# Superior Court of California County of Los Angeles

# **NOTICE OF CLASS ACTION CERTIFICATION**

# If you were employed by MY WORLD ENTERPRISES, INC., dba ALONDRA HOT WINGS from December 16, 2014 through the present and were not reimbursed for business related expenses, a class action lawsuit may affect your rights.

A court authorized this notice. This is not a solicitation from a lawyer.

# YOU ARE NOT BEING SUED. Please read this notice carefully.

Two former employees sued My World Enterprises, Inc. dba Alondra Hot Wings ("Alondra Hot Wings") alleging that it failed to reimburse payment of business-related expenses of employees with respect to the purchase and use of the "hot schedules" application and with respect to uniforms, in addition to the derivative Labor Code claims associated with the alleged unreimbursed expenses. The former employees allege that employees should have been reimbursed for these business-related expenses. The case is called *ALBINO LUGO-RODRIGUEZ, et al. v. MY WORLD ENTERPRISES, INC., dba ALONDRA HOT WINGS.*, Case No. BC637677.

The Court has allowed the lawsuit to be a class action on behalf of all current and former employees of My World Enterprises, Inc. dba Alondra Hot Wings. in California who, at any time since December 16, 2014, purchased and used the "hot schedules" application and who had unreimbursed uniform related expenses.

Alondra Hot Wings denies the allegations and denies any wrongdoing, and has asserted numerous defenses as to procedure, liability, and damages.

The Court has not decided whether Alondra Hot Wings did anything wrong, but has decided that a class pertaining to the above described allegations is certified for litigation. There is no money available now and no guarantee there will be. However, your legal rights are affected, and you have a choice to make now. Alondra Hot Wings' records indicate you are a class member.

SUMMARY OF YOUR OPTIONS	
Your Legal Rights and Options in this Lawsuit	
Do Nothing -	You may choose to remain in the lawsuit. You will be represented by the plaintiffs and their attorneys, your rights will be determined through their case, and you will be bound by the decisions in the case.
Remain in the Class	By doing nothing, you keep the possibility of getting money that may come from a trial or settlement. But, you give up any rights to sue Alondra Hot Wings separately about the same legal claims in this lawsuit.
	If you do not want to be part of the lawsuit and bound by the decisions, you may ask to be excluded from the lawsuit, by returning the enclosed exclusion form.
Exclude Yourself	If you ask to be excluded and money or benefits are later awarded, you won't share in those. But, you keep any rights to sue Alondra Hot Wings separately about the same legal claims in this lawsuit.
	If you are considering excluding yourself from the class, please note that there may be a risk that any new claims asserted against Alondra Hot Wings may no longer be timely and may be time barred.

## Your Legal Rights Are Affected Even if You Do Not Act. Read This Notice Carefully.

# 1. Why did I get this notice?

Records show that you worked for Alondra Hot Wings at some point since December 16, 2014. This notice explains that the Court has allowed, or "certified," a class action lawsuit that may affect you. You have legal rights and options that you may exercise before the Court holds a trial. The trial is to decide whether the claims being made against Alondra Hot Wings, on your behalf, are true and correct. Judge Carolyn B. Kuhl of the Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles, is overseeing this class action. The lawsuit is known as *ALBINO LUGO-RODRIGUEZ, et al. v. MY WORLD ENTERPRISES, INC., dba ALONDRA HOT WINGS., Case No. BC637677.* 

## 2. What is the lawsuit about?

The lawsuit is about whether Alondra Hot Wings should have reimbursed employees with respect to the "hot schedules" application and with respect to uniform related expenses.

## 3. What is a class action and who is involved?

In a class action lawsuit, one or more people called "Class Representatives" (in this case Albino Lugo-Rodriguez and Elizabeth Villanueva (collectively referred herein as "Plaintiff" or Plaintiffs") sued on behalf of other people who have similar claims. The people together are a "Class" or "Class Members." The person who sued—and all the Class Members—are called the Plaintiffs. The company they sued (in this case *My World Enterprises, Inc., dba Alondra Hot Wings*) is called the Defendant. One court resolves the issues for everyone in the Class— except for those people who choose to exclude themselves from the Class.

### 4. Why is this lawsuit a class action?

The Court decided that this lawsuit can be a class action and move towards a trial because it meets the requirements of California Code of Civil Procedure section 382, which governs class actions in California state courts. Specifically, the Court found that:

- There are people who are or were employed by Alondra Hot Wings who may not have been reimbursed for the purchase of the "hot schedules" application as part of their employment during the relevant period;
- There are people who are or were employed by Alondra Hot Wings who may not have been reimbursed for the costs of purchasing or maintaining their work uniform in the relevant period;
- There are legal questions and facts that are common to each of them;
- Albino Lugo-Rodriguez and Elizabeth Villanueva's claims are typical of the claims of the rest of the Class;
- Albino Lugo-Rodriguez, Elizabeth Villanueva, and the lawyers representing the Class will fairly and adequately represent the Class' interests;
- The common legal questions and facts are more important than questions that affect only individuals; and
- This class action will be more efficient than having many individual lawsuits.

More information about why the Court is allowing this lawsuit to be a class action is in the Court's Order Certifying the Class, which is available at http://www.phoenixclassaction.com/lugo-v-my-world/.

### 5. What is the lawsuit about?

In this lawsuit, the Plaintiff says that Alondra Hot Wings failed to reimburse employees for the purchase of the "hot schedules" application and failed to reimburse employees for the cost and maintenance of their uniform. Plaintiff claims that these costs should have been reimbursed by Alondra Hot Wings. You can read the Plaintiff's Class Action Complaint at http://www.phoenixclassaction.com/lugo-v-my-world/.

