#### KAZEROUNI LAW GROUP, APC LAW OFFICE OF DANIEL G. SHAY 1 Abbas Kazerounian, Esq. (SBN: 249203) Daniel G. Shay, Esq. (SBN: 250548) 2 ak@kazlg.com danielshay@tcpafdcpa.com Jason A. Ibey, Esq. (SBN: 284607) 409 Camino Del Rio South. Ste 101B 3 jason@kazlg.com San Diego, CA 92108 4 Telephone: (619) 222-7429 245 Fischer Avenue, Suite D1 Facsimile: (866) 431-3292 5 Costa Mesa, California 92626 Telephone: (800) 400-6808 6 Facsimile: (800) 520-5523 7 [Additional Attorneys for Plaintiff on Signature Page] 8 Attorneys for Plaintiff, 9 Ophelia Augustine 10 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA 11 12 Case No: '18CV180 CAB JLB OPHELIA AUGUSTINE, 13 **Individually and On Behalf of All** Others Similarly Situated, **CLASS ACTION** 14 15 Plaintiff, COMPLAINT FOR DAMAGES AND INJUNCTIVE RELIEF: 16 VS. 17 1. UNLAWFUL RECORDING OF CELLULAR 18 **COMMUNICATIONS UNDER CALIFORNIA** 19 CAPITAL ONE BANK USA, PENAL CODE SECTION N.A., 20 632.7; 2. INVASION OF PRIVACY 21 Defendant. INTRUSION INTO PRIVATE 22 **AFFAIRS** 23 JURY TRIAL DEMANDED 24 25 26 27

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### INTRODUCTION

- 1. Ophelia Augustine ("Plaintiff"), individually and on behalf of all others similarly situated California residents ("Class Members"), brings this action for damages and injunctive relief against Capital One Bank USA, N.A. (hereinafter, referred to as "Defendant" or "Capital One"), and its present, former, or future direct and indirect parent companies, subsidiaries, affiliates, agents, related entities for unauthorized recordings of conversations with Plaintiff and Class Members without any notification nor warning to Plaintiff or Class Members in violation of the California Invasion of Privacy Act, Cal. Pen. Code § 630, et seq. ("CIPA").
- 2. The California State Legislature passed CIPA in 1967 to protect the right of privacy of the people of California, replacing prior laws that permitted the recording of telephone conversations with the consent of one party to the conversation. California Penal Code § 632.7 was added to CIPA in 1992 due to specific privacy concerns over the increased use of cellular and cordless telephones. Section 632.7 prohibits intentionally recording all communications cellular cordless telephones, involving and not just confidential communications.
- 3. Plaintiff makes these allegations on information and belief, with the exception of those allegations that pertain to Plaintiff, or to Plaintiff's counsel, which Plaintiff alleges on her personal knowledge.
- 4. Unless otherwise stated, all the conduct engaged in by Defendant took place in California.
- 5. All violations by Defendant were knowing, willful, and intentional, and Defendant did not maintain procedures reasonably adapted to avoid any such violation.
- 6. Unless otherwise indicated, the use of Defendant's names in this Complaint includes all agents, employees, officers, members, directors, heirs, successors,

assigns, principals, trustees, sureties, subrogees, representatives, and insurers of the named Defendant.

### **Jurisdiction and Venue**

- 7. Jurisdiction is proper under 28 U.S.C. § 1332(d)(2) because Plaintiff seeks \$5,000 in damages for each violation of the CIPA, which, when aggregated among a proposed class number in the tens of thousands, exceeds the \$5,000,000 threshold for federal court jurisdiction. Further, Plaintiff is domiciled in a different state than that of the Defendant, providing jurisdiction under 28 U.S.C. § 1332(d)(2)(A). Therefore, the elements of the Class Action Fairness Act of 2005 ("CAFA") are met, and this Court has jurisdiction.
- 8. Venue is proper in the United States District Court for the Southern District of California pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1391(b) because Defendant, at all times herein mentioned, was doing business in the County of San Diego, State of California. Further, venue is proper in this district because Plaintiff has resided in this district at all times herein mentioned such that a substantial part of the events giving rise to the claim occurred in this district.

