JS 44 (Rev. 06/17)

CIVIL COVER SHEET

18-cv-649

Contained herein neither replace nor supplement the filing and service of pleadings or other papers as required by law, except as approved by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required for the use of the Clerk of Court for the (SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON NEXT PAGE OF THIS FORM.) The JS 44 civil cover sheet a provided by local rules of court purpose of initiating the civil do

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L (a) PLAINTIFFS SEE ATTACHED SHEET				DEFENDANTS SEE ATTACHED	SHEET	18	64	9 **
(b) County of Residence of First Listed Plaintiff (EXCEPT IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES)				County of Residence				
,					ONDEMNATION CA OF LAND INVOLV	SES, USE THE LC	CATION OF	
(c) Attorneys (Firm Name,	Address, and Telephone Number	r)		Attorneys (If Known)				
II. BASIS OF JÜRISP	ICTION (Place an "X" in O	ne Box Only)		IZENSHIP OF P	RINCIPAL P.			
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☐ 160 Stockholders' Suits☐ 190 Other Contract	☐ 355 Motor Vehicle	☐ 371 Truth in Lending☐ 380 Other Personal		Act abor/Management	☐ 862 Black Lung ☐ 863 DIWC/DIW	(p 23) □ 8:	50 Securities/Comm Exchange	odities/
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290 All Other Real Property	445 Amer. w/Disabilities - Employment	535 Death Penalty Other:		MMIGRATION Vaturalization Application			State Statutes	
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VI. CAUSE OF ACTION	FCRA 15 U.S.C . Brief description of ca					Ę	EB 14 2	018
VII. REQUESTED IN COMPLAINT:	CHECK IF THIS UNDER RULE 2.	IS A CLASS ACTION 3, F.R.Cy.P.	DEN DEN	1AND \$			nanded in compla	int:
VIII. RELATED CASI IF ANY	(See instructions):	JUDGE			DOCKET NU	MBER	FEB 1	4 201
DATE		SIONATURE OF ATT	TORNEY OF	RECORD				
02/14/2018		www	/_/					
FOR OFFICE USE ONLY								
RECEIPT # AM	MOUNT	APPLYING IFP		JUDGE		MAG. JUDGE		

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

18 649

FOR THE EAST OF PENNSYLVANIA — assignment to appropriate calendar.	DESIGNATION FORM to be used by counsel to indicate the category of the case for the purpose of				
Address of Plaintiff: SEE ATTACHED SHEET					
Address of Defendant: SEE ATTACHED SHEET					
Place of Accident, Incident or Transaction: N/A					
	(Use Reverse Side For Additional Space)				
Does this civil action involve a nongovernmental corporate par	ty with any parent corporation and any publicly held corporation owning 1% or more of its stock?				
(Attach two copies of the Disclosure Statement Form in accordance)	dance with Fed.R.Civ.P. 7.1(a)) Yes□ Yes□ Yes□				
Does this case involve multidistrict litigation possibilities?	Yes□ No□3				
RELATED CASE, IF ANY: Case Number:	Date Terminated:				
Civil cases are deemed related when yes is answered to any of t	he following questions:				
1. Is this case related to property included in an earlier number	ed suit pending or within one year previously terminated action in this court?				
2. Does this case involve the same issue of fact or grow out of	Yes□ No⊠ the same transaction as a prior suit pending or within one year previously terminated				
action in this court?					
3. Does this case involve the validity or infringement of a nate	Yes□ No⊠ It already in suit or any earlier numbered case pending or within one year previously				
terminated action in this court?	Yes No D				
4. Is this case a second or successive habeas corpus, social sec	urity appeal, or pro se civil rights case filed by the same individual?				
	Yes□ No□				
CIVIL: (Place ✓ in ONE CATEGORY ONLY)					
A. Federal Question Cases:	B. Diversity Jurisdiction Cases:				
1. Indemnity Contract, Marine Contract, and A	Il Other Contracts 1. □ Insurance Contract and Other Contracts				
2. □ FELA	2. Airplane Personal Injury				
3. □ Jones Act-Personal Injury	3. Assault, Defamation				
4. □ Antitrust	4. Marine Personal Injury				
5. □ Patent	5. Motor Vehicle Personal Injury				
6. □ Labor-Management Relations	6. □ Other Personal Injury (Please specify)				
7. □ Civil Rights	7. Products Liability				
8. □ Habeas Corpus	8. Products Liability — Asbestos				
9. □ Securities Act(s) Cases	9. □ All other Diversity Cases				
10. Social Security Review Cases	(Please specify)				
11. All other Federal Question Cases Please specify) FCRA 15 U.S.C. § 1681 et seq.					
\bigcup	ADDITO ATION CERTIFICATION				
	ARBITRATION CERTIFICATION (Check Appropriate Category)				
	unsel of record do hereby certify:				
\$150,000.00 exclusive of interest and costs;	the best of my knowledge and belief, the damages recoverable in this civil action case exceed the sum of				
☑ Relief other than monetary damages is sought.	CONT 7 FEB 1/ 2010				
2/14/18	ILLE 7. FEB 14 2018				
DATE: 02/14/18 Attor	ey-at-Law Attorney I.D.#				
NOTE: A trial de novo	will be a trial by jury only if there has been compliance with F.R.C.P. 38.				
	d to any case now pending or within one year previously terminated action in this court				
except as noted above.	111 7.				
DATE: 02/14/18	202618 Atterney I D.#				

