

THE SMALLER CLAIMS COURT
CLOUDHACKS JURY DIVISION

DOCKET NO. PC-2026-0002

COURT OF FIRST INSTANCE

Ada Mendel

PLAINTIFF

- against -

Grace Okonkwo

DEFENDANT

FILED

September 7, 2026

ORDERED

September 7, 2026

EXHIBITS

NONE

RELIEF SOUGHT

\$14.20 and a written apology in
the group chat

FINDINGS, OPINION AND ORDER

Mendel v. Absent Labels, 417 Petty 12 (2020)

I. STATEMENT OF CLAIM

On the evening of the 14th the defendant ate my pad thai. The container was labelled with my name and the date, in permanent marker, in capitals. When confronted the defendant said the label must have fallen off. The label was still on the container, in the bin, under the defendant's fork.

II. OPINION OF THE COURT

In Mendel v. Absent Labels, it was established that clear labeling of personal property creates a presumption of ownership that must be respected. The court notes Plaintiff Mendel's diligent labeling effort and Defendant Okonkwo's weak rebuttal that the label 'must have fallen off,' especially as it was found plainly attached to the container. The totality of circumstances, including the presence of the label underneath the consumed meal in the trash, supports Plaintiff's claim.

III. DISPOSITION

The court finds in favor of the plaintiff, Ada Mendel.

DAMAGES AND OBLIGATIONS AWARDED

\$14.20, plus one (1) written apology to be posted in the group chat within 24 hours, acknowledging the plaintiff's right to clearly labeled leftovers.

This ruling is final and non-appealable, unless you ask really nicely.



Hon. Bartholomew Grimsby

Hon. Bartholomew Grimsby

Judge, Smaller Claims Court

Entered September 7, 2026



The complete record of this matter, including any recording of the ruling as delivered from the bench,
is available at <https://smallerclaimscourt.vercel.app/case/7gsyufe8>