

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS
COUNTY DEPARTMENT, CHANCERY DIVISION**

Velasco v. Belmont Groceries, LLC, Case No. 2023-CH-01077

IF YOU USED A HAND-SCANNING TIMECLOCK WHILE WORKING FOR BELMONT GROCERIES, LLC D/B/A RICH'S FRESH MARKET AT ANY TIME FROM FEBRUARY 2, 2018 TO AUGUST 1, 2022, YOU MAY BE ENTITLED TO A CASH PAYMENT FROM A CLASS-ACTION SETTLEMENT.

This is an official court notice. You are not being sued. This is not an ad for a lawyer.

A settlement has been reached in a class-action between **Belmont Groceries, LLC d/b/a Rich's Fresh Market** ("Rich's Fresh Market") and some of its current and former employees in Illinois. The lawsuit claims that Rich's Fresh Market violated an Illinois law called the Biometric Information Privacy Act ("BIPA") by collecting workers' biometrics through timeclocks in Illinois without complying with the law's requirements. Rich's Fresh Market denies any wrongdoing and says that it has not violated any laws. The settlement does not establish who is right or wrong, but rather is a compromise to end the lawsuit and avoid the uncertainties and expenses that come with continuing in court. The lawsuit is called *Velasco v. Belmont Groceries, LLC*, Case No. 2023-CH-01077, and is pending in the Circuit Court of Cook County, Illinois, County Department, Chancery Division. Please read this notice carefully. Your legal rights are affected whether or not you act.

For complete information, visit www.BelmontBIPALawsuit.com or call 1-877-873-7145.

Who is included in the Settlement Class? Our records indicate that you may be included in the Settlement Class. The Settlement Class includes all individuals who used a hand-scanning timeclock while working for Rich's Fresh Market at any time from February 2, 2018 to August 1, 2022. Some exceptions apply.

What does the settlement provide? Rich's Fresh Market has agreed to create a \$430,000 Settlement Fund. If you're eligible and the Court approves the settlement, you will receive approximately \$320.95. All litigation costs, settlement expenses, and legal fees will be separately paid from the settlement fund.

How do I get my payment? Class members will have a settlement check automatically mailed to them at their last-known address. You can request to update your address on the "Contact" page of the settlement website, located at www.BelmontBIPASettlement.com, or by calling the settlement's toll-free phone number, 1-877-873-7145.

What are my rights and options? You can do nothing, object to any settlement terms, or exclude yourself from the settlement. If you do nothing and you are a member of the Settlement Class, you will receive a settlement payment, and you won't be able to sue Rich's Fresh Market in the future for any of the claims addressed in the settlement. If you exclude yourself, you won't get a payment, but you'll keep your right to sue Rich's Fresh Market regarding the issues covered by the settlement. You must contact the Settlement Administrator by mail to exclude yourself. You can also object to the settlement if you disagree with any of its terms. For instructions and a complete list of requirements regarding the submission of an exclusion or objection, please see FAQ #s 15 and 18 in the long form notice available at www.BelmontBIPALawsuit.com or by calling 1-877-873-7145. ***All Requests for Exclusion and Objections must be submitted by 11:59 p.m. CT on March 14, 2025.***

Do I have a lawyer? Yes. The Court has appointed J. Dominick Larry from the law firm Nick Larry Law LLC. They represent you and the other Settlement Class Members. The lawyer will request to be paid from the total amount that Rich's Fresh Market agreed to pay to the class members. Class Counsel has agreed to seek no more than one-third of the \$430,000 fund, or \$143,333.33, in attorneys' fees, plus \$1,804.17 in costs. You can hire your own lawyer, but you'll need to pay that lawyer's legal fees if you do. The Court has also chosen Tina Velasco—a class member like you—to represent the Settlement Class.

When will the Court approve the settlement? The Court will hold a final approval hearing on April 24, 2025 at 10:30 a.m. CT before the Honorable Clare J. Quish, by Zoom teleconference, using the following credentials: meeting ID: 953 7174 9534; password: 253498; telephonic dial-in: 312-626-6799, and in-person at Courtroom 2301 of the Richard J. Daley Center, 50 W. Washington St., Chicago, Illinois 60602. The Court will hear objections, determine if the settlement is fair, and consider Class Counsel's request for fees of up to one-third of the Settlement Fund and expenses of up to \$1,804.17 and an incentive award to Plaintiff Velasco of \$5,000, a copy of which will be posted on the settlement website.

For more information, visit www.BelmontBIPALawsuit.com or call 1-877-873-7145.