SUNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF FLORIDA MIAMI DIVISION

CASE NO.:

ELVIN VASQUEZ, and all others similarly situated under 29 U.S.C 206(B),

Plaintiff,

v.

CONCRETE LABOR SERVICES, INC., a Florida Corporation, and ORESTES BOFFIL, individually,

| Defendants. | | |
|-------------|--|---|
| | | / |

COMPLAINT

Plaintiff, Elvin Vasquez ("Vasquez"), on behalf of himself, and others similarly situated, under the provisions of the Fair Labor Standard Act ("FLSA") of 1938, as amended, 29 U.S.C. § 216(b), files this Complaint against Defendants, Concrete Labor Services, Inc., ("Concrete Labor") and Orestes Boffil ("Boffil") and alleges, as follows:

PARTIES, JURISDICTION, AND VENUE

- 1. This Court has subject matter jurisdiction over Plaintiff's federal law claims pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1331 and 1343(4), because these claims seek redress for violations of Plaintiff's federal civil and statutory rights.
- 2. At all material times, Concrete Labor is, and was, a Florida corporation, authorized to conduct and conducting business in Miami-Dade County, Florida.

- 3. At all material times, Boffil is *sui juris* and a resident of Miami-Dade County, Florida.
- 4. At all material times, Vasquez, is *sui juris* and a resident of Miami-Dade County, Florida.
 - 5. Venue is proper in the Southern District of Florida pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1391(b) and (c) as a substantial part of the events or omissions giving rise to the claims that occurred in this judicial district.
 - 6. This action is brought by Plaintiff to recover from the Employer unpaid overtime wage compensation, as well as an additional amount as liquidated damages, costs and reasonable attorney's fees pursuant to the FLSA, §§ 206, 207.
 - 7. Upon information and belief, the annual gross revenue of Concrete Labor was at all times material hereto in excess of \$500,000.00 per annum.
 - 8. At all material times hereto, Concrete Labor was and continues to be an enterprise engaged in interstate commerce.
 - 9. At all material times hereto, Concrete Labor operated as an organization which purchased equipment and products manufactured outside the state of Florida; provided services to or sold, marketed, or handled goods and materials to customers throughout the United States; provided services for goods sold and transported from across state lines; obtained, solicited, and accepted funds from sources outside the state of Florida; used telephonic transmissions traversing state lines in the ordinary course of business; transmitted funds outside the state of Florida; and otherwise regularly engaged in interstate commerce.

- 10. As a result of the services provided by Concrete Labor, two or more of its employees regularly handled and worked with goods and materials moved in or produced in interstate commerce.
- 11. By reason of the foregoing, Concrete Labor is and was, during all times material hereto, an enterprise engaged in commerce or in the production of goods for commerce as defined by the FLSA, 29 U.S.C. §§ 203(r)-(s), and Plaintiff is within interstate commerce.
- 12. Plaintiff and those similarly situated employees regularly utilized and handled materials, equipment and goods manufactured and purchased from outside the state of Florida and regularly used the instrumentalities of interstate commerce in their world.
- 13. Upon information and belief, Boffil is an officer/director of Concrete Labor and has economic and day-to-day control of Concrete Labor, and of the nature and structure of Plaintiff's employment relationship with Concrete, and is therefore an employer as defined by 29 U.S.C., Section 203 (d).

GENERAL ALLEGATIONS

- 14. Upon information and belief, Employer employed Plaintiff from approximately October, 2016 through October, 2017 ("the relevant time period").
- 15. During the relevant time period, Plaintiff was employed as a non-exempt carpenter earning an average of \$17.00 per hour.
- 16. At all material times, Concrete Labor's gross annual revenues were in excess of \$500,00.00
- 17. Throughout his employment with Concrete Labor, Plaintiff routinely worked for Concrete Labor from Monday through Saturday, over forty (40) regular hours a week and approximately twenty (20) to twenty-two (22) hours of overtime per week.

3

- 18. Notwithstanding, Concrete Labor willfully and intentionally failed/refused to pay to Plaintiff the federally required overtime rate for the overtime hours he worked.
- 19. Employer knew of the overtime requirements of the Fair Labor Standards Act and willfully/intentionally/recklessly failed to investigate whether their payroll practices were in accordance with the Fair Labor Standards Act.
- 20. As a result, Plaintiff has suffered damages and is entitled to receive overtime compensation.
 - 21. Plaintiff has complied with all conditions precedent to filing this action.
- 22. Plaintiff had retained the law offices of the undersigned attorney to represent him in this action and is obligated to pay a reasonable attorney's fee.

