

Andrea J. Hall
91 Newell Pond Rd
Greenfield, MA 01301
(413)773-0763

City Council
City of Northampton
210 Main St #18
Northampton, MA 01060

July 1, 2016

RE: Wage Theft

Dear Sir and Madame,

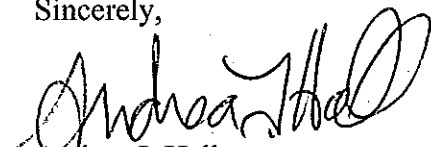
I have been hearing on the news recently that you are addressing the issue of wage theft, and penning policies on dealing with it. I wanted to give you another business to add to your list, if you proceed with sanctions.

In 2007 I was working as the Office Manager for Somatic Systems Institute on Masonic Street in Northampton. When money started to get tight, my paycheck bounced. Promises were made by the owner, Steven Aronstein, that things would straighten out quickly. I continued to work for 5 weeks without a pay check before I forced him to lay me off. Two more weeks without income before unemployment kicked in. My now ex-husband and I struggled to get by, and our marriage suffered. There were more promises from Mr. Aronstein, but nothing happened. I called the Attorney General and they filed papers against him. Eventually they put a lien on his house for the \$3456 he owes me. Nine years later I have not seen a cent from him, though he continues to do business in Northampton.

His wife is a prominent local pediatrician, Dr. Diana Johansson. The mortgage on their house has been paid in full. I do not foresee any point at which they will refinance or sell their home, so the lien does not provide motivation for him to pay me the money that I worked for. This is not a matter of unpaid overtime, this is non-payment of wages for hours worked.

I have enclosed a copy of the lien, but if you need any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me. As a divorcee, I am struggling financially, and could really use the money that is owed to me. Thank you for your work on behalf of workers.

Sincerely,


Andrea J. Hall

Commonwealth of Massachusetts



NOTICE OF MASSACHUSETTS TAX LIEN

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Recorded: 06/27/2008 10:42 AM

Pursuant to the provisions of Section 50 of Chapter 62C of the General Laws, notice is hereby given that penalties have been assessed against the following-named employer which remain unpaid, and that the amount, together with interest, is a tax lien in favor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts pursuant to G.L. c.149, §27C(b)(7) on upon all property and rights to property belonging to said employer.

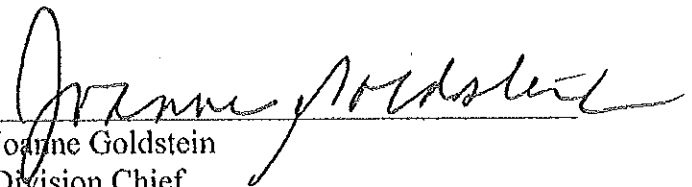
Name:	Steven R. Aronstein	Company:	Somatic Systems, Inc.
Address:	42 Clark Street Florence, MA 01062	Address:	
SS#:	xxx-xx-0161	ID#:	27-0043459

Date of Lien: 6/24/08
Lien Number: AG080073
Lien Type: Wage Violation, Civil Citation #WH080018
Assessment Date: 6/24/08
Penalty Amount: \$1,320.00
Restitution Amount: \$3,456.00
Statutory Additions: Interest at 18% per annum from Assessment Date
Original Lien Amount: \$4,776.00

PLACE OF FILING

Registry of Deeds: Hampshire
 Secretary of State

Date Filed:


 Joanne Goldstein
 Division Chief
 Fair Labor Division
 Office of the Attorney General
 One Ashburton Place, Room 1813
 Boston, MA 02108

For penalty payment information, please contact the Massachusetts Department of Revenue, Lien Department, P.O. Box 7021, Boston, MA, 02204, 617-887-6507

For restitution payment information or other questions, please contact the Office of the Attorney General, Fair Labor Division, P.O. Box 6303, Boston, MA 02114, 617-727-2200 x2329

ATTEST: HAMPSHIRE, , REGISTER
 MARIANNE L. DONOHUE