UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT EASTERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

MIKHAIL ARONOV, on behalf of himself and all others similarly situated,

Plaintiffs,

-against-

GC SERVICES LIMITED PARTNERSHIP.

Defendant.

CIVIL ACTION

CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT AND DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL

Plaintiff MIKHAIL ARONOV (hereinafter, "Plaintiff"), a New York resident, brings this class action complaint by and through his attorneys, Daniel Cohen, PLLC, against Defendants GC SERVICES LIMITED PARTNERSHIP (hereinafter "Defendant"), individually and on behalf of a class of all others similarly situated, pursuant to Rule 23 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, based upon information and belief of Plaintiff's counsel, except for allegations specifically pertaining to Plaintiff, which are based upon Plaintiff's personal knowledge.

INTRODUCTION/PRELIMINARY STATEMENT

- 1. Congress enacted the FDCPA in 1977 in response to the "abundant evidence of the use of abusive, deceptive, and unfair debt collection practices by many debt collectors." 15 U.S.C. § 1692(a). At that time, Congress was concerned that "abusive debt collection practices contribute to the number of personal bankruptcies, to material instability, to the loss of jobs, and to invasions of individual privacy." *Id.* Congress concluded that "existing laws . . . [we]re inadequate to protect consumers," and that "the effective collection of debts" does not require "misrepresentation or other abusive debt collection practices." 15 U.S.C. §§ 1692(b) & (c).
- 2. Congress explained that the purpose of the Act was not only to eliminate abusive debt

collection practices, but also to "insure that those debt collectors who refrain from using abusive debt collection practices are not competitively disadvantaged." *Id.* § 1692(e). After determining that the existing consumer protection laws were inadequate, *id.* § 1692(b), Congress gave consumers a private cause of action against debt collectors who fail to comply with the Act. *Id.* § 1692k.

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

- 3. The Court has jurisdiction over this class action under 28 U.S.C. § 1331, 15 U.S.C. § 1692 *et seq.* and 28 U.S.C. § 2201. If applicable, the Court also has pendent jurisdiction over the state law claims in this action pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1367(a).
- 4. Venue is proper in this judicial district pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1391(b)(2).

NATURE OF THE ACTION

- 5. Plaintiff brings this class action on behalf of a class of New York consumers seeking redress for Defendant's actions of using an unfair and unconscionable means to collect a debt.
- 6. Defendant's actions violated § 1692 et seq. of Title 15 of the United States Code, commonly referred to as the Fair Debt Collections Practices Act ("FDCPA") which prohibits debt collectors from engaging in abusive, deceptive and unfair practices.
- 7. Plaintiff is seeking damages, and declaratory and injunctive relief.

PARTIES

- 8. Plaintiff is a natural person and a resident of the State of New York, and is a "Consumer" as defined by 15 U.S.C. §1692(a)(3).
- 9. Defendant is a collection agency with its principal office located in Houston, Texas.
- 10. Defendant is a company that uses the mail, telephone, and facsimile and regularly engages in business the principal purpose of which is to attempt to collect debts alleged to be due another.
- 11. Defendant is a "debt collector," as defined under the FDCPA under 15 U.S.C. § 1692a(6).

CLASS ALLEGATIONS

- 12. Plaintiff brings claims, pursuant to the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure (hereinafter "FRCP")
 Rule 23, individually and on behalf of the following consumer class (the "Class"):
 - All New York consumers who received a collection letter from Defendant attempting to collect an obligation owed to or allegedly owed to American Express, that contains the alleged violation arising from Defendant's violation of 15 U.S.C. §1692e, et seq.
 - The Class period begins one year to the filing of this Action.
- 13. The Class satisfies all the requirements of Rule 23 of the FRCP for maintaining a class action:
 - Upon information and belief, the Class is so numerous that joinder of all members is impracticable because there are hundreds and/or thousands of persons who have received debt collection letters and/or notices from Defendant that violate specific provisions of the FDCPA. Plaintiff is complaining of a standard form letter and/or notice that is sent to hundreds of persons (*See* Exhibit A, except that the undersigned attorney has, in accordance with Fed. R. Civ. P. 5.2 partially redacted the financial account numbers in an effort to protect Plaintiff's privacy);
 - There are questions of law and fact which are common to the Class and which
 predominate over questions affecting any individual Class member. These
 common questions of law and fact include, without limitation:
 - a. Whether Defendant violated various provisions of the FDCPA;
 - b. Whether Plaintiff and the Class have been injured by Defendant's conduct:
 - c. Whether Plaintiff and the Class have sustained damages and are