PRE-SUIT DEMAND

23. On April 13, 2018, Plaintiff through his undersigned counsel, sent to the Concrete Labor a written pre-suit demand regarding the violations of the overtime provisions of the FLSA, and requesting Employer pay the amounts owed to Plaintiff, but Concrete Labor failed/refused to do so ("Demand"). A copy of the Demand is attached as "Exhibit A".

<u>COUNT I -</u> <u>VIOLATIONS OF THE OVERTIME PROVISIONS OF FLSA</u> <u>AGAINST CONCRETE LABOR</u>

- 24. Plaintiff re-alleges the allegations in paragraphs one (1) through twenty-two (22) above.
- 25. This is an action against Concrete Labor for overtime compensation pursuant to 29 U.S.C. § 216(B).
- 26. Upon information and belief, Concrete Labor has employed and currently employs several other similarly situated employees, like Plaintiff, who have not been paid overtime for

work performed in excess of forty (40) hours weekly, within three (3) years from the filing of this Complaint.

- 27. Plaintiff routinely worked in excess of forty (40) hours per week for Concrete Labor.
- 28. Specifically, Plaintiff estimates that he routinely worked for Concrete Labor from Monday through Saturday, over forty (40) regular hours a week and approximately twenty (20) to twenty-two (22) hours of overtime per week.
- 29. Plaintiff was a non-exempt employee, entitled to be paid at the rate of one and one-half for all hours worked in excess of forty (40) hours per week.
- 30. Concrete Labor knew or should have known that Plaintiff suffered or was permitted to work overtime for Concrete Labor as defined in 29 U.S.C. § 203 (g).
- 31. Concrete Labor failed and/or refused to compensate Plaintiff for such work in excess of forty (40) hours at rates no less than one and one-half times the regular rates for which he was employed, contrary to the provisions of 29 U.S.C. § 207 (a).
- 32. At all material times, Concrete Labor knew or should have known that such refusal and/or failure is prohibited by the FLSA and intentionally and willfully violated the FLSA as cited herein.
- 33. At all material times, Concrete Labor failed/refused to maintain proper time records as mandated by the FLSA regarding the overtime hours worked by Plaintiff.

VIOLATIONS OF THE OVERTIME PROVISIONS OF FLSA AGAINST ORESTES BOFFIL

- 34. Plaintiff re-alleges the allegations in paragraphs one (1) through twenty-two (22) above.
- 35. This is a collective action against Boffil for overtime compensation pursuant to 29 U.S.C. § 216(B).
- 36. Upon information and belief, Boffil has employed and currently employs several other similarly situated employees, like Plaintiff, who have not been paid overtime for work performed in excess of forty (40) hours weekly, within three (3) years from the filing of this Complaint.
 - 37. Plaintiff routinely worked in excess of forty (40) hours per week for Boffil.
- 38. Specifically, Plaintiff estimates that he worked 20-22 hours of overtime per week for Boffil.
- 39. Defendant, Boffil, had day-to-day and operational control of Plaintiff and his compensation structure and is therefore an employer pursuant to 29 U.S.C. § 203(d).
- 40. Plaintiff was a non-exempt employee, entitled to be paid at the rate of one and one-half for all hours worked in excess of forty (40) hours per week.
- 41. Boffil knew or should have known that Plaintiff suffered or was permitted to work overtime for Concrete Labor as defined in 29 U.S.C. § 203 (g).
- 42. Boffil failed and/or refused to compensate Plaintiff for such work in excess of forty (40) hours at rates no less than one and one-half times the regular rates for which he was employed, contrary to the provisions of 29 U.S.C. § 207 (a).

- 43. At all material times, Boffil knew or should have known that such refusal and/or failure is prohibited by the FLSA and intentionally and willfully violated the FLSA as cited herein.
- 44. At all material times, Boffil failed/refused to maintain proper time records as mandated by the FLSA regarding the overtime hours worked by Plaintiff.
- 45. As a result, Plaintiff has been damaged and is entitled to be compensated for his loss.

PLAINTIFF'S DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL

44. Plaintiff hereby demands a jury trial of all issues so triable.

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff, Elvin Vasquez, respectfully requests that judgment be entered in his favor against Defendants, Concrete Labor, as follows:

- (a) Declaring pursuant to 28 U.S.C §2201 and §2202, that the acts and practices of the Defendants complained of herein are in violation of the overtime wage provisions of the FLSA;
- (b) Permanently enjoining the Defendants, their agents, officers and employees from engaging in all practices found by this court to be in violation of the overtime wage provisions of the FLSA;
- (c) Awarding Plaintiff damages against Defendants, for lost and withheld compensation, and overtime compensation for all hours that he worked for Defendants over forty (40) hours per week, but for which he was not compensated at the required overtime rate;
 - (d) Awarding Plaintiff liquidated damages;
- (e) Awarding Plaintiff reasonable attorney's fees, costs, interest, and expenses of this litigation pursuant to 29 U.S.C. §216(b);

(f) Ordering any other further relief that this Court may deem just and proper.

