EXHIBIT 2

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GEGHÁØÓÓÁGÏ ÁEGYEÎ ÁÚT SOÞ ŐÁÔU WÞVŸ ÙWÚÒÜŒJÜÁÔUWÜVÁÔŠÒÜS ÒËZ(ŠÒÖ ÔOTUÒÁNÁGHTGTEGEG TEÁUÒCE

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON IN AND FOR KING COUNTY

DAN KWATE, on his own behalf and on the behalf of all others similarly situated,

Plaintiff,

v.

REECE CONSTRUCTION COMPANY, a For-Profit Corporation; and STEVEN REECE and the marital community thereof;

Defendants.

CLASS ACTION

NO. 23-2-02124-0 SEA

PLAINTIFF'S COMPLAINT FOR **DAMAGES**

JURY TRIAL REQUESTED

Plaintiff, individually and on behalf of all others similarly situated, by and through his counsel, for his Complaint against Defendants hereby states and alleges as follows:

I. NATURE OF THE ACTION

- 1.1 Defendant REECE CONSTRUCTION COMPANY ("Reece") is in the business of construction in Washington State. Defendant STEVEN REECE ("Mr. Reece) is the President and owner of Defendant REECE CONSTRUCTION COMPANY and is responsible for the payment of wages to Reece's employees. Reece and Mr. Reece are collectively referred to as "Defendants."
- 1.2 During the past several years, Reece has employed drivers based out of its facility or facilities in Marysville and Arlington, Washington. These drivers' primary job duty is to drive

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vehicles, including grinder and dump trucks, upon public and private construction projects. On information and belief, Defendants have employed more than 40 such employees in Washington State, including in the City of Seattle, as set forth below, in the last three years.

- 1.3 As set forth more fully below, Defendants have engaged in a systemic policy and practice of denying rest breaks and meal breaks—and thereby wages—to their non-exempt employees. Defendants have failed to compensate their employees for missed rest breaks and time worked during purported meal breaks.
- 1.4 Defendants have also engaged in a common practice of failing to pay Plaintiff and Class members for all hours worked.
- 1.5 Defendants have also engaged in a common practice of failing to pay their employees at the proper rate of pay. This includes but is not limited to failing to pay the appropriate prevailing wage rate for work performed on public works projects and failing to pay overtime at the proper overtime rate of pay.
- 1.6 Defendants' deliberate failure to pay employees their earned wages violates Washington law and City of Seattle ordinances.
- 1.7 Plaintiff and Class members are current and former non-exempt driver employees who have been employed by Defendants in the State of Washington and who have been victimized by the Defendants' unlawful compensation practices. This lawsuit is brought as a class action under state law to recover unpaid wages owed to the individual Plaintiff and all other similarly situated employees.

II. JURISDICTION, VENUE, AND PARTIES

2.1 Venue is proper in King County because Defendants transact business in King County and some of the specific acts alleged herein occurred in King County, including the City of Seattle.

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2.2 Defendants are within the jurisdiction of this Court. Defendants do business in the State of Washington and have operations in Seattle and King County, Washington.

- 2.3 Defendant Reece is a foreign for-profit corporation, registered in the State of Washington. It has obtained the benefits of the laws of the State of Washington and the Washington retail and labor markets. It has also obtained the benefits of City of Seattle retail and labor markets.
- 2.4 Defendant Mr. Reece is an owner and officer of Defendant Reece, which employed Plaintiff and proposed Class members Washington State, during the relevant period as set forth below. On information and belief, Defendant Mr. Reece was an "employer" of Plaintiff and the proposed Class as defined by the wage laws at issue here.
- 2.5 On information and belief, all of Defendant Mr. Reece's alleged acts were done in pursuit of financial gain, or livelihood, for himself individually and on behalf of and for the benefit of his marital community.
- 2.6 Named Plaintiff Dan Kwate performed all relevant work in the State of Washington and was a non-exempt driver employee of Defendants in Washington State from approximately April 2021 to approximately October 2022. Plaintiff Kwate worked for Defendants in the City of Seattle more than two hours per week.
- 2.7 There is no CAFA jurisdiction. Federal jurisdiction is inappropriate under the Class Action Fairness Act, 28 U.S.C. § 1332(d)(4)(A), because more than two-thirds of the members of the proposed class in the aggregate are citizens of Washington; Defendants are parties from whom significant relief is sought by members of the plaintiff Class; the alleged conduct of Defendants forms a significant basis for the claims asserted by the proposed plaintiff Class; Defendant Mr. Reece is a citizen of Washington; the principal injuries resulting from the alleged conduct were incurred in Washington; and, during the three-year period preceding the filing of this action, no