CIV. 609 (5/2012)



CIVIL COVER SHEET ATTACHMENT

Plaintiff:

Angela Allen, 1801 Ridgeview Court, Parlin, NJ, 08859

Represented by:

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Defendants:

Trans Union, LLC, 1510 Chester Pike, Crum Lynne, PA 19022

CIVIL ACTION

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA CASE MANAGEMENT TRACK DESIGNATION FORM

Angela Allen, on behalf of herself and all others similarly

situated, Plaintiff

	•				
V. Trans Union, LLC, Defendant	; ;	NO. 18 649			
plaintiff shall complete a Case Ma filing the complaint and serve a co side of this form.) In the event designation, that defendant shall,	nagement Track Designation I py on all defendants. (See § 1:0 that a defendant does not agro with its first appearance, subm a Case Management Track Des	tion Plan of this court, counsel for Form in all civil cases at the time of 33 of the plan set forth on the reverse ee with the plaintiff regarding said it to the clerk of court and serve on signation Form specifying the track			
SELECT ONE OF THE FOLLO	WING CASE MANAGEME	ENT TRACKS:			
(a) Habeas Corpus – Cases broug	ht under 28 U.S.C. § 2241 thro	ough § 2255. ()			
(b) Social Security – Cases requesting review of a decision of the Secretary of Health and Human Services denying plaintiff Social Security Benefits.					
(c) Arbitration – Cases required to be designated for arbitration under Local Civil Rule 53.2. (
(d) Asbestos – Cases involving cl exposure to asbestos.	aims for personal injury or pro	operty damage from			
	that do not fall into tracks (a) to lex and that need special or in this form for a detailed explanation.	itense management by			
(f) Standard Management – Case	s that do not fall into any one of	of the other tracks.			
02/14/2018	Wer 2.	Richard Kim			
Date	Attorney-at-law	Attorney for Plaintiff			
855-996-6342	355-235-5855	rkim@thekimlawfirmllc.com			
Telephone	FAX Number	E-Mail Address			
(Civ. 660) 10/02					



IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA

Angela Allen, on behalf of herself and all others similarly situated

Civil Action No.

18

649

PLAINTIFF,

v.

CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT

Trans Union, LLC.

DEFENDANT.

