UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT EASTERN DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA SOUTHERN DIVISION

Civil Action No. 7:20-cv-144

JOSE RAMIREZ individually, and on behalf of all others similarly situated,

Plaintiff,

v.

T&D CUSTOM FENCES AND DECKS, LLC and TIMMY WELLS,

Defendants.

NOTICE OF COLLECTIVE ACTION LAWSUIT

TO: All current and former non-exempt hourly employees who are or were employed by the T&D Custom Fences and Decks, LLC and/or Timmy Wells beginning August 7, 2017 to the present.

I. INTRODUCTION

A lawsuit, captioned *Jose Ramirez individually and on behalf of all others similarly situated v. T&D Custom Fences and Decks, LLC and Timmy Wells*, has been filed in the United States District Court for the Southern District of North Carolina, Case No. 7:20-cv-144. You are receiving this Notice because you are "similarly situated" to the Plaintiff and are eligible to join this lawsuit. This letter advises you how this lawsuit may affect your rights and instructs you on how to join if you choose.

II. <u>DESCRIPTION OF THE LAWSUIT</u>

On August 7, 2020, Plaintiff filed this lawsuit alleging Defendants T&D Custom Fences and Decks, LLC and Timm Wells violated the FLSA by failing to pay Plaintiff minimum wage for all hours worked, failing to pay overtime compensation for all hours worked over 40 hours in a workweek, making unauthorized deductions to Plaintiff's paycheck and providing pay stubs that did not accurately record and compensate him for all hours worked.

III. WHO CAN JOIN THIS LAWSUIT

Plaintiff has filed this lawsuit on behalf of:

- 1. himself; and
- 2. All employees who are or have been, at any time from

IV. YOUR RIGHT TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS LAWSUIT

You may join this lawsuit by completing and sending a signed copy of the attached "Consent to Join" form to Jose Ramirez's lawyer via e-mail, facsimile or U.S. mail to the following:

GESSNERLAW, PLLC ATTN: T&D FLSA Lawsuit 602 East Morehead Street Charlotte, NC 28202

Phone: (704) 234-7442; Fax: (980) 206-0286 Email to: michelle@mgessnerlaw.com

If you choose to join the lawsuit, this form must be returned on or before MONDAY, MAY 9, 2021.

V. EFFECT OF JOINING THIS LAWSUIT

If you choose to join in this lawsuit, you will be bound by the judgment or settlement, whether it is favorable or unfavorable. The attorneys representing you in this lawsuit are being paid on a contingency fee basis, which means that if there is no recovery, there will be no attorneys' fee. If there is a recovery, the attorneys representing you will receive a part of any settlement obtained or money judgment entered in favor of all members of the class. If you join the lawsuit, you will designate Jose Ramirez as your agents to make decisions on your behalf concerning the litigation, the method and manner of conducting this litigation, the entering of an agreement with Jose Ramirez's counsel concerning attorney's fees and costs, and all other matters pertaining to this lawsuit. These decisions and agreements made and entered into by Jose Ramirez will be binding on you if you join this lawsuit.

VI. NO LEGAL EFFECT IN NOT JOINING THIS LAWSUIT

If you choose not to join this lawsuit, you will not be affected by any judgment or settlement rendered in this case. If you choose not to join in this lawsuit, you are free to file, or not to file, your own lawsuit. The statute of limitations will continue to run on your claim until you join this lawsuit or file your own.

VII. <u>NO RETALIATION PERMITTED</u>

If you choose to join this lawsuit, federal law prohibits T&D from retaliating against you or in any manner discriminating against you because you have done so.

VIII. YOUR LEGAL REPRESENTATIVE IF YOU JOIN THIS LAWSUIT

If you join this lawsuit, counsel for Jose Ramirez listed below will represent your interests:

L. Michelle Gessner GESSNERLAW, PLLC 602 East Morehead Street Charlotte, NC 28202

Phone: (704) 234-7442; Fax: (980) 206-0286 Email to: michelle@mgessnerlaw.com

IX. FURTHER INFORMATION

Further information about the lawsuit or this notice may be obtained by contacting Jose Ramirez's attorney at the address or phone number provided above.

*You must timely return this form to preserve your rights.