

Court Approves \$2.25 Million Settlement in Wage and Hour Class Action Against Sport Chalet

A total class of more than 10,300 current and former hourly employees who worked for Sport Chalet stores across California between July 6, 2000, and September 30, 2005, will share in a \$2.25 million settlement.

Compiled from newswires

Los Angeles, CA April 12, 2006 -- More than 10,300 current and former hourly employees who worked for Sport Chalet stores across California between July 6, 2000, and September 30, 2005, will share in a \$2.25 million settlement approved yesterday by Los Angeles Retired Superior Court Judge Diane Wayne. The case, entitled *Kenneth Henderson v. Sport Chalet* (Case No. BC318081) was filed in Los Angeles Superior Court in July 2004.

"We are extremely proud to have obtained such a substantial recovery for our class members," said Anthony N. Luti of The Luti Law Firm, which – along with Stephen A. Swedlow of Chicago-based Swedlow & Associates – represents the plaintiff class. "As a plaintiff's attorney, it's a great feeling to help a group of people get paid for the long hours they worked for their employer."

According to the Complaint, Sport Chalet improperly failed to compensate hourly employees for missed meal and rest breaks, and charged those employees for uniforms and uniform maintenance, even though the Company was prohibited from doing so under the California Labor Code. "For many of these employees, this was their first job. Some didn't know they were entitled to compensation for missed meal and rest breaks, not to mention reimbursement for their uniforms, and others were too afraid of losing their first job to speak up. Sport Chalet took advantage and did not compensate these employees appropriately," stated Luti. Sport Chalet will pay up to \$2.2 million for various lost wages and penalties, as well as to upgrade lunchrooms, improve its labor software system and provide uniforms to employees.