### **Parties**

- 9. Plaintiff is, and at all times mentioned herein was, an individual citizen and resident of the State of California, City of San Diego, in this judicial district.
- 10. Plaintiff is informed and believes, and thereon alleges, that Capital One Bank USA, N.A. is, and at all times mentioned herein was, a national bank with its principal place of business in Virginia.
- 11. Plaintiff alleges that at all times relevant herein Defendant conducted business in the State of California, in the County of San Diego, within this judicial district. Defendant is, and at all times mentioned herein was, a "person", as defined by Cal. Pen. Code § 632(b).

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### **FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS**

- 12. On or around June 8, 2017, at 11:25 a.m., Defendant called Plaintiff on her cellular telephone ending in "9532". Defendant called from the telephone number 800-955-6600.
- 13. During the call, Defendant's representative identified as "Jerry" spoke with Plaintiff for about three minutes regarding her Capital One Platinum Mastercard account ending in "8561". The parties discussed private account and financial information along with legal matters.
- 14. At the end of the call, Plaintiff asked Defendant, if the call was being recorded and Defendant responded, affirmatively..
- 15. At no point during the outset of the telephone conversation did Defendant advise Plaintiff that Defendant was or would be recording the conversation, nor did Plaintiff consent to the call being recorded.
- 16. Upon information and belief, Defendant records all of its telephone calls, including the call between Plaintiff and Defendant described above.
- 17. Plaintiff was personally affected by Defendant's aforementioned conduct because Plaintiff was shocked and upset that Defendant recorded one or more cellular telephone conversations with Plaintiff without Plaintiff's knowledge or consent.
- 18. California Penal Code § 632.7(a) is very clear in its prohibition against such unauthorized tape recording without the consent of the other party to the conversation: "Every person who, without the consent of all parties to a communication, intercepts or receives and intentionally records, or assists in the interception or reception and intentional recordation of, a communication transmitted between two cellular radio telephones, a cellular radio telephone and a landline telephone, two cordless telephone and a cellular radio telephone [violates this section]". California Penal Code § 637.2 permits Plaintiff to bring

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this action for any violation of California Penal Code § 632.7(a) and provi	des
for statutory damages of \$5,000.00 for each violation.	

- 19. Defendant recorded or otherwise made an unauthorized connection to the Plaintiff's conversations with Defendant and its employees in violation of California's statutory and common law against such unlawful intrusions into a person's private affairs, including the California Constitution's prohibition in Article 1, Section 1.
- 20. This suit seeks only damages and injunctive relief for recovery of economic injury and it expressly is not intended to request any recovery for personal injury and claims related thereto.
- 21. Plaintiff is informed and believes, and thereon alleges, that Defendant intentionally recorded a communication transmitted between a cellular radio telephone and a landline telephone without Plaintiff's consent as prohibited by California Penal Code § 632.7(a).
- Defendant violated Plaintiff's constitutionally protected privacy rights by failing 22. to advise or otherwise provide notice at the beginning of the recorded conversations with Plaintiff that the call would be recorded and Defendant did not try to obtain the Plaintiff's consent before such recording.
- 23. The recording or other unauthorized connection was done over the telephone, without Plaintiff's prior knowledge or consent. Plaintiff was damaged thereby, as detailed herein, in at least an amount permitted by the statutory damages mandated by California Penal Code § 637.2(a).
- Defendant, and its employees and agents, surreptitiously recorded the call made 24. by Defendant to Plaintiff. At no time before the call was Plaintiff warned, told, advised or otherwise given any indication by Defendant, its employees or agents, that the call would be recorded.
- 25. As a result thereof, Plaintiff has been damaged as set forth in the Prayer for Relief herein.

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26. Plaintiff seeks statutory damages and injunctive relief under California Penal Code § 637.2.

### **CLASS ACTION ALLEGATIONS**

- 27. Plaintiff brings this lawsuit as a class action on behalf of herself and Class Members of the proposed Class pursuant to Federal Rules of Civil Procedure 23(a) and (b)(3) and/or (b)(2). This action satisfies the numerosity, commonality, typicality, adequacy, predominance, and superiority requirements of those provisions.
- Plaintiff proposes the following Class consisting of and defined as follows: 28.

in California whose cellular telephone All persons were recorded without their consent by conversations Defendant and/or its agent/s within the one year prior to the filing of the Complaint.