entitled to restitution as a result of Defendant's wrongdoing and if so, what is the proper measure and appropriate statutory formula to be applied in determining such damages and restitution; and

- d. Whether Plaintiff and the Class are entitled to declaratory and/or injunctive relief.
- Plaintiff's claims are typical of the Class, which all arise from the same operative facts and are based on the same legal theories.
- Plaintiff has no interest adverse or antagonistic to the interest of the other members of the Class.
- Plaintiff will fairly and adequately protect the interest of the Class and has retained experienced and competent attorneys to represent the Class.
- A Class Action is superior to other methods for the fair and efficient adjudication of the claims herein asserted. Plaintiff anticipates that no unusual difficulties are likely to be encountered in the management of this class action.
- A Class Action will permit large numbers of similarly situated persons to prosecute their common claims in a single forum simultaneously and without the duplication of effort and expense that numerous individual actions would engender. Class treatment will also permit the adjudication of relatively small claims by many Class members who could not otherwise afford to seek legal redress for the wrongs complained of herein. Absent a Class Action, class members will continue to suffer losses of statutory protected rights as well as monetary damages. If Defendant's conduct is allowed to proceed without remedy they will continue to reap and retain the proceeds of their ill-gotten gains.

Defendant has acted on grounds generally applicable to the entire Class, thereby
making appropriate final injunctive relief or corresponding declaratory relief
with respect to the Class as a whole.

ALLEGATIONS PARTICULAR TO MIKHAIL ARONOV

- 14. Plaintiff repeats, reiterates and incorporates the allegations contained in paragraphs numbered "1" through "13" herein with the same force and effect as if the same were set forth at length herein.
- 15. Defendant collects and attempts to collect debts incurred or alleged to have been incurred for personal, family or household purposes on behalf of creditors using the United States Postal Services, telephone and Internet.
- 16. Upon information and belief, within the last year Defendant commenced efforts to collect an alleged consumer "debt" as defined by 15 U.S.C. 1692a(5), when it mailed a Collection Letter to Plaintiff seeking to collect on an unpaid account allegedly owed to American Express.
- 17. On or around September 6, 2017, Defendant sent Plaintiff a collection letter (hereinafter, the "Letter"). *See* Exhibit A.
- 18. The Letter was sent or caused to be sent by persons employed by Defendant as a "debt collector" as defined by 15 U.S.C. §1692a(6).
- 19. The Letter is a "communication" as defined by 15 U.S.C. §1692a(2).
- 20. The Letter was an initial communication between Plaintiff and Defendant.
- 21. The Letter states in pertinent part:
 - "As of the date of this letter, you owe \$6,969.64. Because of interest, late charges, and other charges that may vary from day to day, the amount due on the day you pay may be greater. Hence, if you pay the amount shown above, an adjustment may be necessary after we receive your check."
- 22. As set forth in the following Counts Defendant violated the FDCPA.