JURY TRIAL DEMANDED

Plaintiff Angela Allen ("Allen" or "Plaintiff"), by and through her undersigned attorneys, on behalf of herself, and the Putative Class set forth below, and in the public interest, hereby brings the following class action Complaint against Defendant Trans Union, LLC ("TU" or "Defendant") pursuant to the Fair Credit Reporting Act, 15 U.S.C. § 1681, et seq. (the "FCRA").

PRELIMINARY STATEMENT

- 1. This is a consumer class action based on the widespread violations of the FCRA by Defendant TU for failing to provide consumers with a revised consumer report that is based upon the consumer's file as that file is revised as a result of an investigation.
- 2. Indeed, pursuant to Section 1681i(a)(6)(B)(ii) of the FCRA, a consumer reporting agency such as TU must provide "a consumer report that is based upon the consumer's file as that file is revised as a result of the reinvestigation." (emphasis added.)
 - 3. TU repeatedly and systematically issues credit reports (i.e, consumer reports) that

The term investigation and reinvestigation are synonymous under the FCRA.

are not revised based on the results of an investigation and includes information that is supposed to be deleted from consumer files.

- 4. This failure to adhere to the FCRA results in the dissemination of false information to consumers about the status of their credit reports.
- 5. Additionally, the continued reporting of the inaccurate information (*i.e.*, failing to remove deleted trade lines) in Plaintiff's credit report have caused Plaintiff and Class Members further concrete harm through the inclusion of false information.
- 6. Accordingly, on behalf of herself and the Putative Class proposed herein, Plaintiff seeks statutory damages, punitive damages, costs and attorneys' fees, equitable relief, and all other appropriate relief pursuant to the FCRA.

PARTIES

- 7. Individual and representative Plaintiff Angela Allen is a resident of Parlin, New Jersey. Ms. Allen is a member of the Putative Class defined below and is a consumer as that term is defined by applicable law, including but not limited to the FCRA.
- 8. Defendant TU is a business entity that regularly conducts business in the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, with a principal place of business located at 1510 Chester Pike, Crum Lynne, Pennsylvania 19022. TU is a "person" as that term is defined by the FCRA.

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

9. Venue is proper in the United States District Court, Eastern District of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1391(b) as Defendant engages in substantial business activity in the district and a substantial part of the events or omissions giving rise to the claim occurred within the district. 28 U.S.C. § 1391(b).

10. TU maintains a principal place of business in the District, does substantial business in the District, and is subject to personal jurisdiction in the District.

FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS

- 11. TU is one of the "big three" credit reporting agencies and is required to comply with the FCRA. As a credit reporting agency, the United States Congress ("Congress") has determined that TU and other credit reporting agencies "have assumed a vital role in assembling and evaluating consumer credit and other information." 15 U.S.C. § 1681(a).
- 12. If a consumer finds inaccurate information on their credit reports, the FCRA allows that information to be disputed by a consumer. Following a dispute, a credit reporting agency is required to engage in an investigation of the disputed information to determine whether the information is accurate. 15 U.S.C. § 1681i(a).
- 13. Following the investigation, if information is found to be inaccurate, a credit reporting agency can change a consumer's credit report by deleting the disputed information when appropriate.
- 14. However, TU has been issuing contradicting information following consumer disputes. Specifically, TU will report in its investigative results that the disputed trade line is deleted, but provide a consumer disclosure (i.e., credit report) still containing the purportedly deleted information. This wrongdoing violates Section 1681i(a)(6)(B)(ii) of the FCRA, and results in a concrete informational harm by misinforming consumers as to the true status of their consumer report.
- 15. Indeed, Plaintiff was subject to this very treatment. Plaintiff's TU credit report contained three different collections account trade lines regarding medical debt that did not belong to her.

