

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA**

_____)	
JULIE A. SU,)	
ACTING SECRETARY OF LABOR,)	
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF LABOR,)	
)	
Plaintiff,)	
)	
v.)	Civil Action No. <u>2:23-CV-04057</u>
)	
BLUE RIDGE HOME CARE INC. and)	
TUNJI OGUNMOLA,)	
)	
)	
Defendants.)	
_____)	

CONSENT JUDGMENT

Plaintiff, Acting Secretary of Labor, United States Department of Labor, hereinafter referred to as “Plaintiff” or “the Acting Secretary,” has filed her Complaint alleging violations of the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938, 29 U.S.C. § 201, et seq. (hereinafter “the Act”). Defendants named above, hereinafter referred as “Defendants” or “Employers,” have appeared by counsel, waive any defense which they may have and hereby agree to the entry of this Consent Judgment without contest. It is, therefore, upon joint motion of the parties and for cause shown:

ORDERED, ADJUDGED, AND DECREED that Defendants, their officers, agents, servants, and all persons acting or claiming to act on their behalf and interest be, and they hereby are, permanently enjoined and restrained from violating the provisions of Sections 6, 7, 11(c), and 15 of the Act, in any manner, specifically:

1. Defendants shall not, contrary to Section 6 of the Act, pay to any of their employees who in any workweek are engaged in commerce or in the production of goods for commerce, or employed in an enterprise engaged in commerce or in the production of goods for commerce, within the meaning of the Act, wages at rates less than those which are now, or which in the future may become, applicable under Sections 6 and 15(a)(2) of the Act.

2. Defendants shall not, contrary to Section 7 of the Act, employ any of their employees including, but not limited to, any of their employees working at 1310 W Roosevelt Blvd, Philadelphia, PA 19140, or at any business location owned, operated, and/or controlled by Defendants, and at any other business location at which their employees perform work, in any workweek when they are engaged in commerce or employed in an enterprise engaged in commerce, within the meaning of the Act, for workweeks longer than the hours now, or which in the future become, applicable under Sections 7 and 15(a)(2) of the Act, unless the said employees receive compensation for their employment in excess of the prescribed hours at a rate equivalent to one and one-half times the regular rates applicable to them.

3. Defendants shall not fail to make, keep, and preserve adequate records of their employees and of the wages, hours, and other conditions and practices of employment maintained by them including, but not limited to, any of their employees working at 1310 W Roosevelt Blvd, Philadelphia, PA, 19140 or at any business location owned, operated, and/or controlled by Defendants,

and at any other business location at which their employees perform work, as prescribed by the Regulations issued pursuant to Section 11(c) and 15(a)(5) of the Act and found at 29 C.F.R. Part 516.

4. Defendants shall not discharge or take any retaliatory action against any of their employees, whether or not directly employed by Defendants, because the employee engages in any of the following activities pursuant to Section 15(a)(3) of the Act:
 - a. Discloses, or threatens to disclose, to a supervisor or to a public agency, any activity, policy, or practice of the Employers or another employer, with whom there is a business relationship, that the employee reasonably believes is in violation of the Act, or a rule or regulation promulgated pursuant to the Act;
 - b. Provides information to, or testifies before, any public agency or entity conducting an investigation, hearing or inquiry into any alleged violation of the Act, or a rule or regulation promulgated pursuant to the Act, by the Employers or another employer with whom there is a business relationship;
 - c. Objects to, or refuses to participate in any activity, policy or practice which the employee reasonably believes is in violation of the Act, or a rule or regulation promulgated pursuant to the Act.

It is further ORDERED, ADJUDGED and DECREED by the Court that:

5. Defendants are enjoined and restrained from withholding gross back wages in the sum total amount of \$64,848.52 and are jointly and severally liable for the payment of \$64,848.52 in liquidated damages, due certain employees and former employees of Defendants set forth and identified in Schedule A, which is attached hereto and incorporated herein¹.

