UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT EASTERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

SHTERNA BAROUK on behalf of herself and all other similarly situated consumers

Plaintiff.

-against-

NORTHLAND GROUP INC.

Defendant.

CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT

Introduction

1. Plaintiff, Shterna Barouk, brings this action against Northland Group Inc. for violations of the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, 15 U.S.C. § 1692, et *seq.* ("FDCPA"). The FDCPA prohibits debt collectors from engaging in abusive, deceptive and unfair collection practices while attempting to collect on debts.

Parties

- 2. Plaintiff is a citizen of the State of New York who resides within this District.
- 3. Plaintiff is a consumer as that term is defined by Section 1692(a)(3) of the FDCPA, in that the alleged debt that Defendant sought to collect from Plaintiff a consumer debt.
- Upon information and belief, Defendant's principal place of business is located in Edina,
 Minnesota.
- 5. Defendant is regularly engaged, for profit, in the collection of debts allegedly owed by consumers.
- 6. Defendant is a "debt collector" as that term is defined by the FDCPA, 15 U.S.C. § 1692(a)(6).

Jurisdiction and Venue

- 7. This Court has federal question jurisdiction under 15 U.S.C. § 1692k(d) and 28 U.S.C. § 1331.
- 8. Venue is proper in this district pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1391(b), as the acts and transactions that give rise to this action occurred, in substantial part, in this district.

Allegations Particular to Shterna Barouk

- 9. Upon information and belief, on a date better known by Defendant, Defendant began to attempt to collect an alleged consumer debt from the Plaintiff.
- 10. On or about February 6, 2016, Defendant sent the Plaintiff a collection letter.
- 11. The said letter was an effort to collect on a consumer debt.
- 12. Said letter states in pertinent part as follows: "CITIBANK, N.A. will report forgiveness of debt as required by IRS regulations."
- 13. The Defendant's language is deceptive and misleading and violated the FDCPA.
- 14. Under 26 C.F.R. §1.6050P-1(d)(2) and (3), only the discharge of principal need be reported:
 - (2) Interest. The discharge of an amount of indebtedness that is interest **is not required to be reported** under this section.
 - (3) Non-principal amounts in lending transactions. In the case of a lending transaction, the discharge of an amount other than stated principal **is not required to be reported** under this section. For this purpose, a lending transaction is any transaction in which a lender loans money to, or makes advances on behalf of, a borrower (including revolving credits and lines of credit).
- 15. It is highly improbable for one who is in debt to have income as a result of settling a debt, as that person is more likely to be insolvent; so such a discharge would not be considered as income.
- 16. A collection notice is deceptive when it reasonably can be read to have two or more

different meanings, one of which is inaccurate.¹

- 17. The language in the letter that states "CITIBANK, N.A. will report forgiveness of debt as required by IRS regulations" could reasonably be understood by the least sophisticated consumer to mean that IRS regulations require that the client, in all circumstances, report forgiveness of debt to the IRS.
- 18. The words "CITIBANK, N.A. will report forgiveness of debt as required by IRS regulations" is reasonably read to mean that the creditor will always report forgiveness of debt.
- 19. The least sophisticated consumer would understand this statement to mean that the creditor is required by IRS regulations to report forgiveness of debt.
- 20. Although the Defendant had no duty to disclose any potential tax ramifications,² when Defendant chooses to give <u>tax</u> disclosures, it must do so in a way that it will not mislead the least sophisticated consumer as to his or her tax consequences.
- 21. Current case law has made clear, that if debt collectors are providing tax advice with regards to the reporting of forgiveness of debt, they cannot provide vague, incomplete and misleading disclosures that leaves out the essential element that the reporting of forgiveness of a debt happens only if the **principal** forgiven exceeds \$600, and that reporting of forgiveness of a debt would not happen even if the amount is greater than \$600, if the amount forgiven contained interest forgiveness so long as the principal was less than \$600.
- 22. The statement "CITIBANK, N.A. will report forgiveness of debt as required by IRS

¹ Pipiles v. Credit Bureau of Lockport, Inc., 886 F.2d 22, 25 (2d Cir. 1989) (Because the collection notice was reasonably susceptible to an inaccurate reading, it was deceptive within the meaning of the Act.); Clomon v. Jackson, 988 F.2d 1314, 1319 (2d Cir. 1993) (Collection notices are deceptive if they are open to more than one reasonable interpretation, at least one of which is inaccurate.); Russell v. Equifax A.R.S., 74 F.3d 30, 34 (2d Cir. N.Y. 1996) (A collection notice is deceptive when it can be reasonably read to have two or more different meanings, one of which is inaccurate. The fact that the notice's terminology was vague or uncertain will not prevent it from being held deceptive under § 1692e(10) of the Act.)

² Altman v. J.C. Christensen & Assocs., 786 F.3d 191, 194, 2015 U.S. App. LEXIS 7980, *7 (2d Cir. N.Y. 2015) "[T]he FDCPA does not require a debt collector to make any affirmative disclosures of potential tax consequences when collecting a debt.")

regulations" is ambiguous, yet the vagueness and uncertainty does not erase the fundamental mischief and deception that the statement intends to cause to the consumer. A consumer reading this statement will be led to believe that if a settlement erases any amount of the debt, then the creditor is required to report the forgiveness of debt to the IRS, per the IRS regulations (creating by fear of the IRS another incentive for the consumer to pay the debt without erasing any amount through settlement). However, this statement is inherently deceptive and misleading, by giving erroneous and incomplete tax information - because in actual fact and according to IRS regulations, the creditor "will not" be required to report to the IRS report forgiveness of debt less than \$600, nor would the creditor be required to report an amount greater than \$600 in forgiveness if the amount contained interest.

