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Dunkin' Donuts manager eligible for overtime pay, court rules

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A former Dunkin' Donuts manager in Kingston who spent most of his days serving coffee and running the cash register <u>may be eligible to receive overtime pay</u>, according to a ruling handed down Wednesday by the US Court of Appeals for the First Circuit.

The ruling is significant because it will allow other managers who spend much of their time performing menial tasks to be properly compensated for their work, said lawyer Shannon Liss-Riordan, who is representing former Dunkin' Donuts manager <u>Gassan Marzuq</u>. The ruling is a departure from a 1982 decision by the same court that held that managers who oversee other workers are generally exempt from overtime.

"It will now open the doors for more Dunkin' Donuts workers to step forward, but also for workers in other industries who have been denied overtime on the grounds that they are the manager," said Liss-Riordan, who plans to go forward with a jury trial.

A lawyer for Cadete Enterprises, which operates the Dunkin' Donuts franchise where Marzuq worked, could not immediately be reached for comment.

Currently, managers who make more than \$23,660 a year are exempt from overtime, but a proposed regulation by the Obama administration would raise the cap to \$50,440.

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