6. Defendants shall pay gross back wages and liquidated damages in the total amount of \$129,697.04, plus interest, for violations of the overtime provisions of the Act by Defendants that occurred during the period of June 14, 2019, through July 14, 2022 (“relevant period”). This amount shall represent the full extent of back wages and liquidated damages owed by Defendants for the relevant period to the employees set forth and identified on the attached Schedule A. It is further agreed that the overtime compensation and liquidated damage payments by the Defendants in the amounts as specified in paragraph 8 below are in the nature of back wages and liquidated damages pursuant to the provisions of the Act.

7. Regarding the matter of the civil money penalty, Defendants have agreed that the amount currently due and payable is \$49,434.00 that they are jointly and severally liable for this amount, that such assessment has become the final order of the Acting Secretary of the Department of Labor, and that they waive any and all rights to appeal or contest such assessment. As such, Defendants shall pay pursuant to Section 16(e) of the Act, a civil money penalty in the amount of \$49,434.00, plus interest, in accordance with the installment agreement referenced in paragraph 8 below. Payment may be made online by ACH transfer, credit card, or debit card by going to <https://www.pay.gov/public/form/start/77734139> or www.pay.gov. Alternatively, payment may be

¹ Defendants initially owed \$114,848.52 in back wages and an equal amount in liquidated damages. Prior to the filing of the Complaint, Defendants paid \$100,000.00 to Plaintiff for employee liquidated damages.

made by certified check, bank check, or money order, payable to “Wage and Hour Division, U.S. Department of Labor,” and mailed to the United States Department of Labor, Wage and Hour Division, Northeast Regional Office, 1835 Market Street, 19th Floor, Mailstop WHD/19 Philadelphia, PA, 19103-2968. The check or money order shall bear the following reference: **Case ID# 196935/1962229**.

8. Defendants shall pay gross back wages and liquidated damages in accordance with the installment agreement, including interest, detailed in Schedule B, which is attached hereto and incorporated herein. Gross back wages and liquidated damages payments made in accordance with the installment agreement shall be made as follows:

- a. For payments related to the back wages and liquidated damages, payments may be made online by ACH transfer, credit card, or debit card by going to <https://www.pay.gov/public/form/start/77689032> or www.pay.gov. Alternatively, payments may be made by a certified check, bank check, or money order made payable to “**Wage and Hour Division-Labor,**” and mailed to:

United States Department of Labor
Wage and Hour Division
Northeast Regional Office
1835 Market Street
19th Floor, Mailstop WHD/19
Philadelphia, PA 19103-2968

The check or money order shall bear the following reference: **Case ID# 196935/1962229**.

b. The Acting Secretary or Secretary of Labor, through the Wage and Hour Division, shall distribute the back wages (less any applicable federal taxes, withholdings, and deductions) and liquidated damages payments to the employees and former employees, or to their estates, as set forth in Schedule A. Schedule A will show for each individual the gross back pay due (subject to legal deductions), and liquidated damages. Any sums not distributed to the employees or former employees on Schedule A, or to their estates, because of inability to locate the proper persons or because of such persons' refusal to accept such sums, shall be deposited with the Treasurer of the United States pursuant to 29 U.S.C § 216(c). Defendants shall remain responsible for all tax payments considered to be the "employer's share," including, but not limited to, FICA.

9. If Defendants fail to make the payments as set forth in Paragraphs 6–7 above, upon notice to the Defendants, the Court shall appoint a Receiver to effectuate all of the terms of this Consent Judgment. In the event a Receiver is appointed:

- a. Defendants shall cooperate with the Receiver in all respects, and shall provide to the Receiver any and all information which the Receiver may require to carry out its appointment and in accordance with the authority given to the Receiver pursuant to applicable law at the time of appointment.
- b. All the expenses of the accountant or Receiver shall be borne solely by the Defendants.
- c. If the Court appoints a Receiver, the Receiver shall serve until the payment of the monetary terms of this Judgment are satisfied.

