

Philadelphia Hospitals Sued for Back Lunch Pay for Workers

by KYW's Al Novack

A law firm that specializes in employment litigation is bringing a class-action lawsuit on behalf of hundreds of hourly workers at seven major health care companies in the Philadelphia area.

Named in the lawsuit are Jefferson Health System, Temple University Health System, University of Pennsylvania Health System, Mercy Health System, Albert Einstein Healthcare Network, Aria Health System, and Abington Memorial Hospital.

The lawsuit claims that employees in these health care systems are not paid for lunch even though they work during their lunch hours.

Thomas Nelson is an attorney at the Rochester, NY-based firm of Thomas & Solomon, which is bringing the lawsuit:

"(It's a) class action because these hospitals have been taking away the employees' pay for years. What they do is take away time from the people's lunches, even though these people are working very hard during their lunches. It's costing the employees millions and millions of dollars. We've filed similar lawsuits in Pennsylvania and in other states, and have been very successful with them."

The lawsuit is being filed in both federal and state court.

Lawyers say that for the employees to be part of the class action and share in any payments, they must register at the web site hospitalovertime.com. More information is available by calling 877-272-4066, toll free.

A complete list of facilities affected by the lawsuit, provided by the law firm, is below:

Abington Memorial Hospital

Abington Memorial Hospital

Abington Memorial Hospital – Schilling Campus

Abington Memorial Hospital – Warminster Campus (formerly Warminster Hospital)

Lansdale Hospital (formerly Central Montgomery Medical Center)

Albert Einstein Healthcare Network

Albert Einstein Medical Center

Elkins Park Hospital

Germantown Hospital and Community Health Services

*Belmont Center for Comprehensive Treatment
Moss Rehabilitation Center*

Aria Health System (formerly Frankford Hospitals)

*Aria Health – Frankford Campus
Aria Health – Torresdale Campus
Aria Health – Bucks County Campus*

Jefferson Health System

*Thomas Jefferson University Hospital
Jefferson Hospital for Neuroscience
Methodist Hospital
Lankenau Hospital
Bryn Mawr Hospital
Bryn Mawr Rehabilitation Hospital
Paoli Hospital
Riddle Memorial Hospital
Magee Rehabilitation Hospital*

Mercy Health System

*Mercy Catholic Medical Center of Southeastern Pennsylvania
Mercy Fitzgerald Hospital
Mercy Philadelphia Hospital
Mercy Suburban Hospital
Nazareth Hospital
St. Agnes Medical Center*

Temple University Health System

*Temple University Hospital
Episcopal Hospital
Jeanes Hospital
Northeastern Hospital (now Northeastern Ambulatory Care Center)*

University of Pennsylvania Health System

*Penn Medicine
University of Pennsylvania Medical Center – Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania
Presbyterian Medical Center
Pennsylvania Hospital*