# COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS TRIAL COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH

BERKSHIRE, s	s.
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SUPERIOR COURT DEPT. Civil Action No.

LAURA PRATT,
Plaintiff

v.

**COMPLAINT** 

KERRY RAHEB, RENEE HOUSTON, & INDICA LLC d/b/a INDICA CANNABIS Defendants

#### **PARTIES**

- 1. Plaintiff Laura Pratt is an individual with an address of 75 Depot Street, Cheshire, Massachusetts ("Plaintiff").
- 2. Defendant Kerry Raheb is an individual with an address of 1172 Bluestone Road, Bennington, Vermont ("Raheb").
- 3. Defendant Renee Houston is an individual with an address of 1172 Bluestone Road, Bennington, Vermont ("Houston").
- 4. Defendant Indica LLC d/b/a Indica Cannabis is Massachusetts limited liability company with a business address of 127 Columbia Street, Adams, Massachusetts ("Indica" and together with Raheb and Houston, the "Defendants").

#### **BACKGROUND**

- 5. Indica is a cannabis dispensary business located in Adams, Massachusetts.
- 6. Raheb is the owner, founder and chief executive officer of Indica.
- 7. Houston is the chief operations officer of Indica.
- 8. On information and belief, Raheb and Houston are married.
- 9. Raheb and Houston both control, direct, formulate, and determine the financial affairs of Indica.

- 10. On February 27, 2023 the Plaintiff entered into a written contract with Indica and Raheb for a salary of \$65,000 per year with a \$5,000 guaranteed bonus for the first quarter of Indica's first fiscal year. *See* Employment Contract attached as Exhibit A.
- 11. The Plaintiff worked for the Indica from January 1, 2023 through June 11, 2023, and from June 22, 2023 to July 20, 2023.
- 12. The Plaintiff worked full time for Indica as an inventory manager and store manager.
- 13. Indica and Raheb never paid the Plaintiff the agreed upon salary.
- 14. At times the Plaintiff worked over 40 hours per week for the Defendants.
- 15. Between January and April 2023, Plaintiff was given intermittent cash payments totaling \$3,135.
- 16. Between May 16, 2023 and August 2023, Plaintiff received payroll checks totaling \$2,184.14.
- 17. Copies of \$1,872.98 worth of these payroll checks are attached hereto as Exhibit B.
- 18. One of those checks was for \$300, which was cashed by the Plaintiff and given to Raheb at his request.
- 19. The Plaintiff received no additional wage payments from the Defendants.
- 20. The Plaintiff is owed her unpaid wages from her work for the Defendants.
- 21. The Plaintiff filed a wage complaint with the Massachusetts Office of the Attorney General Fair Labor Division (the "Attorney General"), in which she alleged that the Defendants committed wage violations in connection with Plaintiff's employment with the Defendants.
- 22. On or about July 26, 2023, pursuant to G.L. c. 149 § 150, the Attorney General assented in writing to the Plaintiff's request to institute a civil action and prosecute the wage complaint on her own behalf.
- 23. All conditions precedent to this lawsuit have been met.

#### COUNT I VIOLATION OF THE MASSACHUSETTS NON PAYMENT OF WAGES STATUTE (G.L. c. 149 § 148)

- 24. The Plaintiff restates all previous paragraphs.
- 25. The Defendants have not paid the Plaintiff pursuant to the requirements of G.L. c. 149

25. Due to the Defendants' actions and inactions, the Plaintiff has suffered damages.

#### COUNT II VIOLATION OF THE MASSACHUSETTS MINIMUM WAGE LAW (G.L. c. 151 § 1)

- 26. The Plaintiff restates all previous paragraphs.
- 27. In rendering services to the Defendants, the Plaintiff was not paid according to the requirements of G.L. c. 151 § 1.
- 28. Due to the Defendants' actions and inactions, the Plaintiff has suffered damages.

#### JURY TRIAL DEMAND

The Plaintiff demands a trial by jury on all issues and counts so triable.

#### PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, the Plaintiff moves this Court to grant a Judgment for her against the Defendants and the following relief:

- 1. Money damages as permitted by law;
- 2. Treble damages pursuant to G.L., c. 149;
- 3. Attorney's Fees pursuant to G.L., c. 149;
- 4. Court costs and interest;
- 5. Equitable relief; and
- 6. Such other relief as the Court deems fair and just.

[Signature page to follow]

LAURA PRATT, PLAINTIFF

By her attorneys,

CAMPOLI, MONTELEONE & MOZIAN, P.C.

Matthew Mozian, Esquire (BBO #: 669114)

mmozian@campolilaw.com

Nicholas M. Zaricki, Esquire (BBO #: 709852)

nzaricki@campolilaw.com 27 Willis St., P.O. Box 1384

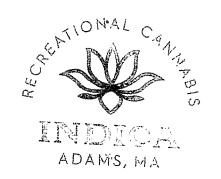
Pittsfield, MA 01202 (413) 443-6485

Dated: October 12, 2023

Pittsfield, Massachusetts

## **EXHIBIT A**

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# **Compensation Package**

Laura Anne Pratt

### **FULL TIME**

As Store Manager & Inventory Manager of INDICA LLC (Adams, MA)

### Salary

Year (1): \$65,000.00 annually

Year (2): \$85,000.00 annually

Year (3-5): \$105,000.00 annually

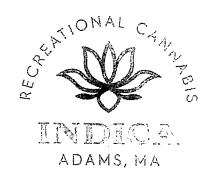
### **Performance Bonus**

Year (1): \$5,000.00 potential per fiscal quarter based on pre-determined sales projections. Fiscal quarter (1) of the Company's Fiscal year (1) is an automatic bonus per agreement. \$20,000.00 max per fiscal year 1.

Year (2): **\$5,500.00** potential per fiscal quarter based on pre-determined sales projections. **\$22,00.00** max for fiscal year 2.

Year (3-5): **\$6,000.00** potential per fiscal quarter based on pre-determined sales projections. **\$24,000.00** max for fiscal years 3-5.

<sup>\*</sup>Additional Compensation



Laura Anne Pratt

Kerry P. Raheb

**Owner Indica LLC** 

2/27/23

Date

2/27/23

Date

## **EXHIBIT B**

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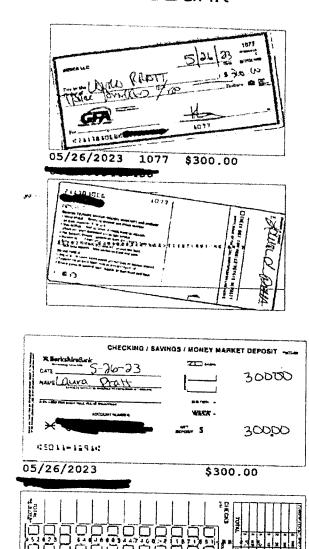
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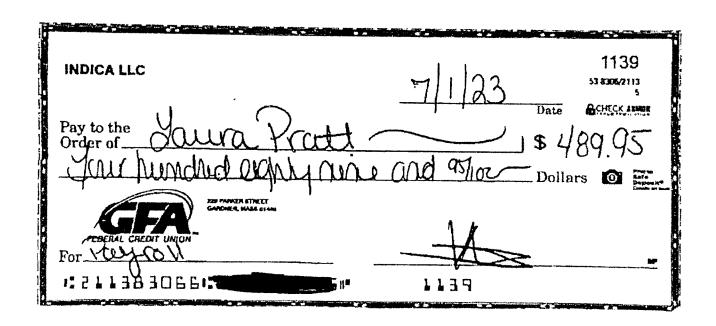
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