- 29. Excluded from the Class are: (1) Defendant, any entity or division in which Defendant has a controlling interest, and its legal representatives, officers, directors, assigns, and successors; (2) the judges to whom this case is assigned and the Judge's staff; and (3) those persons who have suffered personal injuries as a result of the facts alleged herein.
- 30. Plaintiff reserves the right to redefine the Class and to add subclasses as appropriate based on discovery and specific theories of liability
- 31. Numerosity: The Class Members are so numerous that joinder of all members would be unfeasible and impractical. The size of the Class is unknown to Plaintiff at this time; however, given that, on information and belief, Defendant called thousands of class members and recorded those calls during the class period, it is reasonable to presume that the members of the Class are so numerous that joinder of all members is impracticable. The disposition of their claims in a class action will provide substantial benefits to the parties and the Court.

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- 32. Commonality: There are common questions of law and fact as to Class Members that predominate over questions affecting only individual members, including, but not limited to:
  - Whether, within the statutory period, Defendant recorded any call with the Class Members;
  - Whether Defendant had, and continues to have, a policy during the relevant period of recording telephone calls made to the Class Members;
  - Whether Defendant's policy or practice of recording telephone communications with Class Members constitutes an invasion of privacy and a violation of Cal. Penal Code § 632.7;
  - Whether Plaintiff and the Class Members were damaged thereby, and the extent of damages for such violation; and
  - Whether Defendant should be enjoined from engaging in such conduct in the future.
- 33. Typicality Plaintiff's conversations were unlawfully recorded without a warning of such recording, and thus, her injuries are typical to Class Members.
- Plaintiff and Class Members were harmed by the acts of Defendant in at least 34. the following ways: Defendant, either directly or through its agents, illegally recorded the Plaintiff and Class Members' conversations with Defendant, and Defendant invaded the privacy of said Plaintiff and Class. Plaintiff and Class Members were damaged thereby.
- Adequacy: Plaintiff is qualified to, and will, fairly and adequately protect the 35. interests of each Class Member with whom she is similarly situated, as demonstrated herein. Plaintiff's attorneys, the proposed class counsel, are versed in the rules governing class action discovery, certification, and settlement. In addition, the proposed class counsel is experienced in handling claims involving consumer actions and violations of the California Penal Code section 632.7. Plaintiff has incurred, and throughout the duration of this action, will continue to

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incur	costs	and	attorneys'	fees	that	have	been,	are,	and	will	be,	nec	ess	arily
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Class	Meml	er.												

- Predominance: Questions of law or fact common to the Class Members 36. predominate over any questions affecting only individual members of the Class. The elements of the legal claims brought by Plaintiff and Class Members are capable of proof at trial through evidence that is common to the Class rather than individual to its members.
- Superiority: A class action is a superior method for the fair and efficient 37. adjudication of this controversy because:
  - Class-wide damages are essential to induce Defendants to comply with California law.
  - Because of the relatively small size of the individual Class Members' b. claims, it is likely that only a few Class Members could afford to seek legal redress for Defendant's misconduct.
  - Management of these claims is likely to present significantly fewer c. difficulties than those presented in many class claims.
  - d. Absent a class action, most Class Members would likely find the cost of litigating their claims prohibitively high and would therefore have no effective remedy at law.
  - Class action treatment is manageable because it will permit a large e. number of similarly situated persons to prosecute their common claims in a single forum simultaneously, efficiently, and without the unnecessary duplication of effort and expense that numerous individual actions would endanger.
  - Absent a class action, Class Members will continue to incur damages, f. and Defendant's misconduct will continue without remedy.

