Office of the General Counsel

ALRB AGRICULTURAL LABOR RELATIONS BOARD

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NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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D'Arrigo Bros. Co. of California Pays $155,073.45 to Five Former Employees and Offers Rehire to Four of them to settle Unfair Labor Practice Charges

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SALINAS, Calif. – The California Agricultural Labor Relations Board (ALRB) today announced the resolution of six unfair labor practice charges against D'Arrigo Bros. Co. of California, a vegetable grower located in Salinas, California. D'Arrigo Bros. Co. of California will pay $155,073.45 to five of its former irrigators and tractor drivers to resolve unfair labor practice charges alleging it retaliated against the workers for speaking up about favoritism, lack of promotions, unfair treatment of workers, and for signing a petition seeking improvements to how the foreman treated them. The alleged retaliation included promotion denials, position reassignments, discipline and termination of the workers' employment.

In addition to paying $155,073.45 in lost wages, D'Arrigo Bros. Co. of California offered four of the workers reinstatement. The Company also agreed to respect the right of farmworkers to join together and speak up to seek improvements to working conditions without retaliation. ALRB agents will go to D'Arrigo Bros. Co. of California's worksites to read a Notice to agricultural workers about their rights under the ALRA. This Notice will be posted at the ranches for 60 days and mailed to 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 or in self-organization or in other concerted activities for the purpose of collective bargaining or other mutual aid or protection."

The ALRB is headquartered in Sacramento and maintains field offices in Salinas, Santa Maria, Santa Rosa, Oxnard, Visalia, and Indio. Those wishing to access ALRB services may call any ALRB office including the Salinas Office at (831) 769-8031, or a statewide toll-free phone number, (800) 449-3699. More information is available at www.alrb.ca.gov.

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