### 6. How does Alondra Hot Wings answer?

Alondra Hot Wings denies it did anything wrong and says that it is not legally required to reimburse employees for the cost of the "hot schedules" application or the cost of purchasing or maintaining employee uniforms. Alondra Hot Wings' Answer to the complaint is available at http://www.phoenixclassaction.com/lugo-v-my-world/.

#### 7. Has the Court decided who is right?

The Court has not decided whether Alondra Hot Wings or the Plaintiff is correct. By certifying the case as a class action, the Court is not suggesting that Plaintiffs will win or lose.

### 8. What is the Plaintiff asking for?

The plaintiff is asking for reimbursement to be paid to all Class Members for the cost of the "hot schedules" application and the cost of purchasing or maintaining Alondra Hot Wings uniforms and for the payment of derivative claims related to these allegations. More information about what Plaintiff is seeking is available in the Complaint, which you can read at http://www.phoenixclassaction.com/lugo-v-my-world/.

# 9. Is there money available now?

No money or benefits are available now because the Court has not yet decided whether Alondra Hot Wings did anything wrong, and the two sides have not settled the case. There is no guarantee that money or benefits ever will be obtained. If they are, you will be notified about how to receive a share.

### Who Is in the Class?

### 10. Am I Part of the Class?

The judge decided that all current and former employees of Alondra Hot Wings in California who, at any time since December 16, 2014, who purchased the "hot schedules" application or who paid to purchase or maintain Alondra Hot Wings uniforms are part of the class. Alondra Hot Wings' records indicate you meet this definition.

#### 11. I am not sure if I am included.

If you are not sure if you are included, you can get free help by contacting the lawyers representing the Plaintiffs in this case at the email or phone number listed below.

# 12. Who is the Class Representative?

Plaintiffs Albino Lugo-Rodriguez and Elizabeth Villanueva will represent the Class. They are former employees of Alondra Hot Wings in California who purchased the "hot schedules" application and/or had expenditures related to the purchase or maintenance of uniform items.

## The Lawyers Representing You

## **13. Do I have a lawyer in this case?**

The judge decided that Kevin Mahoney, George Singer and Alexander Perez of the law firm of Mahoney Law Group, APC, of Long Beach California are qualified to represent all Class members. The lawyers are called "Class Counsel." They are experienced in handling similar cases. Their contact information is:

Kevin Mahoney, George Singer, Alexander Perez Mahoney Law Group, APC 249 East Ocean Boulevard Suite 814 Long Beach, CA 90802 (562) 590-5550 www.mahoney-law.net

If you remain in the Class, Class Counsel will represent you. Additional biographical information about the attorneys can be found at the website listed above.

#### 14. Should I get my own lawyer?

You do not need to hire your own lawyer because Class Counsel is working on your behalf. But, if you want your own lawyer, you can get one and you will have to pay that lawyer yourself.

### **15.** How will Class Counsel be paid?

Class Counsel have entered into contingent fee agreements with the Plaintiff. This means Class Counsel are advancing all costs and fees in the case and will be paid only if there is a recovery. If there is no recovery, Class Counsel will not be paid. If Class Counsel gets money or benefits for the Class, they may ask the Court for fee and expenses. If the Court grants Class Counsel's request, the fees and expenses would either be paid separately by Alondra Hot Wings, or would be deducted from money obtained for the Class as a whole.

If you hire your own attorney, you do so at your own expense.

### **Your Rights and Options**

### 16. Do I need to do anything now?

### (a) No, to remain in the Class

To remain in the Class, you do not need to do anything. You will become a Class Member automatically.

### (b) Yes, to exclude yourself from the Class

To exclude yourself from the Class and any recovery, judgment, or settlement that might be reached, send the enclosed request to be excluded to the Class Counsel. The request must be postmarked no later than May 9, 2019. Class Counsel will then file your request to be excluded with the Court.

If your request is not postmarked by the due date, it will not be valid and you will remain in the Class.

If you are considering excluding yourself from the class, please note that there may be a risk that any new claims asserted against Respondent may no longer be timely and may be time barred.

#### 17. What are the risks if I remain in the Class?

If you stay in the Class you will be bound by the decisions of the Court. This means you will not be able to pursue any claim against Alondra Hot Wings on your own for the claims at issue in this case. If the Plaintiffs lose, you will not get any recovery and will not be able to bring a later claim.

### 18. What are the benefits if I remain in the Class?

If you stay in the Class, you do not have to sue Alondra Hot Wings on your own for any claim you may have against Alondra Hot Wings related to the things the Plaintiffs have sued about. If there is a recovery, either by trial or by settlement, you may be entitled to a share of any recovery.

#### **19. Do I have to come to the trial?**

No. You do not have to come to trial. Class Counsel and the Plaintiff will represent you. You are welcome to come at your own expense.

#### 20. Has a trial date been set?

No. No trial date has been set.

# 21. Has the case settled?

No. The parties have not settled the case and no money is available at this time.

# 22. Will I get money after trial or settlement?

If the Plaintiff obtains money or benefits as a result or trial or settlement, you will be notified about how to participate. We do not know how long this will take.

## **Getting More Information**

You can visit the website http://www.phoenixclassaction.com/lugo-v-my-world/ where you can find a copy of this Notice, the Complaint, the Answer to the Complaint, the Order certifying the class, and the Exclusion Form. If you have further questions you may contact Class Counsel, as shown in question 13. <u>Please do not contact the Judge or the Court directly</u>.