BARSHAY SANDERS, PLLC

100 Garden City Plaza, Suite 500 Garden City, New York 11530

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Email: ConsumerRights@BarshaySanders.com

Attorneys for Plaintiffs
Our File No.: 112940

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT EASTERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

David Alm and Jennifer Carall, individually and on behalf of all others similarly situated,

Plaintiffs,

VS.

Paul Michael Associates,

Defendant.

Docket No:

COMPLAINT- CLASS ACTION

JURY TRIAL DEMANDED

David Alm and Jennifer Carall, individually and on behalf of all others similarly situated (hereinafter referred to collectively as "*Plaintiffs*"), by and through the undersigned counsel, complain, state and allege against Paul Michael Associates (hereinafter referred to as "*Defendant*"), as follows:

INTRODUCTION

1. This action seeks to recover for violations of the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, 15 U.S.C. § 1692, *et seq.*, ("FDCPA").

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

- 2. This Court has federal subject matter jurisdiction pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1331 and 15 U.S.C. § 1692k(d).
- 3. Venue is proper under 28 U.S.C. §1391(b) because a substantial part of the events or omissions giving rise to the claim occurred in this Judicial District.

4. At all relevant times, Defendant conducted business within the State of New York.

PARTIES

- 5. Plaintiff David Alm is an individual who is a citizen of the State of New York residing in Suffolk County, New York.
- 6. Plaintiff Jennifer Carall is an individual who is a citizen of the State of New York residing in Suffolk County, New York.
 - 7. Plaintiffs are "consumers" as defined by 15 U.S.C. § 1692a(3).
- 8. On information and belief, Defendant's principal place of business is located in Flushing, New York.
- 9. Defendant is regularly engaged, for profit, in the collection of debts allegedly owed by consumers.
 - 10. Defendant is a "debt collector" as defined by 15 U.S.C. § 1692a(6).

ALLEGATIONS

- 11. Defendant alleges each of the Plaintiffs owe a debt ("the debt").
- 12. The debts were primarily for personal, family or household purposes and are therefore "debts" as defined by 15 U.S.C. § 1692a(5).
- 13. Sometime after the incurrence of the debts, Plaintiffs fell behind on payments owed.
- 14. Thereafter, at an exact time known only to Defendant, the debts were assigned or otherwise transferred to Defendant for collection.
- 15. In its efforts to collect the debt, Defendant contacted Plaintiff Alm by letter dated August 16, 2016. ("**Exhibit 1**.")
- 16. In its efforts to collect the debt, Defendant contacted Plaintiff Carall by letter dated August 10, 2016. ("**Exhibit 1**.")
- 17. The letters were the initial communication to each Plaintiff received from Defendant.
 - 18. The letters are "communications" as defined by 15 U.S.C. § 1692a(2).

FIRST COUNT Violation of 15 U.S.C. § 1692g Validation of Debts AS TO PLAINTIFF ALM

- 19. Plaintiff Alm repeats and realleges the foregoing paragraphs as if fully restated herein.
- 20. 15 U.S.C. § 1692g provides that within five days after the initial communication with a consumer in connection with the collection of any debt, a debt collector shall, unless the information is contained in the initial communication or the consumer has paid the debt, send the consumer a written notice containing certain enumerated information.
- 21. One such requirement is that the debt collector provide "the name of the creditor to whom the debt is owed." 15 U.S.C. § 1692g(a)(2).
- 22. A debt collector has the obligation not just to convey the name of the creditor to whom the debt is owed, but also to convey such clearly.
- 23. A debt collector has the obligation not just to convey the name of the creditor to whom the debt is owed, but also to state such explicitly.
- 24. Merely naming the creditor without specifically identifying the entity as the current creditor to whom the debt is owed is not sufficient to comply with 15 U.S.C. § 1692g(a)(2).
- 25. Even if a debt collector conveys the required information, the debt collector nonetheless violates the FDCPA if it conveys that information in a confusing or contradictory fashion so as to cloud the required message with uncertainty.
- 26. When determining whether the name of the creditor to whom the debt is owed has been conveyed clearly, an objective standard, measured by how the "least sophisticated consumer" would interpret the notice, is applied.
- 27. The letter fails to identify any entity by the label "account owner," "creditor," "current creditor," "original creditor," or "creditor to whom the debt is owed."
 - 28. The letter states, "Re: Shiel Medical Labs."
 - 29. The letter fails to indicate whether the "Re:" refers to the account owner.
 - 30. The letter fails to indicate whether the "Re:" refers to Plaintiff's creditor.
 - 31. The letter fails to indicate whether the "Re:" refers to Plaintiff's current creditor.
 - 32. The letter fails to indicate whether the "Re:" refers to Plaintiff's original creditor.

