Juan Perez v. Alta-Dena Certified Dairy LLC et al

Doc 40

Plaintiff Juan Perez's ("Plaintiff's") Motion To Remand To State Court and Defendant Alta-Dena Dairy, LLC's ("Defendant's") Motion to Dismiss came on regularly for hearing on Monday, September 16, 2013 at 10:00 a.m. before the Honorable Manuel L. Real in Courtroom 8 of the above-captioned Court, located at 312 North Spring Street, Los Angeles, California. This Court has considered the pleadings and files in this action, the papers and documents filed on behalf of the parties herein, and the oral argument presented at the hearing of this matter.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, ADJUDGED, AND DECREED that: Plaintiff's Motion For Remand To State Court is GRANTED.

Defendant has failed to establish its burden that jurisdiction pursuant to U.S.C. 28 § 1332(a) ("Section 1332(a)") is proper because it has failed to establish the requisite amount in controversy. In calculating the amount in controversy, the claims of putative class members for penalties pursuant to the California Private Attorney General Act ("PAGA") cannot be aggregated to establish the amount in controversy for purposes of diversity jurisdiction under Section 1332(a). *Urbino v. Orkin Svcs. of Cal., Inc.*, --- F.3d ----, 2013 WL 4055615 at \*1 (9<sup>th</sup> Cir. 2013). Absent such aggregation, at best Defendant here has established \$44,000 in controversy. Thus, jurisdiction does not lie pursuant to Section 1332(a).

Defendant has also failed to establish that jurisdiction pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1332(d) (the Class Action Fairness Act of 2005 ("CAFA")) is proper because CAFA requires at least one non-diverse Defendant. Here, however, all parties are California citizens. Plaintiff is a California citizen. Defendant is a limited liability company with its principal place of business in California. Thus, Defendant is also a California citizen under CAFA. 28 U.S.C. § 1332(d)(10); *Ferrell v. Express Check Advance of SC LLC*, 591 F.3d 698, 700 (4<sup>th</sup> Cir. 2010). Thus, CAFA jurisdiction does not lie.

The Court orders the entire action to be REMANDED to state court pursuant to

| 1  | 28 U.S.C. § 1447(c).  |
|----|---|
| 2  | The Court further denies the Defendant's motion to dismiss as moot.   |
| 3  | IT IS SO ORDERED.   |
| 4  |   |
| 5  | DATED: Sept. 19, 2013   |
| 6  | N - 0   |
| 7  | 460   |
| 8  | Honorable Manuel L. Real<br>Judge of the United States District Court |
| 9  | Judge of the United States District Court                             |
| 10 |   |
| 11 |   |
| 12 |   |
| 13 |   |
| 14 |   |
| 15 |   |
| 16 |   |
| 17 |   |
| 18 |   |
| 19 |   |
| 20 |   |
| 21 |   |
| 22 |   |
| 23 |   |
| 24 |   |
| 25 |   |
| 26 |   |
| 27 |   |
| 28 |   |