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For Immediate Release
January 26, 2009

THE FITNESS FIRM INC. FINED \$7,500 FOR IGNORING ORDER TO PAY

BURLINGTON, Ont. – The Fitness Firm Inc., operator of a co-ed gym and fitness centre in Burlington, Ontario, was fined \$7,500 on January 20, 2009 for violating the Employment Standards Act (ESA) by failing to comply with an order to pay wages owed to former employees of New Attitude Fitness Firm for Ladies Inc. on Hempstead Drive in Hamilton.

New Attitude Fitness Firm for Ladies Inc. had closed its facilities on August 27, 2006 without notice to staff. The Ministry of Labour received claims from former employees for unpaid wages. The ministry conducted an investigation and concluded that The Fitness Firm Inc. was considered a related employer and was responsible for these outstanding wages. An order to pay for \$7,767 was issued to The Fitness Firm Inc. on July 31, 2007 on behalf of seven former employees who were owed wages.

The order to pay was paid before the court imposed the sentence. The company pleaded guilty to failing to comply with an order issued by an employment standards officer under section 103(8) of the ESA. This was contrary to section 132 of the Act.

The fine was imposed by Justice of the Peace L.M. Mills in the Ontario Court of Justice, Burlington. In addition to the fine, the court imposed a 25-per-cent victim fine surcharge on the total, as required by the Provincial Offences Act. The surcharge is credited to a special provincial government fund to assist victims of crime.

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For further information:

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Court Information at a Glance

Location:	Ontario Court of Justice 2021 Plains Rd. E. Courtroom B2 Burlington, Ontario
Judge:	Justice of the Peace L.M. Mills
Date:	January 20, 2009
Defendants:	The Fitness Firm Inc.
Matter:	Employment Standards Act
Crown Counsel:	Brian Blumenthal

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