- 33. The letter fails to indicate whether the "Re:" refers to the creditor to whom the debt is owed.
 - 34. The letter states that Plaintiff's account has been "turned over" to Defendant.
- 35. The letter demands Plaintiff's check or money order be made payable to "<u>PAUL</u> <u>MICHAEL ASSOCIATES</u>." (emphasis in original.)
- 36. The least sophisticated consumer would likely be confused as to what "turned over" means.
- 37. The least sophisticated consumer would likely be uncertain as to what "turned over" means.
- 38. Because of the aforementioned failures, the least sophisticated consumer would likely be confused as to the actual owner of her debt.
- 39. Because of the aforementioned failures, the least sophisticated consumer would likely be uncertain as to the actual owner of her debt.
- 40. Defendant failed to explicitly state the name of the creditor to whom the debt is owed.
- 41. Defendant failed to clearly state the name of the creditor to whom the debt is owed.
- 42. Defendant has violated § 1692g as it failed to clearly and explicitly convey the name of the creditor to whom the debt is owed.

SECOND COUNT

Violation of 15 U.S.C. § 1692e False or Misleading Representations as to the Name of the Creditor to Whom the Debt is Owed AS TO PLAINTIFF ALM

- 43. Plaintiff Alm repeats and realleges the foregoing paragraphs as if fully restated herein.
- 44. 15 U.S.C. § 1692e prohibits a debt collector from using any false, deceptive, or misleading representation or means in connection with the collection of any debt.
- 45. While § 1692e specifically prohibits certain practices, the list is non-exhaustive, and does not preclude a claim of falsity or deception based on any non-enumerated practice.
 - 46. The question of whether a collection letter is deceptive is determined from the

perspective of the "least sophisticated consumer."

- 47. A collection letter is deceptive under 15 U.S.C. § 1692e if it can reasonably be read by the least sophisticated consumer to have two or more meanings, one of which is inaccurate.
- 48. A collection letter is also deceptive under 15 U.S.C. § 1692e if it is reasonably susceptible to an inaccurate reading by the least sophisticated consumer.
- 49. For purposes of 15 U.S.C. § 1692e, the failure to clearly and accurately identify the creditor to whom the debt is owed is unfair and deceptive to the least sophisticated consumer.
- 50. Because the letter, as previously set forth, can reasonably be read by the least sophisticated consumer to have two or more meanings concerning the owner of the debt, one of which is inaccurate, it is deceptive within the meaning of 15 U.S.C. § 1692e.
- 51. Because the letter is reasonably susceptible to an inaccurate reading by the least sophisticated consumer, as described, it is deceptive within the meaning of 15 U.S.C. § 1692e.
 - 52. The owner of the debt is a material piece of information to a consumer.
- 53. The least sophisticated consumer would likely be deceived concerning the owner of the debt.
- 54. Defendant violated § 1692e by using a false, deceptive and misleading representation in its attempt to collect a debt.

THIRD COUNT Violation of 15 U.S.C. § 1692g Validation of Debts AS TO PLAINTIFF CARALL

- 55. Plaintiff Carall repeats and realleges the foregoing paragraphs as if fully restated herein.
- 56. 15 U.S.C. § 1692g provides that within five days after the initial communication with a consumer in connection with the collection of any debt, a debt collector shall, unless the information is contained in the initial communication or the consumer has paid the debt, send the consumer a written notice containing certain enumerated information.
- 57. One such requirement is that the debt collector provide "the name of the creditor to whom the debt is owed." 15 U.S.C. § 1692g(a)(2).
 - 58. A debt collector has the obligation not just to convey the name of the creditor to

whom the debt is owed, but also to convey such clearly.