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- Plaintiff and the Class Members have all suffered and will continue to suffer 38. harm and damages as a result of Defendant's unlawful and wrongful conduct. A class action is also superior to other available methods because as individual Class Members have no way of discovering that Defendant recorded their telephone conversations without Class Members' knowledge or consent.
- 39. The Class may also be certified because:
  - The prosecution of separate actions by individual Class Members would create a risk of inconsistent or varying adjudication with respect to individual Class Members, which would establish incompatible standards of conduct for Defendant;
  - The prosecution of separate actions by individual Class Members would create a risk of adjudications with respect to them that would, as a practical matter, be dispositive of the interests of other Class Members not parties to the adjudications, or substantially impair or impede their ability to protect their interests; and
  - Defendant has acted or refused to act on grounds generally applicable to the Class, thereby making appropriate final and injunctive relief with respect to the members of the Class as a whole.
- 40. This suit seeks only damages and injunctive relief for recovery of economic injury on behalf of Class Members and it expressly is not intended to request any recovery for personal injury and claims related thereto. Plaintiff reserves the right to expand Class definitions to seek recovery on behalf of additional persons as warranted as facts are learned in further investigation and discovery.
- 41. The joinder of Class Members is impractical and the disposition of their claims in the Class action will provide substantial benefits both to the parties and to the court. The Class Members can be identified through Defendant's records.

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# FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION ILLEGAL RECORDING OF CELLULAR PHONE CONVERSATIONS UNDER CALIFORNIA PENAL CODE § 632.7

- 42. Plaintiff repeats, re-alleges, and incorporates by reference, all other paragraphs.
- 43. At all relevant times hereto, Defendant had and followed a policy and practice of using a telecommunications system that enabled it to surreptitiously record cellular telephone communications between Defendant and Plaintiff and Class Members.
- 44. At all relevant times hereto, Defendant intentionally and surreptitiously recorded cellular telephone calls between Defendant and Plaintiff and Class Members.
- 45. At all relevant times hereto, Defendant had and followed a policy and practice of not advising or warning Plaintiff and Class Members that their cellular telephone communications with Defendant would be recorded.
- 46. Defendant failed to obtain consent of Plaintiff and Class Members prior to recording any of their cellular telephone conversations.
- 47. This conduct by Defendant violated section 632.7(a) of the California Penal Code.
- 48. Plaintiff and Class Members are entitled to recovery actual and statutory damages in the amount of \$5,000.00 per violation of Cal. Pen. Code § 632.7.
- 49. Plaintiff's counsel is also entitled to attorneys' fees and costs pursuant to Cal. Code of Civ. Proc. § 1021.5.

# SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION INVASION OF PRIVACY INTRUSION INTO PRIVATE AFFAIRS

- 50. Plaintiff repeats, re-alleges, and incorporates by reference, all other paragraphs.
- 51. At all relevant times hereto, Plaintiff and Class Members had a reasonable expectation of privacy.
- 52. At all relevant times hereto, Defendant had and followed a policy and practice of using a telecommunications system that enabled it to surreptitiously record

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cellular telephone	communications	between	Defendant	and	Plaintiff	and	Class
Members.							

- 53. At all relevant times hereto, Defendant intentionally and surreptitiously recorded cellular telephone calls between Defendant and Plaintiff and Class Members.
- 54. At all relevant times hereto, Defendant had and followed a policy and practice of not advising or warning Plaintiff and Class Members that their cellular telephone communications with Defendant would be recorded.
- 55. Defendant failed to obtain consent of Plaintiff and Class Members prior to recording any of their cellular telephone conversations, thus intentionally intruding on Plaintiff's and Class Members' reasonable expectation of privacy.
- 56. This intentional intrusion was a substantial factor in causing Plaintiff and Class Members harm.
- Plaintiff's counsel is also entitled to attorneys' fees and costs pursuant to Cal. 57. Code of Civ. Proc. § 1021.5.

### PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff and the Class Members pray that judgment be entered against Defendant, and Plaintiff be awarded damages from Defendant, as follows:

- Certify the Class as requested herein;
- Appoint Plaintiff to serve as the Class Representative for the Class;
- Appoint Plaintiff's Counsel as Class Counsel in this matter for the Class; 20

In addition, Plaintiff and the Class Members pray for further judgment as follows against Defendant:

### ILLEGAL TELEPHONE RECORDING OF CELLULAR PHONE CONVERSATIONS UNDER CALIFORNIA PENAL CODE § 632.7

Special, general, compensatory and punitive damages;

