



Portfolio Media, Inc. | 111 West 19th Street, 5th floor | New York, NY 10011 | www.law360.com
Phone: +1 646 783 7100 | Fax: +1 646 783 7161 | customerservice@law360.com

Mondelez Global Hit With Class Claims Over OT Pay

By **Carolina Bolado**

Law360 (March 10, 2020, 8:18 PM EDT) -- Mondelez Global LLC was hit Monday with a proposed class action accusing the snack food titan of stiffing sales service representatives of overtime wages for hours they worked doing administrative tasks at home and fielding client calls on weekends.

In a suit filed in the Southern District of Florida, Palm Beach County resident Glenn Benzion says he and other sales service representatives were paid for the work they did going from one grocery store to another checking displays and inventory of Mondelez's brands, but were not paid for the tasks they had to perform once they returned home or for the calls they had to field on the weekends.

Mondelez's practices are a violation of the Fair Labor Standards Act, Benzion said.

"Plaintiff, and all other similarly situated sales service representatives worked a minimum of four hours of overtime each week for which they were not properly compensated at the applicable rate of one-and-one-half times their regular hourly rate," he said.

Benzion, who worked at Mondelez for 20 years before retiring in February, says his job involved servicing the company's accounts with vendors like grocery stores. Each workday, he would have to visit four or five stores in his region to perform quality check controls on the products, inspect inventory and provide assistance and feedback to the merchants, according to the suit.

The company used GPS software to track the sales service representatives' locations and paid them based on the time reflected on the software, according to the suit.

Benzion says that once they clocked out, they were expected to perform one to two hours of additional administrative work at home. But the company paid no more than 2.5 hours per week for any administrative work at home, according to the suit.

He says the representatives were also required to have their cellphones on throughout the weekend to respond to calls from clients and were not paid for that time.

Benzion is seeking to represent a nationwide class of Mondelez employees who worked as sales service representatives in the past three years.

Representatives for the parties did not respond to requests for comment Tuesday.

Benzion is represented by Jordan Richards of Jordan Richards PLLC and Joshua H. Eggnatz and Michael J. Pascucci of Eggnatz Pascucci.

Counsel information for Mondelez was unavailable.

The case is Benzion et al. v. Mondelez Global LLC, case number 0:20-cv-60508, in the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Florida.

--Editing by Amy Rowe.

All Content © 2003-2020, Portfolio Media, Inc.