- 59. A debt collector has the obligation not just to convey the name of the creditor to whom the debt is owed, but also to state such explicitly.
- 60. Merely naming the creditor without specifically identifying the entity as the current creditor to whom the debt is owed is not sufficient to comply with 15 U.S.C. § 1692g(a)(2).
- 61. Even if a debt collector conveys the required information, the debt collector nonetheless violates the FDCPA if it conveys that information in a confusing or contradictory fashion so as to cloud the required message with uncertainty.
- 62. When determining whether the name of the creditor to whom the debt is owed has been conveyed clearly, an objective standard, measured by how the "least sophisticated consumer" would interpret the notice, is applied.
- 63. The letter fails to identify any entity by the label "account owner," "creditor," "current creditor," "original creditor," or "creditor to whom the debt is owed."
 - 64. The letter states, "Re: Tvr Communications."
 - 65. The letter fails to indicate whether the "Re:" refers to the account owner.
 - 66. The letter fails to indicate whether the "Re:" refers to Plaintiff's creditor.
 - 67. The letter fails to indicate whether the "Re:" refers to Plaintiff's current creditor.
 - 68. The letter fails to indicate whether the "Re:" refers to Plaintiff's original creditor.
- 69. The letter fails to indicate whether the "Re:" refers to the creditor to whom the debt is owed.
 - 70. The letter states that Plaintiff's account has been "turned over" to Defendant.
- 71. The letter demands Plaintiff's check or money order be made payable to "PAUL MICHAEL ASSOCIATES." (emphasis in original.)
- 72. The least sophisticated consumer would likely be confused as to what "turned over" means.
- 73. The least sophisticated consumer would likely be uncertain as to what "turned over" means.
- 74. Because of the aforementioned failures, the least sophisticated consumer would likely be confused as to the actual owner of her debt.
 - 75. Because of the aforementioned failures, the least sophisticated consumer would

likely be uncertain as to the actual owner of her debt.

- 76. Defendant failed to explicitly state the name of the creditor to whom the debt is owed.
- 77. Defendant failed to clearly state the name of the creditor to whom the debt is owed.
- 78. Defendant has violated § 1692g as it failed to clearly and explicitly convey the name of the creditor to whom the debt is owed.

FOURTH COUNT

Violation of 15 U.S.C. § 1692e False or Misleading Representations as to the Name of the Creditor to Whom the Debt is Owed AS TO PLAINTIFF CARALL

- 79. Plaintiff Carall repeats and realleges the foregoing paragraphs as if fully restated herein.
- 80. 15 U.S.C. § 1692e prohibits a debt collector from using any false, deceptive, or misleading representation or means in connection with the collection of any debt.
- 81. While § 1692e specifically prohibits certain practices, the list is non-exhaustive, and does not preclude a claim of falsity or deception based on any non-enumerated practice.
- 82. The question of whether a collection letter is deceptive is determined from the perspective of the "least sophisticated consumer."
- 83. A collection letter is deceptive under 15 U.S.C. § 1692e if it can reasonably be read by the least sophisticated consumer to have two or more meanings, one of which is inaccurate.
- 84. A collection letter is also deceptive under 15 U.S.C. § 1692e if it is reasonably susceptible to an inaccurate reading by the least sophisticated consumer.
- 85. For purposes of 15 U.S.C. § 1692e, the failure to clearly and accurately identify the creditor to whom the debt is owed is unfair and deceptive to the least sophisticated consumer.
- 86. Because the letter, as previously set forth, can reasonably be read by the least sophisticated consumer to have two or more meanings concerning the owner of the debt, one of which is inaccurate, it is deceptive within the meaning of 15 U.S.C. § 1692e.
 - 87. Because the letter is reasonably susceptible to an inaccurate reading by the least

sophisticated consumer, as described, it is deceptive within the meaning of 15 U.S.C. § 1692e.

- 88. The owner of the debt is a material piece of information to a consumer.
- 89. The least sophisticated consumer would likely be deceived concerning the owner of the debt.
- 90. Defendant violated § 1692e by using a false, deceptive and misleading representation in its attempt to collect a debt.