Respectfully submitted this 7th day of June, 2018.

By: <u>/s/ Monica Espino</u> Florida Bar No. 834491

ESPINO LAW Attorney for Plaintiff 2655 Le June Road Miami, Florida 33129 Telephone: (305) 704-3172

Facsimile: (305) 722-7378 E-mail: me@espino-law.com

EXHIBIT A



April 13, 2018

Sent via and U.S. Mail & Certified Mail/Return-Receipt

Concrete Labor Services, Inc.

c/o Orestes Bofil

8040 NW 95 ST Suite 336 Hialeah Gardens, Fl 33016

Re: Elvin Vasquez ("Vasquez") v. Concrete Labor Services, Inc. ("CLS")

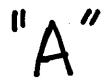
Dear Mr. Bofil:

Please be advised the undersigned has been retained by Mr. Vasquez in connection with overtime issues stemming from his employment with CLS ("Employer"). This correspondence shall serve as my client's demand for payment of unpaid wages, including but not limited to regular, and overtime wages for hours worked by him pursuant to the Federal Fair Labor Standards Act.

Mr. Vasquez has been employed as a carpenter by CLS from approximately October, 2016 through October, 2017. During his entire employment, Mr. Vasquez routinely worked from Monday through Saturday, 10-12 hours per day, for an average of 60-62 hours per week. Notwithstanding, CLS intentionally failed/refused to pay to him the federally required overtime wages for the hours worked by him in excess of 40 hours per week. Instead, CLS has intentionally, impermissibly and wrongfully paid Mr. Vasquez straight time wages for his overtime hours worked.

Mr. Vasquez should have been paid on an hourly, non-exempt rate during the entire course of his employment with CLS. As such, he is unequivocally entitled to overtime pay for all overtime hours worked each work week, under both federal and state law. Under the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA), employers must pay employees overtime pay for hours worked in excess of forty (40) in a workweek of at least one and one-half times their regular rates of pay.

Further, Mr. Vasquez's position does not fall under any of the exemptions that would allow CLS not to pay to him overtime. He does not qualify under any of the permissible exemptions, since he is not an Executive, Administrative, or Professional employee, nor does he qualify for the





Outside Sales exemption or the Retail and Service Establishment exemption, as he does not do any selling whatsoever.

As you are aware, federal law requires all employers to keep records of the hours worked each day and each workweek by the employer for at least three (3) years. We, therefore, presume you have these records showing the hours worked by my client for and during the course of his employment with CLS.

Both federal and state law also provide for damages, penalties, and attorney's fees if an employee is not paid overtime as required by applicable law. If litigation were commenced, each of my clients would be entitled to the following:

- 1. All unpaid overtime wages.
- 2. An additional penalty in an amount equal to the overtime wages not paid, and
- 3. Attorney's fees and costs.

As a result, we are confident that the Department of Labor will agree with our position and analysis regarding your failure to pay overtime wages and the required damages, penalties, and attorney's fees resulting from litigating this claim in court or filing a formal complaint with DOL to enforce the mandates after DOL conducts a full investigation of CLS. However, nonetheless, my client has not yet filed a formal complaint with DOL or a civil action in district court against CLS. My client would prefer to resolve this matter amicably, without the need for litigation, and/or the filing of a formal complaint with the DOL, which may inevitably result in an on-site investigation of CLS.

Based on the foregoing, at this time, my client demands the overtime compensation he is required to be paid by law for the applicable period, liquidated damages and attorney's fees. Please note that should my client need to proceed to file a lawsuit, your exposure for attorney's fees rises exponentially.

Please contact me within seven (7) days of this letter to let me know if you are willing to attempt to resolve this matter voluntarily. If I do not hear from you within 7 days of your receipt of this letter, my client has authorized me to proceed with all legal remedies available to him.



I caution you that state and federal law prohibit you from taking any retaliatory action against my clients as a result of (i) this notification to you, (ii) our intention to notify DOL and file a civil action if you fail to comply with our request, or (iii) my client's request for back wages and attorney's fees.

GOVERN YOURSELVES ACCORDINGLY.