First Count 15 U.S.C. §1692g Failure to Adequately and Honestly Convey the Amount of the Debt

- 23. Plaintiff repeats, reiterates and incorporates the allegations contained in paragraphs numbered "1" through "22" herein with the same force and effect as if the same were set forth at length herein.
- 24. 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.
- 25. 15 U.S.C. § 1692g(a)(1) requires the written notice provide "the amount of the debt."
- 26. The written notice, to comply with 15 U.S.C. § 1692g(a)(1), must convey the amount of the debt clearly and accurately from the perspective of the least sophisticated consumer.
- 27. The written notice, to comply with 15 U.S.C. § 1692g(a)(1), must state whether interest, late fees and/or other fees are accruing.
- 28. The written notice, to comply with 15 U.S.C. § 1692g(a)(1), must allow the least sophisticated consumer to determine the minimum amount he or she owes at the time of the notice.
- 29. The written notice, to comply with 15 U.S.C. § 1692g(a)(1), must allow the least sophisticated consumer to determine what he or she will need to pay to resolve the debt at any given moment in the future.
- 30. The written notice, to comply with 15 U.S.C. § 1692g(a)(1), must contain an explanation, understandable by the least sophisticated consumer, of any fees or interest that may cause the balance to increase at any time in the future.
- 31. The failure to include the foregoing information renders an otherwise accurate statement of the "amount of the debt" violative of 15 U.S.C. § 1692g(a)(1).

- 32. The Letter failed to inform Plaintiff whether the amount listed is the actual amount of the debt due.
- 33. The Letter failed to inform Plaintiff whether the amount listed already includes "interest."
- 34. The Letter failed to inform Plaintiff whether the amount listed already includes "other charges."
- 35. The Letter failed to advise Plaintiff what portion of the amount listed is principal.
- 36. The Letter failed to inform Plaintiff whether the amount listed will increase.
- 37. The Letter failed to inform Plaintiff what "other charges" might apply.
- 38. The Letter failed to inform Plaintiff if "other charges" are applied, when such "other charges" will be applied.
- 39. The Letter failed to inform Plaintiff if "other charges" are applied, what the amount of those "other charges" will be.
- 40. The Letter failed to inform Plaintiff of the nature of the "other charges."
- 41. The Letter failed to inform Plaintiff if there is "interest," what the amount of the accrued interest will be.
- 42. The Letter failed to inform Plaintiff if there is "interest," when such interest will be applied.
- 43. The Letter failed to inform Plaintiff if there is "interest," what the interest rate is.
- 44. The Letter failed to inform Plaintiff if there is "interest," the amount of money the amount listed will increase per day.
- 45. The Letter failed to inform Plaintiff if there is "interest," the amount of money the amount listed will increase per week.
- 46. The Letter failed to inform Plaintiff if there is "interest," the amount of money the amount listed will increase per month.

- 47. The Letter failed to inform Plaintiff if there is "interest," the amount of money the amount listed will increase per any measurable period.
- 48. The Letter, because of the aforementioned failures, would render the least sophisticated consumer unable to determine the amount of his or her debt.
- 49. The least sophisticated consumer could reasonably believe that the debt could be satisfied by remitting the listed amount as of the date of the letter, at any time after receipt of the letter.
- 50. The least sophisticated consumer could reasonably believe that the amount listed was accurate only on the date of the Letter.
- 51. If interest is continuing to accrue, the least sophisticated consumer would not know the amount of the debt because the letter fails to indicate the applicable interest rate.
- 52. If interest is continuing to accrue, the least sophisticated consumer would not know the amount of the debt because the letter fails to indicate what the amount of the accrued interest will be.
- 53. If interest is continuing to accrue, the least sophisticated consumer would not know the amount of the debt because the letter fails to indicate when such interest will be applied.
- 54. If interest is continuing to accrue, the least sophisticated consumer would not know the amount of the debt because the letter fails to indicate the amount of money the amount listed will increase at any measurable period.
- 55. If "other charges" are continuing to accrue, the least sophisticated consumer would not know the amount of the debt because the letter fails to indicate the nature of the "other charges." ¹