As a result of Defendant's violation of California Penal Code Sections 630 et 1 2 seq., Plaintiff seeks statutory damages of \$5,000.00 pursuant to California Penal 3 Code § 637.2(a); Reasonable attorneys' fees pursuant to Cal. Code of Civ. Proc. § 1021.5; 4 5 Injunctive relief to prevent the further occurrence of such illegal acts pursuant to California Penal Code § 637.2(b); 6 7 An award of costs to Plaintiff and; 8 Any other relief the Court may deem just and proper including interest. 9 **INVASION OF PRIVACY** INTRUSION INTO PRIVATE AFFAIRS 10 Special, general, compensatory and punitive damages; 11 Reasonable attorneys' fees pursuant to Cal. Code of Civ. Proc. § 1021.5; 12 Injunctive relief, prohibiting such conduct in the future; and, 13 Any other relief the Court may deem just and proper. 14 TRIAL BY JURY 15 Pursuant to the seventh amendment to the Constitution of the United States of 58. 16 America, Plaintiff and Class Members are entitled to, and demand, a trial by 17 jury. 18 19 20 Respectfully submitted, 21 KAZEROUNI LAW GROUP, APC 22 By: s/Abbas Kazerounian Date: January 26, 2018 23 Abbas Kazerounian, Esq. 24 ak@kazlg.com Attorney for Plaintiff 25 26 27 28

Additional Plaintiff's Counsel:
HYDE & SWIGART Joshua B. Swigart, Esq. (SBN: 225557) josh@westcoastlitigation.com Yana A. Hart, Esq. (SBN: 306499) yana@westcoastlitigation.com 2221 Camino Del Rio South, Suite 101 San Diego, CA 92108-3551 Telephone: (619) 233-7770 Facsimile: (619) 297-1022

