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Caregivers

Labor Commissioner Uncovers \$1.5 Million in Wage Theft by Fresno Assisted Living Provider and Seeks to Recover Wages for Caregivers

May. 08, 2013

FRESNO, Calif., — California Labor Commissioner Julie A. Su has issued citations totaling more than \$1.6 million to the Bedford Care Group, Inc., an assisted living provider located in Fresno. The Labor Commissioner cited the Bedford Care Group for labor law violations including unpaid minimum wage and overtime, meal and rest break violations, as well as the failure to issue itemized wage statements.

“Workers across all industries in the state should know that they are entitled to pay for all work performed and any employer who pockets the wages of their own workers will be held accountable,” said Christine Baker, Director of the Department of Industrial Relations (DIR). The Labor Commissioner’s Office is a division within DIR.

The Labor Commissioner ordered the Bedford Care Group to pay \$1,398,890 in unpaid overtime, \$17,025 in unpaid minimum wage, and \$95,053 in meal and rest period premiums to eleven workers employed at six of the Bedford Care Group facilities in Fresno and Clovis. The Bedford Care Group, Inc. was also fined \$114,500 in penalties.

“Residential caregivers perform some of the most important work in our communities, providing reliable, compassionate care to those who need it, but they can work very long hours without proper overtime pay,” said Labor Commissioner Su. “These live-in employees were on call and often required to work 24 hours a day and were not paid for all hours worked. This is wage theft, and we will do everything in our power to ensure workers are paid all the wages they have earned.”

The citations were issued after the Labor Commissioner's Office interviewed and

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Industrial Relations' Division of Labor Standards Enforcement, adjudicates wage claims, investigates discrimination and public works complaints and enforces state labor law.

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