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other class action has been filed asserting same or similar factual allegations against the Defendants on behalf of the same or other persons. Alternatively, federal jurisdiction is inappropriate under the Class Action Fairness Act, 28 U.S.C. § 1332 (d)(4)(B), because two-thirds or more of the members of the proposed plaintiff Class in the aggregate, and Defendant Mr. Reece, are citizens of the state of Washington.

III. CLASS ACTION ALLEGATIONS

- 3.1 Plaintiff and the Class reallege and incorporate by reference each and every allegation set forth in the preceding paragraphs.
- 3.2 Plaintiff brings this case as a class action pursuant to Washington Civil Rule 23 on behalf of a Class consisting of:
- 3.3 All current and former employees of Reece Construction Company, who at any time from February 2, 2020 through 120 days before trial worked as drivers for the company while operating or residing in the State of Washington.
- Excluded from this Class are Defendants, any entity in which Defendants have a controlling interest or which has controlling interest in Defendants, and Defendants' legal representatives, assignees, and successors. Also excluded are the Judge(s) to whom this case is assigned and any member of the Judge's immediate family.
- 3.5 Plaintiff believes there are at least 40 current and former employees in the Class.
- 3.6 Plaintiff's claims are typical of the claims of the members of the Class because he is a driver employee who, like the members of the Class, sustained damages arising out of Defendants' failure to pay wages for missed meal and rest breaks; failure to pay for all hours worked, including overtime; and failure to pay at the proper rate for the type of work performed.

- 3.7 Plaintiff will fairly and adequately protect the interests of the Class members. Plaintiff has retained counsel who are competent and experienced in complex and class action litigation, including employment law.
- 3.8 Common questions of law and fact exist as to Plaintiff and all members of the Class and predominate over any questions solely affecting individual members of the Class. Among the questions of law and fact common to Plaintiff and the Class are:
- **a.** Whether Defendants engaged in a common course of failing to provide Class members with a ten-minute rest break for every four hours of work;
- **b.** Whether Defendants have engaged in a common course of requiring Class members to work more than three consecutive hours without a rest break;
- **c.** Whether Defendants have engaged in a common course of failing to ensure Class members have taken the rest breaks to which they are entitled;
- **d.** Whether Defendants have engaged in a common course of failing to pay Class members an additional 10 minutes of compensation for each missed rest break;
- **e.** Whether Defendants have engaged in a common course of failing to provide Class members with a 30-minute meal break for every five hours of work;
- **f.** Whether Defendants have engaged in a common course of failing to ensure that Class members have taken the meal breaks to which they are entitled;
- **g.** Whether Defendants have engaged in a common course of failing to pay Class members an additional 30 minutes of compensation for each missed meal break;
- **h.** Whether Defendants have engaged in a common course of failing to pay Class members for all hours worked;

