

NATURE OF THE ACTION

This is a sexual harassment and retaliation action brought by the United States Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, ("the Commission") under Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended, to correct unlawful employment pattern and practices on the basis of sex and to provide appropriate relief to the Charging Party, Jennifer Gould ("Ms. Gould") and a class of similarly situated individuals who were adversely affected by such pattern and

practices. The Commission alleges Ms. Gould and other similarly situated individuals were sexually harassed or subjected to sex based harassment or unlawful pattern and practices during their employment with Defendant, Scolari Warehouse Markets, Inc., A Nevada Corporation and d/b/a Scolari Food & Drug Company ("Defendant Employers"). Charging Party, Ms. Gould, and other similarly situated individuals were subjected to a hostile work environment perpetuated by Defendant supervisor(s).

The Commission also alleges Ms. Gould and other similarly situated individuals who had complained of the harassment by supervisors were subjected to retaliation in the form of demotion, loss of wages, further harassment, discipline or discharge.

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

- 1. Jurisdiction of this Court is invoked pursuant to 28 U.S.C. sections 451, 1331, 1337, 1343 and 1345. This action is authorized and instituted pursuant to section §§706(f)(1)and (3); and §§707 of Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended, 42 U.S.C. §2000e-5(f)(1) and (3); 42 U.S.C. §2000e-6(f)1 and (3) and and pursuant to § 102 of the Civil Rights Act of 1991, 42 U.S.C. §§1981A.
- 2. The employment practices alleged herein to be unlawful were committed within the jurisdiction of the United States District Court for the State of Nevada.
- 3. Prior to institution of this lawsuit, the Commission's representatives attempted to eliminate the unlawful employment pattern and practices alleged below and to effect voluntary compliance with Title VII through informal methods of conciliation, conference and persuasion within the meaning of section §§706(f)(1) and (3) of Title VII, 42 U.S. C., §§2000e-5(f)(1) and (3). All

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conditions precedent to the institution of this lawsuit have been fulfilled.

PARTIES

- 4. Plaintiff Commission is an agency of the United States of America charged with the administration, interpretation and enforcement of Title VII, and is expressly authorized to bring this action under §§706(f)(1) and (3) of Title VII, 42 U.S.C., §§ 2000e-5(f)(1) and (3) and §§707 (f)(1), 42 U.S.C. §2000e-6(f)1 and (3)
- 5. At all relevant times, "Defendant Employers," have continuously been and are now doing business in the State of Nevada, County of Washoe, and City of Reno, Nevada.
- 6. Plaintiff is ignorant of the true names and capacities of "Defendant Employers," sued as DOES 1 through 10, inclusively, and therefore Plaintiff sue said "Defendant Employers" by such fictitious names. Plaintiff reserves the right to amend the complaint to name the DOE "Defendant Employers" individually or corporately as they become known. Plaintiff alleges that each of the "Defendant Employers" named as DOES was in some manner responsible for the acts and omissions alleged herein and Plaintiff will amend the complaint to allege such responsibility when same shall have been ascertained by Plaintiff.
- 7. It is further alleged on information and belief that the named and unnamed defendants in the complaint are mere alter egos of the "Defendant Employer". The remaining defendants are properly named in the complaint.
- 8. All of the acts and failures to act alleged herein were duly performed by and attributable to "Defendant Employer", each acting as a successor, agent, employee or under the direction and control of the others, except as specifically alleged otherwise. Said acts and failures to act were within the scope of such agency and/or employment, and each "Defendant Employer" participated in,

approved and/or ratified the unlawful acts and omissions by other "Defendant Employer" complained of herein. Whenever and wherever reference to any act in this Complaint to any act by a defendant employer or "Defendant Employer", such allegations and reference shall also be deemed to mean the acts and failures to act of each "Defendant Employers" acting individually, jointly and/or severally.

9. At all relevant times, "Defendant Employers" has continuously been an employer engaged in an industry affecting commerce within the meaning of §§ 701 (b), (g) and (h) of Title VII, 42 U.S.C., §§ 2000e-1(b), (g) and (h) and §§ 11(b), (g), and (h).

