



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: October 6, 2023

Sun Pacific Cooperative Farming, Inc. Pays Farmworkers \$27,603 to Settle Unfair Labor Practice Charges

Contact: Yesenia De Luna, Acting Regional Director: (707) 757-6708
Yesenia.deluna@alrb.ca.gov

BAKERSFIELD, Calif. – Sun Pacific Cooperative Farming, Inc. (“Sun Pacific”), located in Bakersfield, California, has paid \$27,603 in lost wages to three agricultural workers to resolve charges filed with the California Agricultural Labor Relations Board (“ALRB”), claiming that the workers lost their jobs because they complained about unpaid wages and unsafe working conditions.

Three farmworkers filed charges with the ALRB against Sun Pacific in March and October 2022, alleging that the company retaliated and discriminated against workers who complained together about their working conditions, including non-payment of overtime, uncompensated time, rates of pay, lack of shade and not receiving breaks on time. The ALRB’s investigation also revealed additional worker complaints about dirty restrooms.

In a settlement agreement with the ALRB executed on August 24, 2023, Sun Pacific agreed to pay the workers \$27,603 for lost wages and other damages. The company also agreed to respect the right of farmworkers to join together and speak up to seek improvements to working conditions without retaliation. As agreed, ALRB agents will go to Sun Pacific’s worksites to read a Notice to all agricultural workers about their rights under the Agricultural Labor Relations Act (“ALRA”). This Notice will be posted at the ranches for 75 days and mailed to current and former employees.

The ALRB enforces the ALRA, which states that “it is the policy of the State of California to encourage and protect the right of agricultural employees to full freedom of association, self-organization, and designation of representatives of their own choosing, to negotiate the terms and conditions of their employment, and to be free from the interference, restraint, or coercion of employers of labor, or their agents, in the designation of such representatives of in self-organization or in other concerted activities for the purpose of collective bargaining or other mutual aid or protection.”

News Release – ALRB
October 6, 2023
Page 2

The ALRB is headquartered in Sacramento and maintains field offices in Santa Rosa, Salinas, Oxnard, Visalia, and Indio. Those wishing to access ALRB services may call any ALRB office including the Visalia Office at (559) 627-0995, or a statewide toll-free phone number, (800) 449-3699. More information is available at www.alrb.ca.gov.

###