¹ Carlin v. Davidson Fink LLP, 852 F.3d 207 (2d Cir. 2017), Balke v. All. One Receivables Mgmt., No. 16-cv-5624(ADS)(AKT), 2017 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 94021, at *14 (E.D.N.Y. June 19, 2017) ("[T]he Collection Letter in this case refers with vagueness to "accrued interest or other charges," without providing any information regarding the rate of interest; the nature of the "other charges"; how any such charges would be calculated; and what portion of the balance due, if any, reflects already-accrued interest and other charges. By failing to provide even the most basic level of specificity in this regard, the Court "cannot say whether those amounts are properly part of the amount of the debt," for purposes of section 1692g.Carlin, 852 F.3d at 216. Further, as set forth in Carlin, without any clarifying details, the Collection Letter states only that these unspecified assessments may be added to the balance due, which the Court finds to be insufficient to "accurately inform[] the [Plaintiff] that the amount of the debt stated

- 56. The letter failed to advise Plaintiff that if Plaintiff pays the amount listed, an adjustment may be necessary after Defendant receives payment.
- 57. The letter failed to advise Plaintiff that if Plaintiff pays the amount listed, Defendant will inform Plaintiff of the balance difference before depositing payment.
- 58. The Defendant's failures are purposeful.
- 59. In order to induce payments from consumers that would not otherwise be made if the consumer knew the true amount due, Defendant does not inform the consumer what "other charges" might apply.
- 60. In order to induce payments from consumers that would not otherwise be made if the consumer knew the true amount due, Defendant does not inform the consumer when such "other charges" will be applied.
- 61. Defendant failed to clearly and unambiguously state the amount of the debt, in violation of 15 U.S.C. § 1692g(a)(1).
- 62. The Letter would likely make the least sophisticated consumer uncertain as to the amount of the debt, in violation of 15 U.S.C. § 1692g(a)(1).
- 63. The Letter would likely make the least sophisticated consumer confused as to the amount of the debt, in violation of 15 U.S.C. § 1692g(a)(1).
- 64. Defendant's conduct violated 15 U.S.C. §§ 1692g(a)(1) and 1692e.
- 65. Plaintiff suffered injury in fact by being subjected to unfair and abusive practices of the Defendant.
- 66. Plaintiff suffered actual harm by being the target of the Defendant's misleading debt collection communications.

in the letter will increase over time.") consumer knew the true amount due, Defendant does not inform the consumer whether the amount listed will increase.

- 67. Defendant violated the Plaintiff's right not to be the target of misleading debt collection communications.
- 68. Defendant violated the Plaintiff's right to a truthful and fair debt collection process.
- 69. Defendant used materially false, deceptive, misleading representations and means in its attempted collection of Plaintiff's alleged debt.
- 70. Defendant's communications were designed to cause the debtor to suffer a harmful disadvantage in charting a course of action in response to Defendant's collection efforts.
- 71. The FDCPA ensures that consumers are fully and truthfully apprised of the facts and of their rights, the act enables them to understand, make informed decisions about, and participate fully and meaningfully in the debt collection process. The purpose of the FDCPA is to provide information that helps consumers to choose intelligently. The Defendant's false representations misled the Plaintiff in a manner that deprived him of his right to enjoy these benefits, these materially misleading statements trigger liability under section 1692e of the Act.
- 72. These deceptive communications additionally violated the FDCPA since they frustrate the consumer's ability to intelligently choose his or her response.
- 73. Plaintiff seeks to end these violations of the FDCPA. Plaintiff has suffered damages including but not limited to, fear, stress, mental anguish, emotional stress and acute embarrassment. Plaintiff and putative class members are entitled to preliminary and permanent injunctive relief, including, declaratory relief, and damages.

Second Count 15 U.S.C. §1692e et seq. False or Misleading Representations as to Status of Debt

- 74. Plaintiff repeats, reiterates and incorporates the allegations contained in paragraphs numbered "1" through "73" herein with the same force and effect as if the same were set forth at length herein.
- 75. Defendant's debt collection efforts attempted and/or directed towards Plaintiff violated various