STATEMENT OF CLAIMS

- engaged in a pattern and practice of unlawful employment practices at its facility in Reno, Nevada in violation of §§706(f)(1) and (3) and §§707 of Title VII, 42 U.S. C., §§2000e-5(f)(1) and (3) and 42 U.S.C. §2000e-6(f)1 and (3). The "Defendant Employers" caused verbal harassment to be directed at Ms. Gould and other similarly situated individual women that impacted the terms and conditions of their employment and created a hostile working environment at "Defendant Employers." These practices also included the retaliation against and termination of Ms. Gould and other similarly situated individuals for having complained about the work environment. Once "Defendant Employers" became aware of the unlawful sexual harassment and sex based harassment it failed to take prompt remedial action intended to eliminate the harassment, a violation of §§706 and §§707 of Title VII, 42 U.S.C. §2000e-2e-5(f)(1) and (3) and 42 U.S.C. §2000e-6(f)1 and (3).
 - 11. The impact of the aforementioned conduct deprived Ms. Gould and

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- other similarly situated individuals of equal employment opportunities and to otherwise adversely impacted their employment status because of their sex and also in retaliation for opposing discriminatory practices or engaging in a protected activity that resulted in adverse employment action.
- 12. The unlawful employment practices complained of above were and are willful within the meaning of §§706(f)(1) and (3) and §§707 of Title VII, 42 U.S. C., §§2000e-5(f)(1) and (3) and 42 U.S.C. §2000e-6(f)1 and (3).
- 13. The unlawful employment pattern and practices complained of above were intentional and caused Ms. Gould and other similarly situated individuals to suffer emotional distress.
- 14. "Defendant Employers" has acted with malice or reckless indifference to the federally protected rights of Ms. Gould and other similarly situated individuals by subjecting them to harassment consisting of sexually charged conduct, derogatory statements, obscene and vulgar language. Women were openly asked by supervisor(s) to "show [them] their tits," and to "suck some cock" as well as subjected to other derogatory and obscene statements. When Charging party complained to "Defendant Employer" about the harassment she and other similar situated individuals were being subjected to, she was terminated. The Charging party and other similarly situated individuals were also subject to retaliation for opposing discrimination or engaging in a protected activity resulting in an adverse employment action that harmed them.

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

Wherefore, the Commission respectfully requests that this Court:

A. Grant a permanent injunction enjoining "Defendant Employer," its officers, successors, assigns and all persons in active concert or participation with them, from engaging in any employment practices that discriminate on the basis

of sex or from engaging in unlawful retaliation;

- B. Grant a permanent injunction enjoining "Defendant Employer," their officers, successors, assigns and all persons in active concert or participation with them, from engaging in any employment practice which discriminates on the basis of sex;
- C. Order "Defendant Employer" to institute and carry out policies, practices and programs which provide equal employment opportunities for females which eradicate the effects of their past and present unlawful employment practices;
- D. Grant a judgment requiring "Defendant Employer" to pay Ms. Gould and other similarly situated individuals appropriate back pay, front pay, compensatory damages and benefits in an amount to be determined at trial including prejudgment interest;
- E. Order "Defendant Employer" to make Ms. Gould and other similarly situated individuals whole by providing affirmative relief necessary to eradicate the effects of its unlawful practices including, but not limited to, payment of compensatory damages to Ms. Gould and other similarly situated individuals and/or rightful place employment;
- F. Order "Defendant Employer" to pay Ms. Gould and other similarly situated individuals punitive damages in an amount to be determined at trial;
 - G. Award the Commission its costs in this action; and
- H. Grant such further relief as the Court deems necessary and proper in the public interest.

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JURY DEMAND The Commission requests a jury trial on all questions of fact raised by its 2 Complaint. 3 Respectfully Submitted By: 4 5 U.S. EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY COMMISSION 1801 "L" Street, N.W. 7 Washington, D.C. 20507 8 Ronald Cooper, General Counsel 9 James Lee, Deputy General Counsel Gwendolyn Reams, Associate General Counsel 11 March 29, 2007 By: Anna Y. Park, Regional Attorney Gregory L. McClinton, Trial Attorney Victor Viramontes, Trial Attorney 12 13 U.S. EQUAL EMPLOYMENT 14 OPPORTUNITY COMMISSION 255 East Temple Street, 4th Floor Los Angeles, California 90012 (213)894-1053 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26

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PROOF OF SERVICE VIA ELECTRONIC FILING SYSTEM

I am, and was at the time the herein mentioned mailing took place, a citizen of the United States, over the age of eighteen (18) years and not a party to the above-entitled cause.

I am employed in the Legal Unit of the Los Angeles District Office of the United States Equal Employment Opportunity Commission.

My business address is Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, Los Angeles District Office, 255 East Temple Street, Fourth Floor, Los Angeles, CA 90012.

On the date that this declaration was executed, as shown below, I served the foregoing **SECOND AMENDED COMPLAINT - CIVIL RIGHTS - SEX HARASSMENT - RETALIATION** via the Case Management/Electronic Case Filing

(CM/ECF) system at Los Angeles, County of Los Angeles, California to:

Ray Artiano STUTZ, ARTIANO, SHINOFF & HOLTZ 2488 Historic Decatur Road, Suite 200 San Diego, CA 92101-7906

Miranda Du, Esq. MCDONALD CARANO WILSON, LLP 100 West Liberty Street, 10th Floor Reno, NV 89501

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct. Executed on March 29, 2007, at Los Angeles, California.

BRIAN A. WOODARD