- 16. After Plaintiff disputed the debt with TU, investigative results (the "Investigative Results") dated September 18, 2017, were sent to Plaintiff, and represented that the medical debt for the three disputed trade lines would be "Deleted" from Ms. Allen's credit report.
- 17. Although the Investigative Results stated that the collections accounts would be "Deleted", the accompanying credit report contradicted the Investigative Results, and two of the three collections accounts remained.
- 18. The failure of TU to provide Plaintiff with a revised consumer report that is based upon the investigation is the quintessential definition of a concrete informational harm; and violates Section 1681i(a)(6)(B)(ii) of the FCRA.
- 19. Additionally, the continued reporting of the inaccurate information (*i.e.*, failing to remove deleted trade lines) in Plaintiff's credit report cause Plaintiff and Class Members further concrete harm through the inclusion of false information.
- 20. At all times pertinent hereto, Defendant was acting by and through its agents, servants or employees who were acting within the course and scope of their agency or employment, and under the direct supervision and control of the Defendant.
- 21. At all times pertinent hereto, the conduct of the Defendant, as well as that of its agents, servants or employees, was intentional, willful, reckless, and in grossly negligent disregard for federal and state laws and the rights of the Plaintiff.
- 22. Because of Defendant's conduct, the Plaintiff and members of the Putative Class have suffered concrete injuries for which they are entitled relief.

CLASS ACTION ALLEGATIONS

23. Plaintiff asserts his claim in Count One individually and on behalf of the "FCRA Unrevised Consumer Report Class" defined as follows:

FCRA Unrevised Consumer Report Class. All persons within the United States who: (1) disputed the accuracy of any information on a credit report; (2) resulting in Defendant providing notice of the investigation of the dispute that the disputed item would be deleted; and (3) Defendant providing to the person a consumer report still containing the purportedly deleted information.

- 24. **Numerosity.** The members of the Putative Class are so numerous that the individual joinder of all its members is impracticable. While the exact number and identities of the members of the Putative Class are unknown to Plaintiff at this time, and can only be ascertained through appropriate discovery, Plaintiff is informed and believes that the Putative Class includes thousands of members, which can be ascertained by the records maintained by Defendant.
- 25. **Typicality.** Plaintiff and members of the Putative Class were harmed by the acts of Defendant in at least the following way: Defendant routinely issued false and unrevised consumer reports despite informing consumers that disputed trade lines were deleted. The FCRA violations suffered by Plaintiff are typical of those suffered by other members of the Putative Class, and Defendant treated Plaintiff consistent with other members of the Putative Class.
- 26. Adequacy. Plaintiff is an adequate representative of the Putative Class. As a person who was informed that the disputed information within her consumer report was deleted but was later provided with a credit report that still contained purportedly deleted information, Plaintiff's interests are aligned with, and are not antagonistic to the interests of the members of the Putative Class. Plaintiff has retained counsel competent and experienced in complex class action litigation.
- 27. Commonality. Common questions of law and fact exist as to all members of the Putative Class and predominate over any questions solely affecting individual members of the Putative Class, including but not limited to:

- a. Whether Defendant issued consumer reports that contained disputed information that was claimed to have been deleted pursuant to Defendant's investigation of the dispute by the consumer;
- b. Whether Defendant's actions violated the FCRA by issuing consumer reports that contained disputed information that was claimed to have been deleted pursuant to Defendant's investigation of the dispute by the consumer;
- c. The proper measure of statutory and punitive damages; and
- d. The proper form of injunctive and declaratory relief.
- 28. The case is maintainable as a class action under Fed. R. Civ. P. 23(b)(l) because prosecution of actions by or against individual members of the Putative Class would result in inconsistent or varying adjudications and create the risk of incompatible standards of conduct for Defendant. Further, adjudication of each individual Class member's claim as a separate action would potentially be dispositive of the interest of other individuals not a party to such action, impeding their ability to protect their interests.
- 29. The case is maintainable as a class action under Fed. R. Civ. P. 23(b)(2) because Defendant has acted or refused to act on grounds that apply generally to the Putative Class, so that final injunctive relief or corresponding declaratory relief is appropriate respecting the Class as a whole.
- 30. Class certification is also appropriate under Fed. R. Civ. P. 23(b)(3) because questions of law and fact common to the Putative Class predominate over any questions affecting only individual members of the Putative Class, and because a class action is superior to other available methods for the fair and efficient adjudication of this litigation. Defendant's conduct described in this Complaint stems from common and uniform policies and practices, resulting in

