Workplace Immigration Report[™]

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Compensation

Long Beach Hilton Workers to Receive \$130,000



LOS ANGELES—Employees at the Hilton Long Beach and Executive Meeting Center reached a \$130,000 settlement with the hotel owner over claims that for years they were denied meal and rest breaks, an immigrant rights legal advocacy group that represented the workers announced Nov. 27.

The claims were filed and heard before the California Division of Labor Standards Enforcement (DLSE), a unit of the state labor commissioner. The settlement covers 18 workers at the Hilton Long Beach, who said they faced pressure from supervisors to work through meals and to skip rest breaks to keep up with heavy workloads, according to the UC Irvine School of Law—Immigrant Rights Clinic and Legal Aid Society—Employment Law Center.

California law requires employers to establish practices that do not discourage workers from exercising their right to meal and rest periods.

"We are glad the matter has been amicably settled with an understanding of no fault by any parties," Ken Melinie, director of human resources at the hotel, said in a statement. "The Hilton Long Beach has always complied with California's meal and rest period requirements."

Text of the settlement agreement is available at http://op.bna.com/dlrcases.nsf/r?Open=lfrs-92mnrv.