- i. Whether Defendants have engaged in a common course of failing to pay Class members all overtime compensation to which they are entitled;
- **j.** Whether Defendants have engaged in a common course of failing to pay their employees prevailing wage rates for all work performed on public works projects.
 - **k.** Whether Defendants violated RCW 39.12 et seq. as to Plaintiff and the Class;
 - **l.** Whether Defendants violated RCW 49.12 et seq. as to Plaintiff and the Class;
 - m. Whether Defendants violated RCW 49.28 et seq. as to Plaintiff and the Class;
 - **n.** Whether Defendants violated RCW 49.46.090 as to Plaintiff and the Class;
 - **o.** Whether Defendants violated RCW 49.46.130 as to Plaintiff and the Class;
 - **p.** Whether Defendants violated RCW 49.48.010 as to Plaintiff and the Class;
 - **q.** Whether Defendants violated RCW 49.52.050 as to Plaintiff and the Class;
 - r. Whether Defendants violated WAC 296-126-092 as to Plaintiff and the Class;
 - s. Whether Defendants violated WAC 296-126-040 as to Plaintiff and the Class;
 - t. Whether Defendants violated WAC 296-128-010 as to Plaintiff and the Class;
 - **u.** Whether Defendants violated WAC 296-128-020 as to Plaintiff and the Class;
 - v. Whether Defendants violated WAC 296-127 et seq. as to Plaintiff and the Class;
- w. Whether Defendants violated SMC 14.19 et seq. and 14.20 et seq. as to Plaintiff and the Class; and
- **x.** The nature and extent of Class-wide injury and the measure of compensation for such injury.
- 3.9 Class action treatment is superior to the alternatives for the fair and efficient adjudication of the controversy alleged herein. Class action treatment will permit a large number of similarly-situated persons to prosecute their modest, purely economic, common claims in a single forum

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simultaneously, efficiently, and without duplication of effort and expense that numerous individual actions would entail. No difficulties are likely to be encountered in the management of this class action that would preclude its maintenance as a class action, and no superior alternative exists for the fair and efficient adjudication of this controversy. The Class is readily identifiable from Defendants' records.

- 3.10 A class action is superior to other available methods for the fair and efficient adjudication of this controversy since joinder of all matters is impractical. Furthermore, the amounts at stake for many of the Class members, while substantial to them, are not great enough to hire an attorney to prosecute individual suits against Defendants.
- 3.11 Without a class action, Defendants will likely continue its course of illegal action which will cause further damage to Plaintiff and the Class.

IV. SUMMARY OF CLASS ACTION FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS

- 4.1 Plaintiff and the Class reallege and incorporate by reference each and every allegation set forth in the preceding paragraphs.
- 4.2 Since at least February 2020, Defendants have engaged in a common course of failing to provide Plaintiff and the Class members with a paid ten-minute rest break for every four hours of work.
- 4.3 Since at least February 2020, Plaintiff and other Class members have routinely performed work for Defendants in the City of Seattle in excess of two hours per week.
- 4.4 Since at least February 2020, Defendants have engaged in a common course of requiring or permitting Plaintiff and Class members to work more than three consecutive hours without a rest break.

- 4.5 Since at least February 2020, Defendants have engaged in a common course of failing to ensure Plaintiff and Class members have taken the rest breaks to which they are entitled.
- 4.6 Since at least February 2020, Defendants have engaged in a common course of failing to provide Plaintiff and Class members with 10 minutes of additional pay for each missed rest break.
- 4.7 Since at least February 2020, Defendants have engaged in a common course of failing to provide Plaintiff and Class members with a 30-minute meal break for every five hours of work.
- 4.8 Since at least February 2020, Defendants have engaged in a common course of requiring or permitting Plaintiff and Class members to work more than five consecutive hours without a meal break.
- 4.9 Since at least February 2020, Defendants have engaged in a common course of failing to ensure Plaintiff and Class members have taken the meal breaks to which they are entitled.
- 4.10 Since at least February 2020, Defendants have engaged in a common course of failing to provide Plaintiff and Class members with 30 minutes of additional pay for each missed meal break.
- 4.11 Since at least February 2020, Defendants have engaged in a common course of failing to pay Plaintiff and Class members for all work performed by not accurately recording and paying for all hours worked.
- 4.12 As a result of Defendants' common course of failing to provide proper rest and meal breaks to Plaintiff and Class members, and failing to pay Plaintiff and Class members for all work performed, Defendants have failed to maintain accurate records of hours worked by Plaintiff and Class members.
- 4.13 Since at least February 2020, Defendants have engaged in a common course of failing to pay Plaintiff and Class members all overtime compensation to which they are entitled, including overtime compensation for prevailing wage work pursuant to applicable laws.

