

# DEPARTMENT OF LABOR BUREAU OF LABOR STANDARDS 45 STATE HOUSE STATION AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0045

LAURA A. FORTMAN COMMISSIONER

JANET T. MILLS GOVERNOR

WAGE & HOUR DIVISION

MICHAEL ROLAND
DIRECTOR

November 3, 2021

Lucy & Robert Feldkircher D/B/A St. Croix Snack Shack, LLC 144 River Road Calais, ME 04619

RE: Violations of 26 MRS, Inspection #460057 *Certified Mail*: 7015 1520 0001 0962 8683

Dear Lucy and Robert Feldkircher,

When our Inspector, Steven Spencer, visited your place of business on 07/29/2021, the following violations of Maine Labor Law were found:

**26 MRS §621-A Timely and Full Payment of Wages** requires that employees be paid in full, on an established day or date, at regular intervals made known to the employee. The intervals may not exceed 16 days and must include all wages earned to within 8 days of the payment date.

In this case, the employer failed to pay in full, on the established pay date, for work performed during the week of 07/05/2021. The employer ultimately issued a supplemental check to on 09/21/2021, for all outstanding wages owed.

**26 MRS §622 Records** requires that employers keep a true record showing the date and amount paid to each employee. Every employer shall keep a daily record of the time worked by each such employee. Records required to be kept by this section must be accessible to any representative of the department at any reasonable hour.

In this case, the employer did not keep daily time records for \_\_\_\_\_\_. The employer stated that worked 3 hours per day for 5 days during the week of 07/05/2021.

**26 MRS §626-A PENALTIES** Whoever violates any of the provisions of sections 621-A to 623 or section 626, 628, 629 or 629-B is subject to a forfeiture of not less than \$100 nor more than \$500 for each violation. Each employee is counted as a separate violation, each pay cycle.

- 1 violation of §621-A
- 5 violations of §622

**26 MRS §672. Unfair contracts** No employer shall by a special contract with an employee or by any other means exempt himself from the minimum wage and record keeping requirements established in subchapter 3.

In this case, the employer agreed to pay \$10.00 per hour for work performed during the week of 07/05/2021 instead of the requisite \$12.15 per hour.

**26 MRS §671 PENALTIES** Any employer who violates this subchapter shall, upon conviction thereof, be punished by a fine of not less than \$50 nor more than \$200. In the event of the violation of any of the provisions of this subchapter, the Attorney General may institute injunction proceedings in the Superior Court to enjoin further violation thereof.

• 1 violation of §664

**26 MRS §775 Work Permit** requires that an employer obtain an approved Work Permit before allowing a minor under the age of 16 to perform any work.

In this case, the employer allowed approved work permit during the week of 07/05/2021.

**26 MRS §781 PENALTIES** An employer who employs, permits or suffers any minor to be employed or to work in violation of this article or Title 20-A, section 5054 is subject to the following forfeiture or civil penalty, payable to the State and recoverable in a civil action:

- A. For the first violation or a violation not subject to an enhanced sanction under paragraph B or C, a forfeiture or penalty of not less than \$250 nor more than \$5,000;
- B. For a 2nd violation occurring within 3 years of a prior adjudication, a forfeiture or penalty of not less than \$500 nor more than \$5,000; or
- C. For a 3rd and subsequent violation occurring within 3 years of 2 or more prior adjudications, a penalty of not less than \$2,000 nor more than \$10,000.
  - 1 violation of §775

## The total penalty for the above violation(s) is \$900.00.

### Make checks payable to the "Treasurer, State of Maine"

The violations identified above will become a final order within fifteen (15) business days from the day it was received unless you request a penalty discussion or file an appeal (see employer options) within the specified time frame listed above.

#### Employer options (within 15 business days):

If you intend to correct all violations identified and wish to work with the Wage & Hour Division to possibly reduce the penalty amount, you may request a "<u>Penalty Discussion</u>". This discussion will pertain only to the penalty(s) and not the violation(s). All proposed penalties will be stayed until after the penalty discussion.

Or

You may file a formal appeal of any violation or penalty within fifteen (15) days of receipt of this citation. Please be specific as to what violation(s) or penalty you wish to appeal. If a request for a formal appeal is received, the Director will set a time and date for a "hearing". The Director will serve as the hearing officer or may assign the appeal to the Administrative Hearings Division within the Department of Labor. The hearing will be at the headquarters of the Bureau or at a place mutually agreeable to the parties. All proposed penalties will be stayed until after the formal appeal is heard.

As the employer, you must respond in writing to the Director of the Bureau, at the address above, within fifteen (15) business days of receipt of this report stating what option you intend to choose. If no response is received within that time frame you accept all citations and any penalties assessed. The citation will become a final order and payment will be due at that time, made payable to "Treasurer, State of Maine" and mailed to the address at the top of this citation.

We strongly recommend that any correspondence be sent by certified mail. Failure to correct violations may result in additional penalties for each violation that is not corrected.

If you have questions regarding this citation, you may contact the Bureau of Labor Standards, Wage & Hour Division at (207) 623-7900.

#### **Dates to remember:**

Respond in writing, to the Director of the Bureau within fifteen (15) business days of receipt of this citation indicating what option you choose.

Respectfully,

Scott Cotnoir, Director Wage and Hour Division Inspection # 460057