- provisions of the FDCPA, including but not limited to 15 U.S.C. § 1692e.
- 76. Pursuant to 15 U.S.C. §1692e, a debt collector is prohibited from using false, deceptive, or misleading representation in connection with the collection of a debt.
- 77. While § 1692e specifically prohibits certain practices, the list is non-exhaustive, and does not preclude a claim of falsity or deception based on non-enumerated practice.
- 78. Collection notices are deceptive if they can be reasonably read to have two or more different meanings, one of which is inaccurate.
- 79. The question of whether a collection letter is deceptive is determined from the perspective of the "least sophisticated consumer."
- 80. Defendant's conduct constitutes a false, deceptive and misleading means and representation in connection with the collection of the debt, in violation of 15 U.S.C. § 1692e.
- 81. The Letter can reasonably be read by the least sophisticated consumer to have two or more meanings concerning the actual balance due, one of which must is inaccurate, in violation of 15 U.S.C. § 1692e.
- 82. Defendant violated §1692e by falsely suggesting that immediate payment of the balance would benefit Plaintiff financially by stating that the account balance stated above would be subject to change, and could be subject to interest, late Collection Costs or other Collection Costs
- 83. Defendant's debt collection efforts attempted and/or directed towards Plaintiff violated various provisions of the FDCPA, including but not limited to § 1692(e).
- 84. By reason thereof, Defendant is liable to Plaintiff for judgment that Defendant's conduct violated Section 1692e *et seq.* of the FDCPA, actual damages, statutory damages, costs and attorneys' fees.

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff demands judgment against Defendants as follows:

- (a) Declaring that this action is properly maintainable as a Class Action and certifying Plaintiff as Class representative and Daniel Cohen, PLLC, as Class Counsel;
- (b) Awarding Plaintiff and the Class statutory damages;
- (c) Awarding Plaintiff and the Class actual damages;
- (d) Awarding Plaintiff costs of this Action, including reasonable attorneys' fees and expenses;
- (e) Awarding pre-judgment interest and post-judgment interest; and
- (f) Awarding Plaintiff and the Class such other and further relief as this Court may deem just and proper.

Respectfully submitted,

By: /s/ Daniel Cohen
Daniel Cohen, Esq.
Daniel Cohen, PLLC
300 Cadman Plaza W, 12th floor
Brooklyn, New York 11201
Phone: (646) 645-8482

Fax: (347) 665-1545 Email: Dan@dccohen.com Attorneys for Plaintiff

DEMAND FOR TRIAL BY JURY

Pursuant to Rule 38 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, Plaintiff hereby requests a trial by jury on all issues so triable.

/s/ Daniel Cohen
Daniel Cohen, Esq.

Dated: Brooklyn, New York

September 27, 2017

JS 44 (Rev. 06/17)

Case 1:17-cv-05660 Document 2 VER SHEET 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 purpose of initiating the civil docket sheet. (SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON NEXT PAGE OF THIS FORM.)