Sincerely,

ESPINO LAW

Monica Espino

cc: Elvin Vasquez

JS 44 (Rev. 06/17) FLSD Revised 06/01/2017

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.) NOTICE: Attorneys MUST Indicate All Re-filed Cases Below.

| I. (a) PLAINTIFFS I | DEFENDANTS CONCRETE LABOR SERVICES, INC., A Florida corporation, and Orestes Boffil, | | | | | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|---------------|--|---|---------------------------|--|--|
| (b) County of Residence of First Listed Plaintiff (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 | | | | ION OF | | |
| (c) Attorneys (Firm Name, Address, and Telephone Number) Espino Law, PL, 2655 S LeJeune Road, Suite 802, Coral Gables, Fl 33134 | | | Attorneys (If Know | | RACI | OF LAND INVOLV | /ED., | | |
| (d) Check County Where Action | on Arose: ☐ MIAMI-DADE | ☐ MONROE ☐ BROWARD | □ PALM BEACH □ MARTIN □ S | T. LUCIE | □ INDIAN | RIVER □ OKEECHO | BEE HIGHLAT | NDS | |
| II. BASIS OF JURISDI | CTION (Place an "X" i | in One Box Only) | I. CITIZENSHIP OF | | CIPAI | PARTIES (P | | | |
| U.S. Government Plaintiff | ☐ 3 Fed (U.S. Government | eral Question Not a Party) | (For Diversity Cases Only Citizen of This State | | | Incorporated or Prin of Business In This: | | | ant) DEF 4 |
| 2 U.S. Government Defendant | | ersity ip of Parties in Item III) | Citizen of Another State | 2 | | Incorporated and Pri of Business In Ar | incipal Place | □ 5 | □ 5 |
| | | | Citizen or Subject of a Foreign Country | □ 3 | □ 3 | Foreign Nation | | □ 6 | □ 6 |
| IV. NATURE OF SUIT | | | Click here for: Nature of Suit Co | ~ | | THE TOTAL | OTHER | om i mrze | vpa . |
| 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 (Excl. 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 240 Torts to Land 245 Tort Product Liability 290 All Other Real Property | PERSONAL INJURY 310 Airplane 315 Airplane Product Liability 320 Assault, Libel & Slander 330 Federal Employers' Liability 340 Marine 345 Marine Product Liability 350 Motor Vehicle 355 Motor Vehicle Product Liability 360 Other Personal Injury 362 Personal Injury Med. Malpractice CIVIL RICHTS 440 Other Civil Rights 441 Voting 443 Housing/ Accommodations 445 Amer. w/Disabilities - Employment | ☐ 370 Other Fraud ☐ 371 Truth in Lending ☐ 380 Other Personal ☐ Property Damage ☐ 385 Property Damage ☐ Product Liability PRISONER PETITIONS ☐ 463 Alien Detaince ☐ 510 Motions to Vacate Sentence Other: ☐ 530 General ☐ 535 Death Penalty | IMMIGRATION ☐ 462 Naturalization Applicat | 1 | 22 Appeal 23 Withdr 28 US PROPER 20 Copyri 30 Patent 35 Patent 40 Traden SOCIAL 31 HIA (1 32 Black I 33 DIWC 44 SSID T 55 RSI (40 EDERA) 00 Taxes (or Def | awal C 157 CTY RIGHTS guts — Abbreviated Application nark . SECURITY 395ff) Lung (923) DIWW (405(g)) Citle XVI 15(g)) LTAX SUITS U.S. Plaintiff endant) —Third Party 26 | OTHER: | laims Act In (3) USC exapportion It Ind Bankin ree It Ind Bankin It Ind Bankin It Influen Influen Influen Influen It Influen I | connent on one of the connect of the connect on one of the connect |
| 1. Ordon | 446 Amer. w/Disabilities - Other . 448 Education "X" in One Box Only) | ☐ 550 Civil Rights ☐ 555 Prison Condition 560 Civil Detainee — ☐ Conditions of Confinement | 465 Other Immigration Actions | _ | | | | | |
| Proceeding 2 Remove from S Court | ved 3 Re-filed 4 (See VI below) | Reinstated 5 Transfer another (specify) | district Litigation | ²¹ | Distric | t Judge Li fagistrate _ | itigation \Box^9 Direct | Remande Appellate | |
| VI. RELATED/ RE-FILED CASE(S) | (See instructions): a) JUDO | | ✓ NO b) Related | Cases | | M NO KET NUMBER: | | | |
| VII. CAUSE OF ACTION | | 216(b) | ling and Write a Brief Staten | | Cause (D | o not cite jurisdictio | onal statutes unle | ess divers | ity): |
| VIII. REQUESTED IN COMPLAINT: | | IS A CLASS ACTION | DEMAND \$ | •, | | ECK YES only if | 4 | _ • | t: |
| ABOVE INFORMATION IS TO DATE June 7, 2018 | TRUE & CORRECT TO | | WLEDGE TTORNEY OF RECORD | | C | O DEMAND: | Tes . | □ No | |
| FOR OFFICE USE ONLY RECEIPT # | AMOUNT IF | JUDGE | // | MAG JU | DGE | | <i>-</i> | | |

