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THE HONORABLE JAMES L. ROBERT

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON AT SEATTLE

GEORGE JOHNSON,

Plaintiff,

vs.

DONALD P. WANG IN PERSONAM; THE  
F/V THOR, OFFICIAL NUMBER 224713,  
HER ENGINES, MACHINERY,  
APPURTENANCES AND CARGO, IN REM,

Defendants.

Case No. 2:16-cv-01738-JLR

**PARTIES' STIPULATED PRETRIAL  
ORDER**

**JURISDICTION**

Jurisdiction is vested in this Court by virtue of 28 U.S.C. § 1333.

**CLAIMS AND DEFENSES**

The plaintiff will pursue at trial the following claims: Quantum meruit wages under the general maritime law, and to prevent unjust enrichment to the defendants; double wage penalties and attorney fees for the failure to pay wages, without any bona fide dispute over plaintiff's entitlement; punitive damages for the willful and wanton refusal to pay wages; prejudgment interest.

PLAINTIFF'S PROPOSED PRETRIAL ORDER - 1  
CASE NO. 2:16-cv-01738-JLR

**JOHN W. MERRIAM**  
4005 20th Avenue West, Suite 110  
Seattle, Washington 98199  
T (206) 729-5252 ♦ F (206) 729-1012

1 1. Because Defendant's counterclaim was terminated on 8/22/2017, Defendant will  
2 pursue the following affirmative defenses:

3 a. Lack of consideration

4 b. Fraud

5 c. Unclean hands

6 **ADMITTED FACTS**

7 The following facts are admitted by the parties:

8 1. The F/V Thor is a 62-foot wooden halibut schooner of 70 gross tons, built 1925 in  
9 Tacoma.

10 2. Defendant Wang purchased the F/V Thor on July 12, 2016 for \$25,000.

11 3. Defendant Wang applied for and was issued a commercial fishing license for the  
12 F/V Thor with George Johnson's name on it.

13 4. Throughout July and August of 2016, Defendant Wang and plaintiff Johnson  
14 engaged in discussions regarding George Johnson skipping the F/V Thor for the 2016 Tuna  
15 Season, however the two could not agree on terms.

16 **ISSUES OF LAW**

17 The following are issues of law to be determined by the Court:

18 1. Is plaintiff entitled to quantum meruit wages if Defendant breached an oral  
19 contract of employment?

20 2. Is the plaintiff entitled to wages at a higher rate than \$15/hour if Defendant  
21 breached his promise to let plaintiff fish the 2016 tuna season?

22 3. If the Court finds that there was no contract of employment, is Plaintiff entitled to  
23 quantum meruit wages to prevent unjust enrichment to Defendant?

1 4. Are punitive damages available to commercial fishermen asserting wage claims?  
2  
3

4 **EXPERT WITNESSES**

5 On Behalf of Plaintiff: None.

6 On Behalf of Defendant: None  
7

8 **OTHER WITNESSES**

9 **On Behalf of Plaintiff:**

- 10 1. Plaintiff himself  
11 2. Elwood Latta  
12 3. Frank Price  
13 4. Steven Alexander  
14 5. Rick Beze  
15 6. Ray Forsman  
16 7. Officer Matthew Huston  
17 8. Alexander Oldfin  
18 9. Aaron Vantleven  
19 10. Donald Wang  
20

21 **On Behalf of Defendant:**

- 22 1. Tom Riedinger  
23 2. Donald Wang

1 3. Defendant reserves the right to call each/all of Plaintiff's witnesses as his own

2 **EXHIBITS**

3 Authenticity stipulated, admissibility disputed:

4 **Plaintiff's Exhibits:**

- 5 1. Certificate of Documentation for F/V Thor.
- 6 2. General Index or Abstract of Title for F/V Thor.
- 7 3. Primary Operator License (for plaintiff) from the Washington Department of Fish  
8 and Wildlife; and a detail of expenditures made by plaintiff for the F/V Thor.
- 9 4. Pacific Highly Migratory Species Vessel Permit for F/V Thor and Donald P.  
10 Wang from National Marine Fisheries Service, issued July 28, 2016
- 11 5. June – September calendar pages for days and hours worked by plaintiff on the  
12 F/V Thor.
- 13 6. Partial List of work performed on the F/V Thor by plaintiff.
- 14 7. Transcript of Donald P. Wang deposition
- 15 8. Port of Seattle Police Department Report and Supplement Report # 2016-41751

16 **Defendant's Exhibits:**

- 17 1. United States Coast Guard MISLE Incident Investigation Report For MISLE Case  
18 Number: 472191.

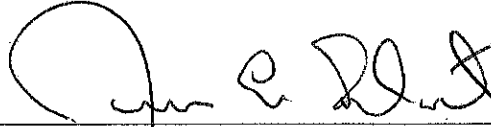
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20 **ACTION BY THE COURT**

- 21 (a) This case is scheduled for trial without a jury on August 13, 2018.
- 22 (b) Trial briefs shall be submitted to the Court on or before August 6, 2018.
- 23 (c) *Each party is allocated 3.75 hours for trial.*



1 THIS ORDER has been approved by the parties by evidenced by the signatures of their  
2 counsel. THIS ORDER shall control the subsequent course of the action unless modified by  
3 subsequent order. THIS ORDER shall not be amended except by Order of the Court pursuant to  
4 agreement of the parties or to prevent manifest injustice.

5 DATED this 30th day of July, 2018.

6   
7 \_\_\_\_\_  
8 JAMES L. ROBART  
9 United States District Judge

10  
11  
12 Approved as to Form:

13 LAW OFFICE OF JOHN MERRIAM and  
14 Neil Lindquist

15 By: /s/ John W. Merriam  
16 John W. Merriam, WSBA #12749  
17 4005 20th Avenue West, Suite 110  
18 Seattle, WA 98199  
19 Telephone: (206) 729-5252  
20 Fax: (206) 729-1012  
21 Email: [john@merriam-maritimelaw.com](mailto:john@merriam-maritimelaw.com)  
22 *Attorney for Plaintiff*

By: /s/ Donald P. Wang  
Donald P. Wang  
392 Loma Drive, Suite 201  
Los Angeles, CA 90017  
Telephone: (213) 465-5553  
Email: [skyway420@live.com](mailto:skyway420@live.com)  
*Pro Se Defendant*