purpose of initiating the civil de	ocket sheet. (SEE INSTRUC	TIONS ON NEXT PAGE OF TH				
I. (a) PLAINTIFFS				DEFENDANTS		
MIKHAIL ARONOV, on b	ehalf of himself and al	I others similarly situat	ted GC SERVICES L	GC SERVICES LIMITED PARTNERSHIP		
(b) County of Residence of (E.	of First Listed Plaintiff XCEPT IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CA	.SES)	NOTE: IN LAND	ce of First Listed Defendant (IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES OF CONDEMNATION CASES, USE TOT OF LAND INVOLVED.	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	
(c) Attorneys (Firm Name, A	Address. and Telephone Numbe.	r)	Attorneys (If Known	n)		
DANIEL COHEN PLLC, 3 (646) 645-8482	-		01,			
II. BASIS OF JURISDI	ICTION (Place an "X" in O	ne Box Only)			(Place an "X" in One Box for Plaintif	
□ 1 U.S. Government Plaintiff	✓ 3 Federal Question (U.S. Government)	Not a Party)		PTF DEF □ 1 □ 1 Incorporated or Pr of Business In □		
☐ 2 U.S. Government Defendant	☐ 4 Diversity (Indicate Citizenshi)	ip of Parties in Item III)	Citizen of Another State	☐ 2 ☐ 2 Incorporated and of Business In		
			Citizen or Subject of a Foreign Country	□ 3 □ 3 Foreign Nation	□ 6 □ 6	
IV. NATURE OF SUIT		ely) PRTS	FORFEITURE/PENALTY		of Suit Code Descriptions. OTHER STATUTES	
□ 110 Insurance □ 120 Marine □ 130 Miller Act □ 140 Negotiable Instrument □ 150 Recovery of Overpayment	PERSONAL INJURY □ 310 Airplane □ 315 Airplane Product Liability □ 320 Assault, Libel &	PERSONAL INJURY 365 Personal Injury - Product Liability Product Liability 367 Health Care/ Pharmaceutical Personal Injury Product Liability 368 Asbestos Personal Injury Product Liability 370 Other Fraud 371 Truth in Lending 370 Other Personal Property Damage 385 Property Damage 385 Property Damage Product Liability PRISONER PETITIONS Habeas Corpus: 463 Alien Detainee 510 Motions to Vacate Sentence 530 General 535 Death Penalty Other: 540 Mandamus & Other 550 Civil Rights 555 Prison Condition 560 Civil Detainee - Conditions of Confinement	□ 625 Drug Related Seizure of Property 21 USC 881 □ 690 Other □ 710 Fair Labor Standards Act □ 720 Labor/Management Relations □ 740 Railway Labor Act □ 751 Family and Medical Leave Act □ 790 Other Labor Litigation □ 791 Employee Retirement Income Security Act □ IMMIGRATION □ 462 Naturalization Application Actions	□ 422 Appeal 28 USC 158 □ 423 Withdrawal 28 USC 157 PROPERTY RIGHTS □ 820 Copyrights □ 830 Patent □ 835 Patent - Abbreviated New Drug Application □ 840 Trademark SOCIAL SECURITY □ 861 HIA (1395ff) □ 862 Black Lung (923) □ 863 DIWC/DIWW (405(g)) □ 864 SSID Title XVI □ 865 RSI (405(g)) FEDERAL TAX SUITS □ 870 Taxes (U.S. Plaintiff or Defendant) □ 871 IRS—Third Party 26 USC 7609	□ 375 False Claims Act □ 376 Qui Tam (31 USC □ 3729(a)) □ 400 State Reapportionment □ 410 Antitrust □ 430 Banks and Banking □ 450 Commerce □ 460 Deportation □ 470 Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations □ 470 Cable/Sat TV □ 850 Securities/Commodities/ Exchange □ 890 Other Statutory Actions □ 891 Agricultural Acts □ 893 Environmental Matters □ 895 Freedom of Information Act □ 896 Arbitration □ 899 Administrative Procedure Act/Review or Appeal of Agency Decision □ 950 Constitutionality of State Statutes	
	moved from 3	Remanded from 4 Appellate Court		sferred from		
VI. CAUSE OF ACTIO	15 USC 1692	use:	ling (Do not cite jurisdictional s	tatutes unless diversity):		
VII. REQUESTED IN COMPLAINT:	CHECK IF THIS UNDER RULE 2	IS A CLASS ACTION	DEMAND \$	CHECK YES only JURY DEMAND	if demanded in complaint: Yes □No	
VIII. RELATED CASI IF ANY	E(S) (See instructions):	JUDGE		DOCKET NUMBER		
DATE 09/27/2017 FOR OFFICE USE ONLY		signature of attor /s/ Daniel Cohen	NEY OF RECORD			
	MOUNT	APPLYING IFP	JUDGE	MAG. JUI	DGE	