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4.14 S	Since at least February 2020, Defendants have engaged in a common course of failing to
pay Plair	ntiff and Class members applicable prevailing wage rates for all work performed on a public
works pr	roject, including, but not limited to, time spent travelling to and from public works projects
and perfe	forming other tasks in furtherance of the public works projects.

- 4.15 As a result, Plaintiff and the Class have been deprived of wages owed to them under the prevailing wage laws of Washington State.
- 4.16 Defendants have had actual or constructive knowledge of the facts set forth in Paragraphs 25 through 39.

V. FIRST CLAIM FOR RELIEF

(Violations of RCW 49.12.020 and WAC 296-126-092— Failure to Provide Rest Periods) On Behalf of Plaintiff and the Class

- 5.1 Plaintiff and the Class reallege and incorporate by reference each and every allegation set forth in the preceding paragraphs.
- 5.2 RCW 49.12.010 provides that '[t]he welfare of the state of Washington demands that all employees be protected from conditions of labor which have a pernicious effect on their health. The state of Washington, therefore, exercising herein its police and sovereign power declares that inadequate wages and unsanitary conditions of labor exert such pernicious effect."
- 5.3 RCW 49.12.020 provides that "[i]t shall be unlawful to employ any person in any industry or occupation within the state of Washington under conditions of labor detrimental to their health."
- 5.4 RCW 49.12.020 provides that "[i]t shall be unlawful to employ any person in any industry or occupation within the state of Washington under conditions of labor detrimental to their health."
- 5.5 Under RCW 49.12.005 and WAC 296-126-002, "conditions of labor" "means and includes the conditions of rest and meal periods" for employees.

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VII. THIRD CLAIM FOR RELIEF

(Minimum Wage Act: RCW 49.46 et seq.; RCW 49.48.010; RCW 49.28 et seq.; WAC 296-127-022; Seattle Municipal Code ("SMC") 14.19 et seq., & SMC 14.20 et seq.) On Behalf of Plaintiff and the Class

- 7.1 Plaintiff and the Class reallege and incorporate by reference each and every allegation set forth in the preceding paragraphs.
- 7.2 Under RCW 49.46.090, employers must pay employees all wages to which they are entitled under the Washington Minimum Wage Act ("WMWA"), RCW 49.46 et seq. If the employer fails to do so, RCW 49.46.090 requires that the employer pay the employees the full amount of the statutory minimum wage rate less any amount actually paid to the employees.
- 7.3 RCW 49.46.130 provides that no employer shall employ any employee for a workweek longer than 40 hours unless the employee receives compensation for his or her employment in excess of the hours above specified at a rate not less than one and half times the regular rate at which he or she is employed.
- 7.4 RCW 49.48.010 requires employers to pay all wages owed to employees after termination of employment.
- 7.5 RCW 49.28 et seq. requires employers to pay employees on public works projects overtime compensation after eight hours of work, except when the employees sign a valid agreement to be paid overtime after working 10 hours per day, four days per week.
- 7.6 SMC 14.19.035 provides for a minimum wage for employees of employers that employ 500 or fewer employees who perform more than two hours of work within the City of Seattle during a two-week period.
- Under SMC 14.20.020, an employer shall pay all compensation owed to an employee by 7.7 reason of employment on an established regular pay day at no longer than monthly payment intervals.

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7.8 Defendants failed to pay Plaintiff and Class members for all time worked. Defendants engaged in a common course of conduct of failing to provide Plaintiff and Class members with 10 minutes of additional pay for each missed rest break and with 30 minutes of additional pay for each missed meal break.