CLASS ALLEGATIONS

- 91. Plaintiffs bring this action individually and as a class action on behalf of all persons similarly situated in the State of New York from whom Defendant attempted to collect a consumer debt using a collection letter that had the same insufficient information concerning the owner of the debt as the letter herein, from one year before the date of this Complaint to the present.
- 92. This action seeks a finding that Defendant's conduct violates the FDCPA, and asks that the Court award damages as authorized by § 1692k(a)(2) of the FDCPA.
- 93. Defendant regularly engages in debt collection, using the same unlawful conduct described herein, in its attempts to collect delinquent consumer debts from other persons.
- 94. The Class consists of more than 35 persons from whom Defendant attempted to collect delinquent consumer debts using the same unlawful conduct described herein.
- 95. Plaintiffs' claims are typical of the claims of the Class. Common questions of law or fact raised by this class action complaint affect all members of the Class and predominate over any individual issues. Common relief is therefore sought on behalf of all members of the Class. This class action is superior to other available methods for the fair and efficient adjudication of this controversy.
- 96. The prosecution of separate actions by individual members of the Class would create a risk of inconsistent or varying adjudications with respect to the individual members of the Class, and a risk that any adjudications with respect to individual members of the Class would, as a practical matter, either be dispositive of the interests of other members of the Class not party to the adjudication, or substantially impair or impede their ability to protect their interests. Defendant has acted in a manner applicable to the Class as a whole such that declaratory relief is warranted.

97. Plaintiffs will fairly and adequately protect and represent the interests of the Class. The management of the class action proposed is not extraordinarily difficult, and the factual and legal issues raised by this class action complaint will not require extended contact with the members of the Class, because Defendant's conduct was perpetrated on all members of the Class and will be established by common proof. Moreover, Plaintiffs have retained counsel experienced in actions brought under the FDCPA.

JURY DEMAND

98. Plaintiffs hereby demand a trial of this action by jury.

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, Plaintiffs respectfully request judgment as follows:

- a. Certify this action as a class action; and
- b. Appoint Plaintiffs as Class Representative of the Class, and their attorneys as Class Counsel; and
- c. Find that Defendant's actions violate the FDCPA; and
- d. Grant statutory damages against Defendant pursuant to 15 U.S.C. § 1692k; and
- e. Grant Plaintiffs' attorneys' fees pursuant to 15 U.S.C. § 1692k; and
- f. Grant Plaintiffs' costs; together with
- g. Such other relief that the Court determines is just and proper.

DATED: April 6, 2017

BARSHAY SANDERS, PLLC

By: /s/ Craig B. Sanders
Craig B. Sanders, Esq.
100 Garden City Plaza, Suite 500

Garden City, New York 11530

Tel: (516) 203-7600 Fax: (516) 706-5055 csanders@barshaysanders.com Attorneys for Plaintiffs Our File No.: 112940

Document 1-1 Eiled 05/08/17 Page 1 of 2 PageID #: 11 PAUL MICHAEL ASSOCIATES Case 2:17-cv-02767

159-16 Union Turnpike Ste 302 Flushing, NY 11366 (718)740-1401

New York City Consumer Affairs License #0894190

August 16, 2016

David Alm 4 Nicola Ln

Nesconset, NY 11767-1550

6576788

RE: Shiel Medical Labs

BALANCE DUE : \$35.00

ACCOUNT NUMBER:

Please be advised that this office represents the above creditor who has turned over your account in the amount indicated above for collection. This amount is outstanding and past due.

Unless you notify our office within thirty (30) days after receipt of this letter that you are disputing the validity of the debt, or any portion of it, we will assume that the debt is valid. If you notify this office in writing within 30 days from receiving this notice that you dispute the validity of this debt or any portion thereof, this office will obtain verification of the debt or obtain a copy of a judgment and mail you a copy of such judgment or verification. If you request this office in writing within 30 days after this notice this office will provide you with the name and address of the original creditor, if different from the current creditor.

In order to credit your account properly, you must return the bottom portion of this letter with your payment.

Please forward your check or money order made payable to **PAUL MICHAEL ASSOCIATES**.

This letter is an attempt by a debt collector, to collect a debt; any information obtained will be used for that purpose.