### $_{ m JS~44~(Rev.~06/1)}$ case 3:18-cv-00180-CAB-JLB-Decument 1.7 Files 01/26/18 Page I of 2

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 illitiating the civil to	ocket sheet. (SEE INSTRUC	HONS ON NEXT FAGE OF	11113110	KW.)						
I. (a) PLAINTIFFS				DEFENDANTS						
Ophelia Augustine, Individually and on Behalf of All Others Similarly Situated,  (b) County of Residence of First Listed Plaintiff San Diego (EXCEPT IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES)  KAZEROUNI LAW GROUP, APC, 245 Fischer Avenue, Suite D1 Costa Mesa, California 92626 (800) 400-6808				CAPITAL ONE BANK USA, N.A.,						
				County of Residence of First Listed Defendant Henrico County, VA  (IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES ONLY)  NOTE: IN LAND CONDEMNATION CASES, USE THE LOCATION OF THE TRACT OF LAND INVOLVED.						
				Attorneys (If Known)	'18CV180 C	AB JLB				
II. BASIS OF JURISDI	CTION (Place an "X" in O	ne Box Only)	III. CI	TIZENSHIP OF P		S (Place an "X" in One Box for Plaintiff				
□ 1 U.S. Government					<b>IF DEF</b> 1 □ 1 Incorporated <i>or</i> of Business In					
☐ 2 U.S. Government Defendant	☐ 4 Diversity (Indicate Citizenshi)	ip of Parties in Item III)	Citize	Citizen of Another State						
				en or Subject of a reign Country	3 🗖 3 Foreign Nation	□ 6 □ 6				
IV. NATURE OF SUIT						e of Suit Code Descriptions.				
CONTRACT		RTS		DRFEITURE/PENALTY	BANKRUPTCY	OTHER STATUTES				
<ul> <li>□ 110 Insurance</li> <li>□ 120 Marine</li> <li>□ 130 Miller Act</li> <li>□ 140 Negotiable Instrument</li> <li>□ 150 Recovery of Overpayment         <ul> <li>&amp; Enforcement of Judgment</li> </ul> </li> <li>□ 151 Medicare Act</li> <li>□ 152 Recovery of Defaulted         <ul> <li>Student Loans</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	PERSONAL INJURY  □ 310 Airplane □ 315 Airplane Product Liability □ 320 Assault, Libel & Pharmaceutical Slander □ 330 Federal Employers' Liability □ 340 Marine  PERSONAL INJU Product Liabilit Pharmaceutical Personal Injury Product Liabilit Injury Product Injury Product Injury Product			5 Drug Related Seizure of Property 21 USC 881 0 Other	□ 422 Appeal 28 USC 158 □ 423 Withdrawal 28 USC 157  PROPERTY RIGHTS □ 820 Copyrights □ 830 Patent □ 835 Patent - Abbreviated New Drug Application	☐ 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				
(Excludes Veterans)	☐ 345 Marine Product	Liability PERSONAL PROPER	TV	LABOR	□ 840 Trademark	Corrupt Organizations				
<ul> <li>□ 153 Recovery of Overpayment of Veteran's Benefits</li> <li>□ 160 Stockholders' Suits</li> <li>□ 190 Other Contract</li> <li>□ 195 Contract Product Liability</li> <li>□ 196 Franchise</li> </ul>	Liability  350 Motor Vehicle  355 Motor Vehicle  Product Liability  360 Other Personal Injury  362 Personal Injury - Medical Malpractice	PERSONAL PROPER'  □ 370 Other Fraud  □ 371 Truth in Lending  □ 380 Other Personal  Property Damage  □ 385 Property Damage  Product Liability	☐ 71 ☐ 72 ☐ 74 ☐ 75	Description of the control of the co	SOCIAL SECURITY  □ 861 HIA (1395ff) □ 862 Black Lung (923) □ 863 DIWC/DIWW (405(g)) □ 864 SSID Title XVI □ 865 RSI (405(g))	□ 480 Consumer Credit □ 490 Cable/Sat TV □ 850 Securities/Commodities/ Exchange ▼890 Other Statutory Actions □ 891 Agricultural Acts □ 893 Environmental Matters □ 895 Freedom of Information				
REAL PROPERTY  210 Land Condemnation 220 Foreclosure 230 Rent Lease & Ejectment 240 Torts to Land 245 Tort Product Liability 290 All Other Real Property	CIVIL RIGHTS  440 Other Civil Rights  441 Voting  442 Employment  443 Housing/ Accommodations  445 Amer. w/Disabilities - Employment	PRISONER PETITION  Habeas Corpus:  □ 463 Alien Detainee □ 510 Motions to Vacate Sentence □ 530 General □ 535 Death Penalty  Other:	<b>1</b> 79	Other Labor Litigation     Employee Retirement     Income Security Act      IMMIGRATION     Valuation Application	FEDERAL TAX SUITS  870 Taxes (U.S. Plaintiff or Defendant)  871 IRS—Third Party 26 USC 7609	Act  896 Arbitration  899 Administrative Procedure Act/Review or Appeal of Agency Decision  950 Constitutionality of State Statutes				
	☐ 446 Amer. w/Disabilities - Other☐ 448 Education☐	☐ 540 Mandamus & Othe ☐ 550 Civil Rights ☐ 555 Prison Condition ☐ 560 Civil Detainee - Conditions of Confinement	er □ 46	55 Other Immigration Actions						
	moved from 3	Remanded from Appellate Court		stated or 5 Transfer bened Anothe (specify,	er District Litigation	on - Litigation -				
VI. CAUSE OF ACTION	ON 28 U.S.C. § 13320 Brief description of ca	(d)(2) use:		Oo not cite jurisdictional stat	tutes unless diversity):	Invasion of Privacy Act				
VII. REQUESTED IN COMPLAINT:	•	IS A CLASS ACTION		EMAND \$		y if demanded in complaint:				
VIII. RELATED CASI IF ANY	E(S) (See instructions):	JUDGE			DOCKET NUMBER _					
DATE January 26, 2018 FOR OFFICE USE ONLY		signature of att s/ Abbas Kazero		DF RECORD						
	MOUNT	APPLYING IFP		JUDGE	MAG. JU	JDGE				

### INSTRUCTIONS FOR ATTORNEYS COMPLETING CIVIL COVER SHEET FORM JS 44

Authority For Civil Cover Sheet

The JS 44 civil cover sheet and the information contained herein neither replaces nor supplements the filings and service of pleading 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. Consequently, a civil cover sheet is submitted to the Clerk of Court for each civil complaint filed. The attorney filing a case should complete the form as follows:

