

[Home](#) / Labor Investigation: Underpaid NJ Workers to Get Nearly \$111,000 in Back Wages

# Labor Investigation: Underpaid NJ Workers to Get Nearly \$111,000 in Back Wages

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 7, 2019

**TRENTON** – Some 42 food service employees will receive nearly \$111,000 in back pay following an investigation into wage violations by the New Jersey Department of Labor and Workforce Development (NJDOL).

NJDOL's Division of Wage & Hour Compliance investigated after an employee filed a wage complaint against the employer, In Thyme Food Services L.L.C., operating as Berry Creek Café in three locations: Moonachie, Secaucus, and Edison.

The investigation found employees working at multiple locations but not being paid overtime for working more than 40 hours per week, and some who were paid a portion of their wages off the books. A self-audit by the company showed it owed \$110,603.38 to the underpaid workers, ranging from a high of \$18,898.34 to a low of \$15.

"When New Jersey workers are denied overtime or paid off the books, they are deprived of fair wages. Our society improves when employers play by the rules, and treat every employee fairly," Labor Commissioner Robert Asaro-Angelo said.

The company also was assessed \$11,060.34 in fees and \$20,000 in penalties.

"Employees deserve to be paid every penny they earn," said Assistant Commissioner of the Division of Wage and Hour Compliance Joseph Petrecca. "When businesses comply with our state's wage and hour laws, both employers and employees benefit."

For more information on New Jersey's Wage and Hour Laws, please visit [myworkrights.nj.gov](http://myworkrights.nj.gov).



**NJ Labor Department**  
@NJLaborDept

NJ adds jobs in July; 7th consecutive months of gains. [nj.gov/labor/lwdhome/...](http://nj.gov/labor/lwdhome/)

Aug 19, 2021



**NJ Labor Department**  
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As of the latest reporting, more than \$33 billion in unemployment benefits have been sent to Garden State workers. With federal benefits set to expire on September 4, we encourage everyone to check your email and visit [MyUnemployment.nj.gov](http://MyUnemployment.nj.gov) for updates and available resources.



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Home

File or Access Your Claim

Temporary Disability Insurance

Family Leave Insurance

Maternity Leave

Unemployment Insurance

Social Security Disability

Worker Protections

Your Rights at Work

Workers' Compensation

Safety and Health

Wage & Hour Compliance

Paid Sick Leave

## Career Support

Career Services

## Employer Services

Employer Accounts

Layoffs and Closings

Wage & Hour Compliance

Business Support

Apprenticeship

Industry Partnerships

Employer Handbook

Employer Poster Packet

Equal Pay Act Reporting

## Research & Information

Labor Market Information

Grant Opportunities

Legal Notices

Press Releases

## About Us

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NJ Home

Services A to Z

Departments/Agencies

FAQs

Contact Us

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Department of Labor

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