

## 'Bastard' stores to pay out \$1.4M

**MANHATTAN.** A popular retail clothing chain has agreed to pay more than 1,000 current and former employees \$1.4 million in unpaid wages and overtime.

Yellow Rat Bastard, which opened its first store in SoHo and specializes in streetstyle fashion, and affiliated stores paid employees as low as \$5.25 an hour and failed to pay them overtime, Attorney General Andrew Cuomo said yesterday. The state's minimum wage is \$7.15 an hour. Overtime pay is one and a half times an employee's regular hourly pay after 40 hours a week.

The chain also retaliated against employees believed to be cooperating with investigators by reducing their work hours and even firing them illegally, Cuomo's office said.

AP

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