Case 1:17-cv-05660 Document 1-1 Filed 09/27/17 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, DANIEL	ole for co	, counsel for PLAINTIFF, do hereby certify that the above captioned civil action is ompulsory arbitration for the following reason(s):		
mengic		ompulsory arottation for the following reason(s).		
	X	monetary damages sought are in excess of \$150,000, exclusive of interest and costs,		
		the complaint seeks injunctive relief,		
	X	Question of law rather than question of fact predominates <u>DISCLOSURE STATEMENT - FEDERAL RULES CIVIL PROCEDURE 7.1</u>		
NONE		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)		
provides because same jud case: (A)	that "A c the cases a ge and ma involves	s 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) ivil case is "related" to another civil case for purposes of this guideline when, because of the similarity of facts and legal issues or arise from the same transactions or events, a substantial saving of judicial resources is likely to result from assigning both cases to the agistrate judge." Rule 50.3.1 (b) provides that "A civil case shall not be deemed "related" to another civil case merely because the civil identical legal issues, or (B) involves the same parties." Rule 50.3.1 (c) further provides that "Presumptively, and subject to the power mine otherwise pursuant to paragraph (d), civil cases shall not be deemed to be "related" unless both cases are still pending before the		
		NY-E DIVISION OF BUSINESS RULE 50.1(d)(2)		
1.)	Is the ci	ivil action being filed in the Eastern District removed from a New York State Court located in Nassau or Suffolk		
2.)		Inswered "no" above: the events or omissions giving rise to the claim or claims, or a substantial part thereof, occur in Nassau or Suffolk No.		
	b) Did t District	the events or omissions giving rise to the claim or claims, or a substantial part thereof, occur in the Eastern		
Suffolk	County, lk Count	o question 2 (b) is "No," does the defendant (or a majority of the defendants, if there is more than one) reside in Nassau or or, in an interpleader action, does the claimant (or a majority of the claimants, if there is more than one) reside in Nassau ty?		
	`	BAR ADMISSION		
		DAK ADMISSION		
I am cui	rently ac	Imitted in the Eastern District of New York and currently a member in good standing of the bar of this court. Yes No		
Are you	currentl	y 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: /s/ Daniel Cohen

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

for the

Eastern District of New York

Eastern District of New York				
MIKHAIL ARONOV, on behalf of himself and all others similarly situated,)))			
Plaintiff(s)	,			
V.	Civil Action No.			
GC SERVICES LIMITED PARTNERSHIP)			
)))			
Defendant(s)	ý ,			
SUMMONS IN A CIVIL ACTION				
To: (Defendant's name and address) GC SERVICES LIMITED CT CORPORATION 111 EIGHTH AVENUE, 13 NEW YORK, NEW YORK	3TH FLOOR			
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: DANIEL COHEN PLLC 300 CADMAN PLAZA WEST, 12 FL BROOKLYN, NEW YORK 11201				
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.				
	DOUGLAS C. PALMER CLERK OF COURT			
Date:				
	Signature of Clerk or Deputy Clerk			

AO 440 (Rev. 06/12) Summons in a Civil Action (Page 2)

Civil Action No.

PROOF OF SERVICE

(This section should not be filed with the court unless required by Fed. R. Civ. P. 4 (l))

was re	This summons for (no ceived by me on (date)	ame of individual and title, if an	ıy)			
wasic	•	ed the summons on the ind	ividual at (place)			
	recisonary serve	a the summons on the ma	on (date)	; or		
	☐ I left the summons at the individual's residence or usual place of abode with (name)					
	on (date) , and mailed a copy to the individual's last known address; or					
	☐ I served the summons on (name of individual) , who designated by law to accept service of process on behalf of (name of organization)					
	; or					
	☐ I returned the sum	nmons unexecuted because	2	; or		
	☐ Other (<i>specify</i>):					
	My fees are \$	for travel and \$	for services, for a total of \$	0.00		
	I declare under penal	lty of perjury that this info	ormation is true.			
Date:		· _				
			Server's signature			
		_	Printed name and title			
		_	Server's address			
			Server s adaress			

Additional information regarding attempted service, etc:





Please call: (800) 846-6406 Calls may be monitored or recorded.