- 7.9 Defendants also failed to pay Plaintiff and Class members for all time worked by failing to record and pay all such work.
- 7.10 Defendants also failed to pay Plaintiff and Class members all overtime compensation for which they are owed, whether under prevailing wage laws or otherwise.
- 7.11 By the actions alleged above, Defendants violated the provisions of RCW 49.46.090, RCW 49.46.130, RCW 49.48.010, RCW 49.28 et seq., WAC 296-127-022, SMC 14.19 et seq., and SMC 14.20 et seq. by failing to pay wages to Plaintiff and the Class for missed rest and meal breaks and for other work performed which was not accurately recorded, including when the missed breaks and work occurred during workweeks when Plaintiff and the Class worked in excess of 40 hours that week, and when Plaintiff and the Class worked in excess of eight or 10 hours per day, as applicable, on public works projects.
- 7.12 As a result of Defendants' unlawful acts, Plaintiff and the Class have been deprived of compensation in amounts to be determined at trial, and pursuant to RCW 49.46, RCW 49.48, SMC 14.19.110, and SMC 14.20.090 are entitled to recover such amounts, including interest thereon, liquidated damages, attorneys' fees, and costs.

VIII. FOURTH CLAIM FOR RELIEF

(Prevailing Wage Violation) On Behalf of Plaintiff and the Class

8.1 Plaintiff and the Class reallege and incorporate by reference each and every allegation set forth in the preceding paragraphs.

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IX. FIFTH CLAIM FOR RELIEF

(Willful Refusal to Pay Wages: RCW 49.52.050) On Behalf of Plaintiff and the Class

- 9.1 Plaintiff and the Class reallege and incorporate by reference each and every allegation set forth in the preceding paragraphs.
- 9.2 RCW 49.52.050(2) provides that any employer who "willfully and with intent to deprive the employee of any part of his wages, pays any employee a lower wage than the wage such employer is obligated to pay such employee by any statute, ordinance, or contract" is guilty of a misdemeanor.
- 9.3 RCW 49.52.070 provides that any employer who violates the foregoing statute shall be liable in a civil action for twice the amount of wages withheld, together with costs of suit and reasonable attorneys' fees.
- 9.4 Defendants' alleged unlawful actions against Plaintiff and the Class, as set forth above, were committed willfully and with intent to deprive Plaintiff and the Class of part of their wages.
- 9.5 As such, based on the above allegations, Defendants violated the provisions of RCW 49.52.050.
- Because of Defendants' unlawful acts, Plaintiff and the Class have been deprived of 9.6 compensation in amounts to be determined at trial, and pursuant to RCW 49.52.070 are entitled to recovery exemplary damages of twice such amount of unpaid compensation, including interest thereon, attorneys' fees, and costs.

X. PRAYER FOR RELIEF

Wherefore, Plaintiff, on his own behalf and on behalf of the members of the Class, pray for judgment against Defendants as follows:

A. Certify the proposed Plaintiff Class;

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1	B. Declare that Defendants are financially responsible for notifying all Class members of
2	Defendants' wage and hour violations;
3	C. Appoint Plaintiff Dan Kwate as Class Representative;
4	D. Appoint the undersigned counsel as Class Counsel;
5	E. Declare that the actions complained of herein violate Washington law and administrative
7	codes;
8	F. Award Plaintiff and the Class compensatory and exemplary damages;
9	G. Award Plaintiff and the Class attorneys' fees and costs, as allowed by law;
10	H. Award Plaintiff and the Class pre-judgment and post-judgment interest, as provided by law;
11	and
12 13	I. Grant such other and further relief as this Court deems necessary.
14	DATED this 27th days of Estamana 2022
15	DATED this 27 th day of February, 2023.
16	REKHI & WOLK, P.S.
17	By: s/ Gregory A. Wolk
18	Gregory A Wolk, WSBA No. 28946 Hardeep S. Rekhi, WSBA No. 34579
19	Cameron K. Mease, WSBA No. 59550 529 Warren Ave N., Suite 201
20	Seattle, WA 98109
21	Telephone: (206) 388-5887 Facsimile: (206) 577-3924
22	E-Mail: greg@rekhiwolk.com
23	hardeep@rekhiwolk.com cameron@rekhiwolk.com
24	
25	Attorneys for Plaintiff
26	