common violations of the FCRA. Members of the Putative Class do not have an interest in pursuing separate actions against Defendant, as the amount of each Class member's individual claims is small compared to the expense and burden of individual prosecution, and Plaintiff is unaware of any similar pending claims brought against Defendant by any members of the Putative Class on an individual basis. Class certification also will obviate the need for unduly duplicative litigation that might result in inconsistent judgment concerning Defendant's practices. Moreover, management of this action as a class action will not present any likely difficulties. In the interests of justice and judicial efficiency, it would be desirable to concentrate the litigation of all Putative Class member's claims in a single forum

Plaintiff intends to provide notice to all members of the Putative Class to the extent required by Rule 23. The name and addresses of the Putative Class members are available from Defendant's records.

CAUSES OF ACTION

COUNT ONE

(Asserted on behalf of Plaintiff and the FCRA Unrevised Consumer Report Class)

Violation of the Fair Credit Reporting Act

15 U.S.C. § 1681 et seq.

- 32. Plaintiff incorporates by reference all other allegations and paragraphs of the Complaint as if set forth herein at length.
 - 33. Plaintiff is a "consumer" as defined by the FCRA.
 - 34. TU is a "person" as defined by the FCRA.
- 35. Defendant's conduct violates 15 U.S.C. § 1681i(a)(6)(B)(ii) by issuing a consumer reported that is not revised as a result of the Defendant's investigation of a disputed trade line.

- 36. The foregoing violation was willful. TU knew that it was required to issue revised consumer reports, instead of providing contradicting information to consumers, and acted in deliberate or reckless disregard of its obligations and the rights of Plaintiff and other Class members.
- 37. Plaintiff and the Class are entitled to statutory damages of not less than \$100 and not more than \$1,000 for each and every one of these violations, pursuant to 15 U.S.C. § 168ln(a)(l)(A).
- 38. Plaintiff and the Class are entitled to punitive damages for these violations, pursuant to 15 U.S.C. § 1681n(a)(2).
- 39. Plaintiff and the Class are further entitled to recover their costs and attorneys' fees, pursuant to 15 U.S.C. § 1681n(a)(3).

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

- 40. WHEREFORE, Plaintiff, on behalf of herself and the Putative Classes, prays for relief as follows:
 - a. Determining that the action may proceed as a class action under Rule 23 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure;
 - b. Designating Plaintiff as class representative and designating Plaintiff's counsel as counsel for the Putative Class;
 - c. Issuing proper notice to the Putative Class at Defendant's expense;
 - d. Declaring that Defendant violated the FCRA;
 - e. Declaring that Defendant acted willfully in deliberate or reckless disregard of Plaintiff's rights and its obligations under the law;
 - f. Awarding appropriate equitable relief, including, but not limited to an

injunction forbidding Defendant from engaging in further unlawful conduct;

- g. Awarding statutory damages and punitive damages as provided by the law;
- h. Awarding reasonable attorneys' fees and costs as provided under the law; and
- i. Granting any other relief, in law or equity, as the Court may deem appropriate and just.

DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL

41. Plaintiff demands trial by jury on all issues so triable.

Respectfully submitted,

THE KIM LAW FIRM, LLC

BY: /s/ Richard H. Kim (RHK 8964)

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Attorneys for Plaintiff Angela Allen

Dated: February 14, 2018

ClassAction.org

This complaint is part of ClassAction.org's searchable class action lawsuit database and can be found in this post: <u>Class Action Claims Trans Union Fails to Provide Consumers with Revised Reports</u>