



## **Wethersfield Employer Ordered to Pay \$28,000 to Employees; Receives Suspended Sentence and Probation**

WETHERSFIELD, May 11, 2015 – An employer that owes more than \$28,000 in wages to his employees, has been sentenced to a two-year suspended sentence, five years of probation, and is required to make full restitution by May 30, 2015.

Alan Klavins, owner of Capital Construction Services located at 325 Fox Hill Road Wethersfield, was first investigated by the Labor Department’s Wage and Workplace Standards Division in January 2014 after seven employees filed complaints for non-payment of wages for work performed while at the company.

According to Gary K. Pechie, director of the agency’s wage division, the investigation revealed \$20,420 was owed to the seven employees and Klavins agreed to pay the owed wages. However, approximately six months later, after wages were still owed, an arrest warrant was issued for his arrest in June 2014. Under the sentencing agreement, and as the result of additional complaints, Klavins now owes the former employees \$28,295 that the court has required he pay back by the end of this month. Under Connecticut law, non-payment of wages is a Class D felony with penalties involving fines and imprisonment.

“This is a case where our investigators worked with the employer and gave him every opportunity to pay his employees the appropriate amount for the work they had done,” Pechie noted. “These employees reported to work and depended upon their wages to support themselves and their families. We have a responsibility to uphold state regulations and protect our workforce, and Mr. Klavins showed a blatant disregard for the law and the welfare of his employees.”

Pechie added that in addition to enforcement, the wage division places a high priority on outreach and education and he urged employers with questions about wage laws to contact the unit at 860-263-6790 or visit the agency website at [www.ct.gov/dol](http://www.ct.gov/dol) and click on “wage and workplace standards” for guidelines. He also noted employees who felt they were not paid the appropriate amount, or not paid at all, can download a complaint form located on the Division’s site.

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