USE ENCLOSED ENVELOPE AND SEND PAYMENT TO:

որդես իրեփիկին երիլինիդներիկինիկին կիրակիրդինուն

P7D79800200524 - 127076316 I02094 MIKHAIL ARONOV

- | Ուվեսերեւել գուլիլիչ| Ունույլ Ուվիլին հույլ Ու Ուվեների ումելի Ումիի PO BOX 46960 SAINT LOUIS MO 63146

YOU OWE: AMERICAN EXPRESS

CLIENT ACCOUNT NUMBER: ENDING 41005

FILE NUMBER

0083

BALANCE DUE: **\$6,969.64**

September 6, 2017

Please detach and return upper portion of statement with payment

File Number

285

American Express Account Number: ENDING 41005

Original Creditor: American Express

Dear Mikhail Aronov,

We are writing to let you know that your account with American Express, with an overdue balance of \$6,969.64, has been referred to us.

We understand you may not be able to pay the entire balance in one payment. We are here to work with you to find a mutually agreeable solution. We invite you to contact us so that we can discuss your particular financial circumstances, as well as opportunities our client may have available for you. Please contact us at (800) 846-6406 to discuss payment options that may be available to you on your account.

However, if you are able to pay the balance due at this time, please send us your payment using the enclosed envelope. We look forward to helping you resolve your account. Thank you. Sincerely,

> Aubrey Caraway Account Representative

IF YOU HAVE CONCERNS REGARDING THE HANDLING OF YOUR ACCOUNT BY GC SERVICES, PLEASE CONTACT A. T. CARAWAY, GENERAL MANAGER, AT 800-846-6406.

* As of the date of this letter, you owe \$6,969.64. Because of interest, late charges, and other charges that may vary from day to day, the amount due on the day you pay may be greater. Hence, if you pay the amount shown above, an adjustment may be necessary after we receive your check, in which event we will inform you.

This communication is from a debt collector. This is an attempt to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose.

NOTICE: SEE REVERSE SIDE AND ADDITIONAL INSERT FOR IMPORTANT CONSUMER INFORMATION

GC Services Limited Partnership - 6330 Gulfton, Houston, TX 77081

0868-02 868-01A 512517243010083

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Case 1:17-cv-05660 Document 1-3 Filed 09/27/17 Page 2 of 2 PageID #: 18

IMPORTANT: BE CERTAIN YOUR ACCOUNT IS CORRECT.			
HOME PHONE	:		
NEW ADDRESS	:		
EMPLOYER	:		
EMPLOYER ADDRESS	:		

CONSUMER INFORMATION:

Unless you, within thirty (30) days after your receipt of this letter, dispute the validity of the debt, or any portion thereof, we will assume the debt to be valid. If you notify us in writing within the above described thirty (30) day period that the debt, or any portion thereof, is disputed, we will obtain verification of the debt or a copy of a judgment against you and a copy of such verification or judgment will be mailed to you. Additionally, upon your written request within the above described thirty (30) day period, we will provide you with the name and address of the original creditor, if it is different than the current creditor.

The request for you to pay the balance owed in this letter does not reduce your rights to dispute this debt, or any portion thereof, and/or to request verification within the thirty (30) day period as set forth above.

Federal and state law prohibit certain methods of debt collection, and require that we treat you fairly. If you have a complaint about the way we are collecting your debt, please visit our website at www.gcserv.com or contact the FTC online at www.ftc.gov; by phone at 1-877-FTC-HELP; or by mail at 600 Pennsylvania Ave., NW, Washington, DC 20580. If you want information about your rights when you are contacted by a debt collector, please contact the FTC online at www.ftc.gov.

NYC Residents: NYC Department of Consumer Affairs' specific license # varies as to city/state location of sender: Elgin - 2032602; Houston - 2032594; Jacksonville - 2032579; San Antonio - 2032610; Columbus - 2032587; Huntington - 2032616; Knoxville - 2032597; San Diego - 2032615; Copperas Cove - 2032601; Irwindale - 2032591; Oklahoma - 2032603; St. Louis - 2032598; Phoenix - 2032606; Tucson - 2032592



ClassAction.org

This complaint is part of ClassAction.org's searchable class action lawsuit database and can be found in this post: <u>Debt Collector GC Services Limited Partnership Hit with Class Action</u>