- **I.(a) Plaintiffs-Defendants.** Enter names (last, first, middle initial) of plaintiff and defendant. If the plaintiff or defendant is a government agency, use only the full name or standard abbreviations. If the plaintiff or defendant is an official within a government agency, identify first the agency and then the official, giving both name and title.
  - (b) County of Residence. For each civil case filed, except U.S. plaintiff cases, enter the name of the county where the first listed plaintiff resides at the time of filing. In U.S. plaintiff cases, enter the name of the county in which the first listed defendant resides at the time of filing. (NOTE: In land condemnation cases, the county of residence of the "defendant" is the location of the tract of land involved.)
  - (c) Attorneys. Enter the firm name, address, telephone number, and attorney of record. If there are several attorneys, list them on an attachment, noting in this section "(see attachment)".
- II. Jurisdiction. The basis of jurisdiction is set forth under Rule 8(a), F.R.Cv.P., which requires that jurisdictions be shown in pleadings. Place an "X" in one of the boxes. If there is more than one basis of jurisdiction, precedence is given in the order shown below.
  - United States plaintiff. (1) Jurisdiction based on 28 U.S.C. 1345 and 1348. Suits by agencies and officers of the United States are included here. United States defendant. (2) When the plaintiff is suing the United States, its officers or agencies, place an "X" in this box.
  - Federal question. (3) This refers to suits under 28 U.S.C. 1331, where jurisdiction arises under the Constitution of the United States, an amendment to the Constitution, an act of Congress or a treaty of the United States. In cases where the U.S. is a party, the U.S. plaintiff or defendant code takes precedence, and box 1 or 2 should be marked.
  - Diversity of citizenship. (4) This refers to suits under 28 U.S.C. 1332, where parties are citizens of different states. When Box 4 is checked, the citizenship of the different parties must be checked. (See Section III below; **NOTE: federal question actions take precedence over diversity cases.**)
- **III. Residence** (citizenship) of Principal Parties. This section of the JS 44 is to be completed if diversity of citizenship was indicated above. Mark this section for each principal party.
- **IV. Nature of Suit.** Place an "X" in the appropriate box. If there are multiple nature of suit codes associated with the case, pick the nature of suit code that is most applicable. Click here for: <a href="Nature of Suit Code Descriptions">Nature of Suit Code Descriptions</a>.
- **V. Origin.** Place an "X" in one of the seven boxes.
  - Original Proceedings. (1) Cases which originate in the United States district courts.
  - Removed from State Court. (2) Proceedings initiated in state courts may be removed to the district courts under Title 28 U.S.C., Section 1441. When the petition for removal is granted, check this box.
  - Remanded from Appellate Court. (3) Check this box for cases remanded to the district court for further action. Use the date of remand as the filing date.
  - Reinstated or Reopened. (4) Check this box for cases reinstated or reopened in the district court. Use the reopening date as the filing date. Transferred from Another District. (5) For cases transferred under Title 28 U.S.C. Section 1404(a). Do not use this for within district transfers or multidistrict litigation transfers.
  - Multidistrict Litigation Transfer. (6) Check this box when a multidistrict case is transferred into the district under authority of Title 28 U.S.C. Section 1407
  - Multidistrict Litigation Direct File. (8) Check this box when a multidistrict case is filed in the same district as the Master MDL docket. **PLEASE NOTE THAT THERE IS NOT AN ORIGIN CODE 7.** Origin Code 7 was used for historical records and is no longer relevant due to changes in statue.
- VI. Cause of Action. Report the civil statute directly related to the cause of action and give a brief description of the cause. Do not cite jurisdictional statutes unless diversity. Example: U.S. Civil Statute: 47 USC 553 Brief Description: Unauthorized reception of cable service
- **VII.** Requested in Complaint. Class Action. Place an "X" in this box if you are filing a class action under Rule 23, F.R.Cv.P. Demand. In this space enter the actual dollar amount being demanded or indicate other demand, such as a preliminary injunction. Jury Demand. Check the appropriate box to indicate whether or not a jury is being demanded.
- VIII. Related Cases. This section of the JS 44 is used to reference related pending cases, if any. If there are related pending cases, insert the docket numbers and the corresponding judge names for such cases.

**Date and Attorney Signature.** Date and sign the civil cover sheet.

## **ClassAction.org**

This complaint is part of ClassAction.org's searchable class action lawsuit database and can be found in this post: <u>Lawsuit: Consumer Shocked After Capital One Secretly Recorded Phone Call</u>