Thank you,

Bob Stone

Subscriber to Experian, Trans-Union and Equifax

159-16 UNION TURNPIKE STE 302 FLUSHING NY 11366-1955 CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

RE: Shiel Medical Labs

Total Due: \$35.00

Acct #: 9640

☐ Visa ☐ MC ☐ AmEx ☐ Disc Security Code: _____

Exp Date: ___/___ Pmt Amt: \$_____

Print Name on card: _____

Signature:

PAUL MICHAEL ASSOCIATES 159-16 UNION TURNPIKE STE 302 FLUSHING NY 11366-1955

իկոնկանիրդոյիպնվիսնակկ|կրնիվիկոլ|կդ|կնիր

PERSONAL & CONFIDENTIAL DAVID ALM 4 NICOLA LN

NESCONSET NY 11767-1550

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6576788

Case 2:17-cv-02767 Document 1-1 Filed 05/08/17 Page 2 of 2 PageID #: 12 PAUL MICHAEL ASSOCIATES

159-16 Union Turnpike Ste 302 Flushing, NY 11366 (718)740-1401

New York City Consumer Affairs License #0894190

August 10, 2016

Jennifer Merz 545 Islip Ave Islip, NY 11751-1501 6571556

RE: Tvr Communications

BALANCE DUE : \$36.75 ACCOUNT NUMBER : 543:

Please be advised that this office represents the above creditor who has turned over your account in the amount indicated above for collection. This amount is outstanding and past due.

Unless you notify our office within thirty (30) days after receipt of this letter that you are disputing the validity of the debt, or any portion of it, we will assume that the debt is valid. If you notify this office in writing within 30 days from receiving this notice that you dispute the validity of this debt or any portion thereof, this office will obtain verification of the debt or obtain a copy of a judgment and mail you a copy of such judgment or verification. If you request this office in writing within 30 days after this notice this office will provide you with the name and address of the original creditor, if different from the current creditor.

In order to credit your account properly, you must return the bottom portion of this letter with your payment.

Please forward your check or money order made payable to PAUL MICHAEL ASSOCIATES.

This letter is an attempt by a debt collector, to collect a debt; any information obtained will be used for that purpose.

Thank you,

Bob Stone

Subscriber to Experian, Trans-Union and Equifax

159-16 UNION TURNPIKE STE 302 FLUSHING NY 11366-1955 CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED **RE:** Tvr Communications

Total Due: \$36.75 Acct #: 5433

☐ Visa ☐ MC ☐ AmEx ☐ Disc Security Code: _____

Card #: ______

Exp Date: ___/___ Pmt Amt: \$______

Print Name on card: _____

Signature: _____

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PERSONAL & CONFIDENTIAL
JENNIFER MERZ 6571556
545 ISLIP AVE
ISLIP NY 11751-1501

ԿՈՒԿԻՍը-գիվիվովորուՄբՍը-Մի-Մրուի-հիկութուՄՈՄ

PAUL MICHAEL ASSOCIATES 159-16 UNION TURNPIKE STE 302 FLUSHING NY 11366-1955

յոնիՍեպեինըիրդՍՍիդրդը||ՍումոդՍրդըկ||ՄՍիՄի

JS 44 (Rev. 07/16) Case 2:17-cv-02767 Dequired Overlies 15/08/17 Page 1 of 2 PageID #: 13

The JS 44 civil cover sheet and the information contained herein neither replace nor supplement the filing and service of pleadings or other papers as required by law, except as provided by local rules of court. This form, approved by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required for the use of the Clerk of Court for the