- d. The Receiver shall have full authority to: collect the Defendants' assets and report his/her findings to the Court and the parties; to redeem and/or liquidate the Defendants' assets and turn over the proceeds to the Acting Secretary or Secretary of Labor; if the asset is a debt that is due, collect it and turn over the proceeds to the Acting Secretary or Secretary of Labor; to analyze all indebtedness and where deemed appropriate seek restructuring; to analyze all transfers of the Defendants' assets; to prevent waste or fraud; and to do all acts and take all measures necessary or proper for the efficient performance of the duties under this Judgment.

10. Within thirty days of the entry of an order approving this Order, Defendants will provide the Wage and Hour Division with the current or last known address, telephone number, and social security number (or individual taxpayer identification number (if either are known)) of each individual identified on the attached Schedule A.

11. Neither Defendants nor anyone on their behalf shall directly or indirectly solicit or accept the return or refusal of any sums paid under this Consent Judgment. Any such amount shall be immediately paid to the Acting Secretary or Secretary of Labor for deposit as above, and Defendants shall have no further obligations with respect to such returned monies. If recovered wages have not been claimed by the employee or the employee's estate within three years of the entry of this Consent Judgment, the Acting Secretary or Secretary of Labor shall deposit such money with the Treasury in accordance with Section 16(c) of the Act.

12. The parties agree that the instant action is deemed to solely cover Defendants' business and operations for the relevant period for all claims raised in the Complaint as a result of the Acting Secretary's investigation. The parties agree that the filing of this action and the provisions of this Judgment shall not, in any way, affect, determine, or prejudice any and all rights of any

person specifically named on Schedule A or the Secretary for any period after July 14, 2022, or any persons, be they current or former employees, not specifically named on Schedule A, insofar as such rights are conferred and reserved to said employees by reason of Section 16(b) of the Act.

13. Defendants agree that they are employers within the meaning of Section 3(d) of the Fair Labor Standards Act, 29 U.S.C. § 203(d).

14. By entering into this Consent Judgment, Plaintiff does not waive his right to conduct future investigations of Defendants under the provisions of the FLSA and to take appropriate enforcement action, including assessment of civil money penalties pursuant to Section 16(e) of the FLSA, with respect to any violations disclosed by such investigations.

15. It is FURTHER ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED that each party shall bear its own fees and other expenses incurred by such party in connection with any stage of this proceeding including, but not limited to, attorney fees which may be available under the Equal Access to Justice Act, as amended.

Date: _____

Chad F. Kenney
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE

Respectfully submitted,

<p>For Plaintiff:</p> <p>Seema Nanda Solicitor of Labor</p> <p>Samantha N. Thomas Regional Solicitor</p> <p>Channah S. Broyde Associate Regional Solicitor</p> <p>Adam F. Welsh Wage and Hour Counsel</p> <p><u>/s/ Edwin Ferguson</u> By: Edwin Ferguson Trial Attorney U.S. Department of Labor Office of the Solicitor, Region III 1835 Market Street Mailstop SOL/22 Philadelphia, PA 19103 (215) 861-5114 (Phone) (215) 861-5162 (Fax) Ferguson.edwin.m@dol.gov</p> <p><i>Attorneys for Plaintiff</i></p> <p>Dated: July 1, 2024</p>	<p>Defendants have appeared by counsel and hereby consent to the entry of this Judgment.</p> <p>For the Employers Blue Ridge Home Care Inc., Tunji Ogunmola.</p> <p><u>Tunji Ogunmola</u> Tunji Ogunmola, authorized to enter into this agreement on behalf of Blue Ridge Home Care Inc.</p> <p><u>Tunji Ogunmola</u> Tunji Ogunmola, authorized to enter into this agreement on behalf of Tunji Ogunmola.</p> <p>As to form and for purposes of submission only (the Undersigned is not a party to the above judgment):</p> <p><u>Nixon Kannah</u> Nixon Kannah Kannah & Lassanah 1500 Market Street West Tower, STE 4000 Email: ntk@kllawyers.com</p> <p><i>Attorney for Defendants</i></p>
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