIGNATURE OF ATT S/Emily S. Alco	TORNEY OF RECORD DIN		
FOR OFFICE USE ONLY RECEIPT # Cas	B3:18-cv-00141	Documentra-	-1 Filed 02/12/108GE	age 1 of 2 Pagel	b#: 8

INSTRUCTIONS FOR ATTORNEYS COMPLETING CIVIL COVER SHEET FORM JS 44

Authority For Civil Cover Sheet

The JS 44 civil cover sheet and the information contained herein neither replaces nor supplements the filings and service of pleading or other papers as required by law, except as provided by local rules of court. This form, approved by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required for the use of the Clerk of Court for the purpose of initiating the civil docket sheet. Consequently, a civil cover sheet is submitted to the Clerk of Court for each civil complaint filed. The attorney filing a case should complete the form as follows:

- **I.(a) Plaintiffs-Defendants.** Enter names (last, first, middle initial) of plaintiff and defendant. If the plaintiff or defendant is a government agency, use only the full name or standard abbreviations. If the plaintiff or defendant is an official within a government agency, identify first the agency and then the official, giving both name and title.
- (b) County of Residence. For each civil case filed, except U.S. plaintiff cases, enter the name of the county where the first listed plaintiff resides at the time of filing. In U.S. plaintiff cases, enter the name of the county in which the first listed defendant resides at the time of filing. (NOTE: In land condemnation cases, the county of residence of the "defendant" is the location of the tract of land involved.)
- (c) Attorneys. Enter the firm name, address, telephone number, and attorney of record. If there are several attorneys, list them on an attachment, noting in this section "(see attachment)".

II. Jurisdiction. The basis of jurisdiction is set forth under Rule 8(a), F.R.Cv.P., which requires that jurisdictions be shown in pleadings. Place an "X" in one of the boxes. If there is more than one basis of jurisdiction, precedence is given in the order shown below. United States plaintiff. (1) Jurisdiction based on 28 U.S.C. 1345 and 1348. Suits by agencies and officers of the United States are included here.

United States plaintiff. (1) Jurisdiction based on 28 U.S.C. 1345 and 1348. Suits by agencies and officers of the United States are included here. United States defendant. (2) When the plaintiff is suing the United States, its officers or agencies, place an "X" in this box.

Federal question. (3) This refers to suits under 28 U.S.C. 1331, where jurisdiction arises under the Constitution of the United States, an amendment to the Constitution, an act of Congress or a treaty of the United States. In cases where the U.S. is a party, the U.S. plaintiff or defendant code takes precedence, and box 1 or 2 should be marked.

Diversity of citizenship. (4) This refers to suits under 28 U.S.C. 1332, where parties are citizens of different states. When Box 4 is checked, the citizenship of the different parties must be checked. (See Section III below; **NOTE: federal question actions take precedence over diversity cases.**)

- **III. Residence (citizenship) of Principal Parties.** This section of the JS 44 is to be completed if diversity of citizenship was indicated above. Mark this section for each principal party.
- **IV.** Nature of Suit. Place an "X" in the appropriate box. If the nature of suit cannot be determined, be sure the cause of action, in Section VI below, is sufficient to enable the deputy clerk or the statistical clerk(s) in the Administrative Office to determine the nature of suit. If the cause fits more than one nature of suit, select the most definitive.
- V. Origin. Place an "X" in one of the seven boxes.

Original Proceedings. (1) Cases which originate in the United States district courts.

Removed from State Court. (2) Proceedings initiated in state courts may be removed to the district courts under Title 28 U.S.C., Section 1441. When the petition for removal is granted, check this box.

Remanded from Appellate Court. (3) Check this box for cases remanded to the district court for further action. Use the date of remand as the filing date.

Reinstated or Reopened. (4) Check this box for cases reinstated or reopened in the district court. Use the reopening date as the filing date. Transferred from Another District. (5) For cases transferred under Title 28 U.S.C. Section 1404(a). Do not use this for within district transfers or multidistrict litigation transfers.

Multidistrict Litigation – Transfer. (6) Check this box when a multidistrict case is transferred into the district under authority of Title 28 U.S.C. Section 1407.

Multidistrict Litigation – Direct File. (8) Check this box when a multidistrict case is filed in the same district as the Master MDL docket. **PLEASE NOTE THAT THERE IS NOT AN ORIGIN CODE 7.** Origin Code 7 was used for historical records and is no longer relevant due to changes in statue.

- VI. Cause of Action. Report the civil statute directly related to the cause of action and give a brief description of the cause. Do not cite jurisdictional statutes unless diversity. Example: U.S. Civil Statute: 47 USC 553 Brief Description: Unauthorized reception of cable service
- VII. Requested in Complaint. Class Action. Place an "X" in this box if you are filing a class action under Rule 23, F.R.Cv.P. Demand. In this space enter the actual dollar amount being demanded or indicate other demand, such as a preliminary injunction. Jury Demand. Check the appropriate box to indicate whether or not a jury is being demanded.
- VIII. Related Cases. This section of the JS 44 is used to reference related pending cases, if any. If there are related pending cases, insert the docket numbers and the corresponding judge names for such cases.

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

FLSA Consent Form

I, Kristie Silcox, hereby give written consent under section 216(b) of the Fair Labor Standards Act to be a party plaintiff in an FLSA collective action against Dallas Atwood and/or Crucial Customs and Restorations and/or its agents, owners, parents, subsidiaries, or any other related entity.

Date: 2. 5-

ClassAction.org

This complaint is part of ClassAction.org's searchable class action lawsuit database and can be found in this post: <u>Crucial Customs and Restorations Clipped with Unpaid Overtime Lawsuit</u>