provided by local rules of court purpose of initiating the civil do	This form, approved by the ocket sheet. (SEE INSTRUC	ne Judicial Conference of CTIONS ON NEXT PAGE	f the Unite E OF THI	ed States in Septemb S FORM.)	per 19	74, is required for the use of	the Clerk of Court for the		
I. (a) PLAINTIFFS				DEFENDANTS					
DAVID ALM				PAUL MICHAEL ASSOCIATES					
(b) County of Residence of First Listed Plaintiff SUFFOLK (EXCEPT IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES)				County of Residence of First Listed Defendant QUEENS (IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES ONLY) NOTE: IN LAND CONDEMNATION CASES, USE THE LOCATION OF THE TRACT OF LAND INVOLVED.					
(c) Attorneys (Firm Name, A	Address, and Telephone Numbe	er)		Attorneys (If Kno	own)				
BARSHAY SAND 100 Garden City P (516) 203-7600	DERS, PLLC laza, Ste 500, Garden C	ity, NY 11530							
II. BASIS OF JURISDI	CTION (Place an "X" in	One Box Only)			F PR	RINCIPAL PARTIES	(Place an "X" in One Box for Plaintiff		
O 1 U.S. Government				(For Diversity Cases Only) PTF DEF Citizen of This State O 1 O 1 Incorporated or Principal Place of Business In This State					
O 2 U.S. Government Defendant	O 4 Diversity (Indicate Citizenship of Parties in Item III)		Citize	en of Another State	O 2	O 2 Incorporated and of Business In			
				en or Subject of a preign Country	0 3	O 3 Foreign Nation	O 6 O 6		
IV. NATURE OF SUIT CONTRACT		oly) ORTS	FC	ORFEITURE/PENAL	TY	BANKRUPTCY	OTHER STATUTES		
O 110 Insurance O 120 Marine O 130 Miller Act O 140 Negotiable Instrument O 150 Recovery of Overpayment & Enforcement of Judgment O 151 Medicare Act O 152 Recovery of Defaulted Student Loans (Excludes Veterans) O 153 Recovery of Overpayment of Veteran's Benefits O 160 Stockholders' Suits O 190 Other Contract O 195 Contract Product Liability O 196 Franchise REAL PROPERTY O 210 Land Condemnation O 220 Foreclosure O 230 Rent Lease & Ejectment O 240 Torts to Land O 245 Tort Product Liability O 290 All Other Real Property	PERSONAL INJURY O 310 Airplane O 315 Airplane Product Liability O 320 Assault, Libel & Slander O 330 Federal Employers' Liability O 340 Marine O 345 Marine Product Liability O 350 Motor Vehicle O 355 Motor Vehicle Product Liability O 360 Other Personal Injury O 362 Personal Injury - Medical Malpractice CIVIL RIGHTS O 440 Other Civil Rights O 441 Voting O 442 Employment O 443 Housing/ Accommodations O 445 Amer. w/Disabilities - Employment O 446 Amer. w/Disabilities - Other O 448 Education	PERSONAL INJUI O 365 Personal Injury - Product Liability O 367 Health Care/ Pharmaceutical Personal Injury Product Liability O 368 Asbestos Personal Injury Product Liability PERSONAL PROPER O 370 Other Fraud O 371 Truth in Lending O 380 Other Personal Property Damage O 385 Property Damage Product Liability PRISONER PETITION Habeas Corpus: O 463 Alien Detainee O 510 Motions to Vacate Sentence O 530 General O 535 Death Penalty Other: O 540 Mandamus & Other O 550 Civil Rights O 555 Prison Condition O 560 Civil Detainee Conditions of Confinement	0 625 0 690 0 710 0 720 0 740 0 791 0 791	LABOR Description of the control of	of 1	O 422 Appeal 28 USC 158 O 423 Withdrawal 28 USC 157 PROPERTY RIGHTS O 820 Copyrights O 830 Patent O 840 Trademark SOCIAL SECURITY O 861 HIA (1395ff) O 862 Black Lung (923) O 863 DIWC/DIWW (405(g)) O 864 SSID Title XVI O 865 RSI (405(g)) FEDERAL TAX SUITS O 870 Taxes (U.S. Plaintiff or Defendant) O 871 IRS—Third Party 26 USC 7609	O 375 False Claims Act O 400 State Reapportionment O 410 Antitrust O 430 Banks and Banking O 450 Commerce O 460 Deportation O 470 Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations • 480 Consumer Credit O 490 Cable/Sat TV O 850 Securities/Commodities/ Exchange O 890 Other Statutory Actions O 891 Agricultural Acts O 895 Freedom of Information Act O 896 Arbitration O 899 Administrative Procedure Act/Review or Appeal of Agency Decision O 950 Constitutionality of State Statutes		
V. ORIGIN (Place an "X" in ● 1 Original O 2 Remondary Proceeding Control	oved from State O 3 Ren	urt		ened Ano	ther Di cify)		O 8 Multidistrict Litigation – Direct File		
VI. CAUSE OF ACTIO		use:		Collection Practice			, §1U74		
VII. REQUESTED IN COMPLAINT: • CHECK IF THIS IS A CLASS ACTION UNDER RULE 23, F.R.Cv.P.		DI	DEMAND \$ CHECK YES only if demanded in complaint: JURY DEMAND: ● Yes ○ No						
VIII DELATED CASE(S)		(See Instructions) JUDGE		DOCKET NUMBER					
DATE		SIGNATURE OF ATT				_			
May 8, 2017 FOR OFFICE USE ONLY		/s Cr	aig B.	Sanders					
	IOUNT	APPLYING IFP		JUDO	GE	MAG. JU	JDGE		

Case 2:17-cv-02767 Document 1-2 Filed 05/08/17 Page 2 of 2 PageID #: 14 CERTIFICATION OF ARBITRATION ELIGIBILITY

Local Arbitration Rule 83.10 provides that with certain exceptions, actions seeking money damages only in an amount not in excess of \$150,000, exclusive of interest and costs, are eligible for compulsory arbitration. The amount of damages is presumed to be below the threshold amount unless a certification to the contrary is filed.