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

| | | for the |
|---|---|--|
| | Southern 1 | District of Florida |
| ELVIN VAS | QUEZ |))) |
| Plaintiff(v. CONCRETE LABOR SERV corporation, and ORESTES | ICES, INC., a Florida |)) Civil Action No.))) |
| Defendant | f(s) |)) |
| | SUMMONS | IN A CIVIL ACTION |
| To: (Defendant's name and address | CONCRETE LABOR SE c/o Orestes Boffil, its Re 8040 NW 95 Street, Sui Hialeah Gardens, FL 33 | egistered Agent te 336 |
| A lawsuit has been file | ed against you. | |
| are the United States or a Unit P. 12 (a)(2) or (3) — you must | ed States agency, or an of t serve on the plaintiff an | |
| If you fail to respond, You also must file your answe | | be entered against you for the relief demanded in the complaint. t. |
| | | CLERK OF COURT |
| _ | | |
| Date: | | Signature of Clerk or Deputy Clerk |

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

Civil Action No.

PROOF OF SERVICE

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

| was re | This summons for (nanceived by me on (date) | ne of individual and title, if any) | | | | |
|---|--|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------|------|--|--|
| wasic | • | the summons on the indiv | | | | |
| | r personany served | the summons on the marv | on (date) | ; or | | |
| | ☐ 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 (date), and mailed a copy to the individual's last known address; or, served the summons on (name of individual), designated by law to accept service of process on behalf of (name of organization) | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| | designated by law to | accept service of process of | On (date) | ; or | | |
| | ☐ I returned the sumr | mons unexecuted because | | ; or | | |
| | ☐ Other (specify): | | | | | |
| | My fees are \$ | for travel and \$ | for services, for a total of \$ | 0.00 | | |
| I declare under penalty of perjury that this information is true. | | | | | | |
| Date: | | | | | | |
| | | | Server's signature | | | |
| | | | Printed name and title | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | Server's address | | | |

Additional information regarding attempted service, etc:

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

| | | for the | | | | |
|--|--|------------------------------------|--|--|--|--|
| | Southern D | istrict of Florida | | | | |
| ELVIN VAS | QUEZ |))) | | | | |
| Plaintiff(.v. V. CONCRETE LABOR SERV corporation, and ORESTES | ICES, INC., a Florida S BOFFIL, individually | Civil Action No. | | | | |
| Dejendum | | N A CIVIL ACTION | | | | |
| To: (Defendant's name and address) ORESTES BOFFIL 8040 NW 95 Street, Suite 336 Hialeah Gardens, FL 33016 | | | | | | |
| A lawsuit has been file | ed against you. | | | | | |
| are the United States or a Unit P. 12 (a)(2) or (3) — you must | ed States agency, or an off t serve on the plaintiff an a | | | | | |
| 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. | | | | | | |
| | | CLERK OF COURT | | | | |
| Date: | | Signature of Clerk or Deputy Clerk | | | | |

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

Civil Action No.

PROOF OF SERVICE

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

| | | ne of individual and title, if ar | ny) | | | | |
|--------|--|-----------------------------------|---|-------------|--|--|--|
| was re | ceived by me on (date) | | · | | | | |
| | ☐ I personally served | the summons on the ind | lividual at (place) | | | | |
| | | | on (date) | ; or | | | |
| | ☐ I left the summons at the individual's residence or usual place of abode with (name) | | | | | | |
| | | | , a person of suitable age and discretion who res | ides there, | | | |
| | on (date) | , and mailed a | copy to the individual's last known address; or | | | | |
| | ☐ I served the summons on (name of individual) | | | | | | |
| | designated by law to | accept service of process | s on behalf of (name of organization) | | | | |
| | | | on (date) | ; or | | | |
| | ☐ I returned the summ | nons unexecuted because | e | ; or | | | |
| | ☐ Other (<i>specify</i>): | | | | | | |
| | My fees are \$ | for travel and S | for services, for a total of \$ | 0.00 | | | |
| | I declare under penalty of perjury that this information is true. | | | | | | |
| Date: | | - | | | | | |
| | | | 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: Concrete Labor Services Tagged with FLSA Lawsuit