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IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS OF PHILADELPHIA COUNTY
FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA
TRIAL DIVISION - CIVIL

CHANTEE WILLIAMS and DEIDRE ANDREWS :
Individually, on behalf of themselves and all others :
Similarly situated, :

Plaintiffs, :

v. :

RCI HOSPITALITY HOLDINGS INC. and :
THE END ZONE, INC. t/a CLUB ONYX :
PHILADELPHIA, :

Defendants. :

August Term 2018

No. 2541

Commerce Program

Control Nos. 25051985

DOCKETED

JUN 23 2025

R. POSTELL
COMMERCE PROGRAM

ORDER

AND NOW, this 18th day of June 2025, upon consideration of Class Counsel's Motion pursuant to Pa. R. Civ. P. 1714 to Discontinue this Class Action and the Supplemental Submission filed with the Court in support of the Motion for Discontinuance, it is **ORDERED** that

1. All Counsel and interested Class Members shall appear for a Zoom hearing on the Motion to Discontinue this Class Action on July 30, 2025, at 9:00 a.m.¹ At the Hearing, the Court will consider arguments in favor of discontinuing this Class Action, objections, and will hear argument from any individuals who wish to be heard.

¹ Counsel should use the following link to attend the hearing:
<https://zoom.us/j/6979149035>.



2. The version of the Notice attached to this Order is approved for distribution to the Class Members.² Upon receipt of this Order, Class Counsel shall mail the Notice in substantially the same form as attached to this Order to the Class Members by regular mail.
3. Class Counsel shall file any position of Class Members received with the Court no later than five days before the hearing as a supplement to the Motion to Discontinue.

BY THE COURT:



MICHEAL E. ERDOS, J.

² The version attached hereto has markups made by the Court which are to be adopted and incorporated into the Notice before it is mailed to the Class Counsel.

CHANTEE WILLIAMS, *et al.*

Plaintiffs,

vs.

RCI HOSPITALITY HOLDINGS, INC. *et al.*

Defendants.

COURT OF COMMON PLEAS
FOR PHILADELPHIA COUNTY

AUGUST TERM, 2018

NO. 180802541

NOTICE
Of Class Counsel's Motion to Discontinue
TO: MEMBERS OF THE PLAINTIFF CLASS

You are receiving this Notice because you are a member of the Plaintiff Class in the above case. The case seeks unpaid minimum wages for Class members who worked at Club Onyx in Philadelphia between 2015 and 2018. The central issue in the case is whether you worked as an independent contractor or, as alleged by the five (5) Class representatives, as an employee. Employees, by law, are entitled to payment of a minimum wage for the hours worked. The defendants are The End Zone, Inc. ("TEZ"), the corporation which operated Club Onyx, and its parent company, RCI International Holdings, Inc. ("RCI"). Club Onyx closed in 2018.

After the completion of discovery, including depositions, RCI (but not TEZ) moved for summary judgment contending that it did not exercise control over TEZ's employment practices and therefore should not be held liable. The motion was thoroughly briefed by all counsel. After considering RCI's motion and all the evidence, the Court ruled on December 20, 2024 that the Class's evidence against RCI was insufficient and dismissed RCI as a defendant.

Efforts to settle the litigation through Court mediation failed. The final phase of the case will be a trial against TEZ seeking unpaid minimum wages.

Class Counsel have advised the Court that any ultimate judgment against TEZ will be uncollectible because TEZ has no assets. In light of this, Class Counsel have filed a Motion with the Court to permit the discontinuance of this case. Class Counsel have concluded that the cost and effort of going to trial against TEZ would be wasteful since the Class members would never receive any compensation. Class Counsel have further stated that they have devoted a great deal of time to the litigation over the course of seven (7) years, as well as advancing all costs of the litigation.

The Court has scheduled a hearing on this Motion for July 30, 2025 at 9 a.m. ^{*via Zoom.*} in ~~Courtroom~~ No. 1 in City Hall. At the hearing, Class Counsel will explain their reasons for the Motion. You will have an opportunity to address the Court should you support or oppose the motion. In addition, you may submit a position on the Motion in writing and mailed to Class Counsel no later than July 23, 2025. Class Counsel will forward your submission to the Court. The Court will then decide whether or not to discontinue the case.

Any submission to Class Counsel may be sent to:

** you should use the following link to attend the hearing: https://zoom.us/j/16979149035 if you wish to attend.*

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Case ID: 180802541
Control No.: 25051985

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Additional information, including Class Counsel's Motion and the Court's ruling on summary judgment are available at: www.kohnswift.com. You also can examine and obtain copies of court records from this lawsuit during regular business hours at the Department of Civil Court Records, Room 264, City Hall, Philadelphia, PA 19107.

PLEASE DO NOT CALL OR WRITE THE JUDGE ASSIGNED TO THIS MATTER. THE JUDGE CANNOT ANSWER QUESTIONS CONCERNING THIS LAWSUIT OR THIS NOTICE.

DATED: _____, 2025

~~By Order of the Honorable Michael E. Erdos, Jr.
Court of Common Pleas of Philadelphia County, Pennsylvania~~