I, <u>Craig B. Sanders</u> , counsel for <u>Plaintiff</u> , do hereby certify that the above captioned civil action is ineligible for compulsory arbitration for the following reason(s):
☐ monetary damages sought are in excess of \$150,000, exclusive of interest and costs,
☐ the complaint seeks injunctive relief,
☐ the matter is otherwise ineligible for the following reason
DISCLOSURE STATEMENT - FEDERAL RULES CIVIL PROCEDURE 7.1
Identify any parent corporation and any publicly held corporation that owns 10% or more or its stocks:
RELATED CASE STATEMENT (Section VIII on the Front of this Form)
Please list all cases that are arguably related pursuant to Division of Business Rule 50.3.1 in Section VIII on the front of this form. Rule 50.3.1 (a) provides that "A civil case is "related" to another civil case for purposes of this guideline when, because of the similarity of facts and legal issues or because the cases arise from the same transactions or events, a substantial saving of judicial resources is likely to result from assigning both cases to the same judge and magistrate judge." Rule 50.3.1 (b) provides that "A civil case shall not be deemed "related" to another civil case merely because the civil case: (A) involves identical legal issues, or (B) involves the same parties." Rule 50.3.1 (c) further provides that "Presumptively, and subject to the power of a judge to determine otherwise pursuant to paragraph (d), civil cases shall not be deemed to be "related" unless both cases are still pending before the court."
NY-E DIVISION OF BUSINESS RULE 50.1(d)(2)
 Is the civil action being filed in the Eastern District removed from a New York State Court located in Nassau or Suffolk County: NO
 If you answered "no" above: a) Did the events or omissions giving rise to the claim or claims, or a substantial part thereof, occur in Nassau or Suffolk County? YES
b) Did the events or omissions giving rise to the claim or claims, or a substantial part thereof, occur in the Eastern District? YES
If your answer to question 2 (b) is "No," does the defendant (or a majority of the defendants, if there is more than one) reside in Nassau or Suffolk County, or, in an interpleader action, does the claimant (or a majority of the claimants, if there is more than one) reside in Nassau or Suffolk County?
(Note: A corporation shall be considered a resident of the County in which it has the most significant contacts).
BAR ADMISSION
I am currently admitted in the Eastern District of New York and currently a member in good standing of the bar of this court. Yes No
Are you currently the subject of any disciplinary action (s) in this or any other state or federal court? ☐ Yes (If yes, please explain) ■ No
I certify the accuracy of all information provided above.

Signature: <u>/s Craig B. Sanders</u>

Date: _____

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

EASTERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK
David Alm and Jennifer Carall, individually and on behalf of all others similarly situated Plaintiff(s) Civil Action No.
Paul Michael Associates) Defendant(s))
SUMMONS IN A CIVIL ACTION
To: (Defendant's name and address) Paul Michael Associates 159-16 Union Turnpike, Ste 302 Flushing, New York 11366 A lawsuit has been filed against you. Within 21 days after service of this summons on you (not counting the day you received it) – or 60 days if you are the United States, or a United States agency, or an officer or employee of the United States described in Fed. R. Civ. P. 12 (a)(2) or (3) – you must serve on the plaintiff an answer to the attached complaint or a motion under Rule 12 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure. The answer or motion must be served on the plaintiff or plaintiff's attorney, whose name and address are: CRAIG B. SANDERS, Esq.
100 GARDEN CITY PLAZA, SUITE 500 GARDEN CITY, NY 11530
If you fail to respond, judgment by default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the complaint. You also must file your answer or motion with the court.
CLERK OF COURT

Signature of Clerk or Deputy Clerk

ClassAction.org

This complaint is part of ClassAction.org's searchable class action lawsuit database and can be found in this post: Paul Michael Associates Facing FDCPA Suit in New York