UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT EASTERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

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PORFIRIO VALENZUELA-MATEO, and all other similarly situated employees past and present,

Plaintiffs,

-against-

ORDER 14-CV-0518(JS)(AKT)

PRESTIGE KITCHEN DESIGN, INC., and MICHAEL AMAR,

Defendants.

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APPEARANCES

For Plaintiff: Salua V. Baida, Esq.

Community Legal Foundation, Inc.

41-44 44th Street, Suite C-6

Sunnyside, NY 11104

For Defendants: No appearance

SEYBERT, District Judge:

On January 23, 2014, plaintiff Porfirio Valenzuela-Mateo ("Plaintiff") filed a Complaint on behalf of himself and all other similarly situated employees, past and present, pursuant to the Fair Labor Standards Act ("FLSA"), 29 U.S.C. §§ 201 et seq. against Prestige Kitchen Design, Inc. and Michael Amar (together, "Defendants"). Plaintiff's Complaint was accompanied by an application to proceed in forma pauperis.

Upon review of Plaintiff's declaration in support of his application to proceed <u>in forma pauperis</u>, the Court finds that Plaintiff's financial status qualifies him to commence this action without prepayment of the filing fees. <u>See</u> 28 U.S.C. § 1915(a)(1). Accordingly, Plaintiff's application to proceed <u>in forma pauperis</u>

is GRANTED. Given Plaintiff's intention to serve and file an Amended Complaint (see April 25, 2014, Civil Conference Minute Order, Tomlinson, M.J.), service will not be undertaken by the United States Marshal Service.

SO ORDERED.

/s/ JOANNA SEYBERT
Joanna Seybert, U.S.D.J.

Dated: May <u>12</u>, 2014 Central Islip, New York