

KC Law Firm Sues Pizza Hut Class Action Suit Comes Against OP Franchisee Over Compensation

LENEXA, Kan. -- A Kansas City law firm has filed a class action lawsuit against a Pizza Hut franchisee on behalf of delivery drivers, claiming they are not being adequately compensated for the use of their own car.

The lawsuit is against NPC International of Overland Park, the largest Pizza Hut franchisee in the nation. The company operates more than 1,110 stores in 28 states.

The suit claims NPC violated the "Fair Labor Standards Act by failure to pay minimum wage to delivery drivers by their refusal to adequately reimburse drivers for automobile costs and other job related expenses."

One of the attorneys from Stueve Siegel Hanson, the law firm handling the case, said NPC owns several dozen Pizza Hut's locations in the metro.

The attorney also said Pizza Hut charges for delivery, but the delivery drivers don't get any of that money. He also said the delivery charge reduces the amount of tips customers hand out.

Pizza Hut employees declined to comment, but a pizza delivery driver from Mafia Mike's in Lenexa said compensation is an important part of how they make enough money to survive.

"When you're driving around you can average 75 to 100 miles a day and if you're not making good compensation, that's wear and tear on your car, gas and everything, it's just not worth it if you're not covering that," driver Jeremy Foster said.

Foster said Mafia Mike's gives their delivery drivers an hourly wage higher than minimum wage to compensate them for using their own car.

The attorney representing delivery drivers wants Pizza Hut to double the amount owed to the thousands of drivers involved with the lawsuit.

Attempts to reach NPC were unsuccessful.