- 23. If the creditor wishes to legitimately give tax advice in a sincere manner, one that does not mislead the consumer, then that creditor should specify and make clear to the least sophisticated consumer that only certain amounts require reporting, and that this applies only to principle and not to interest forgiveness.
- 24. The creditor should also specify what amounts are principle and what part of it is interest, in the amounts owed. Any tax advice that does not specify the tax consequences as it applies to the consumer's circumstances is nothing more than a ploy to elicit a more substantial payment from the consumer than the consumer would have paid, had he or she understood the tax reporting consequences.
- 25. The use of the words "CITIBANK, N.A. will report forgiveness of debt as required by IRS regulations" is an attempt by the debt collector to make the debtor think that the IRS regulations always require the reporting of forgiveness of debt. The least sophisticated consumer would reasonably read the letter to mean that the creditor, in all circumstances,

will report forgiveness of debt as is required by IRS regulations.³

- 26. In a recent decision, this court found in the case of Kaff v. Nationwide Credit, Inc., 1:13-cv-05413, No. 32 (E.D.N.Y. Mar. 31, 2015) (Towns, J.) that a statement regarding the requirement to file a 1099: "was not strictly true under all circumstances because it failed to apprise debtors that possible exceptions could apply to the creditor's mandatory reporting requirement, such as the exceptions for interest and other non-principal debts." Kaff v. Nationwide Credit, Inc., 1:13-cv-05413, No. 32 (E.D.N.Y. Mar. 31, 2015) (Towns, J.) (emphasis added); see also Good v. Nationwide Credit, Inc., No. 14-4295, 2014 BL 302150 (E.D. Pa. Oct. 24, 2014) (Finding that the statement "American Express is required to file a form 1099C with the Internal Revenue Service for any cancelled debt of \$600 or more. Please consult your tax advisor concerning any tax questions" is not true and does not accurately reflect the relevant law the court also found that the statement's invocation of the IRS was deceptive and materially misleading in violation of the FDCPA.)
- 27. The Defendant tends to give erroneous and/or incomplete tax advice to consumers.
- 28. The FDCPA does not require that tax consequences be identified in collection letters sent to consumers; but where a debt collector has chosen to threaten the debtor with tax consequences, and has done so inaccurately, the false representation causes detrimental harm to the consumer since it concretely thwarts the consumer's ability to freely navigate a course of action in response to the collection notice. The risk in this type of harm is the detrimental impact to the consumer. And such harm is precisely the kind of infringement of the consumer's best interests that the FDCPA seeks to combat.
- 29. Such a statement in a collection letter suggests to the least sophisticated consumer that

³ Russell v. Equifax A.R.S., 74 F.3d 30, 35, 1996 U.S. App. LEXIS 1042, *13 (2d Cir. N.Y. 1996) (That a notice's terminology is vague or uncertain will not prevent it from being held deceptive under 1692e.)

- failure to pay will get the consumer into trouble with the IRS.⁴
- 30. The statement in the said letter is false and misleading, in violation of 15 U.S.C. §§ 1692e, 1692e(2), and 1692e(10).
- 31. Plaintiff suffered injury in fact by being subjected to unfair and abusive practices of the Defendant.
- 32. Plaintiff suffered actual harm by being the target of the Defendant's misleading debt collection communications.
- 33. Defendant violated the Plaintiff's right not to be the target of misleading debt collection communications.
- 34. Defendant violated the Plaintiff's right to a truthful and fair debt collection process.
- 35. Defendant used materially false, deceptive, misleading representations and means in its attempted collection of Plaintiff's alleged debt.
- 36. Defendant's communications were designed to cause the debtor to suffer a harmful disadvantage in charting a course of action in response to the Defendant's collection efforts.
- 37. 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 her of her right to enjoy these benefits, these materially misleading statements trigger liability under section 1692e of the Act.
- 38. These deceptive communications additionally violated the FDCPA since they frustrate

⁴ <u>Kaff v. Nationwide Credit, Inc.</u>, 1:13-cv-05413, No. 32 (E.D.N.Y. Mar. 31, 2015) (Towns, J.); <u>Wagner v. Client Services, Inc.</u>, No. 08-5546, 2009 WL 839073, 2009 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 26604 (E.D.Pa., March 26, 2009); <u>Sledge v. Sands</u>, 182 F.R.D. 255 (N.D.III. 1998).

- the consumer's ability to intelligently choose his or her response.
- 39. 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.

CLASS ALLEGATIONS

- 40. This action is brought as a class action. Plaintiff brings this action on behalf of herself and on behalf of all other persons similarly situated pursuant to Rule 23 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure.
- 41. The identities of all class members are readily ascertainable from the records of Northland Group Inc. and those business and governmental entities on whose behalf it attempts to collect debts.
- 42. Excluded from the Plaintiff's Class is the Defendant and all officers, members, partners, managers, directors, and employees of Northland Group Inc., and all of their respective immediate families, and legal counsel for all parties to this action and all members of their immediate families.
- 43. There are questions of law and fact common to the Plaintiff's Class, which common issues predominate over any issues involving only individual class members. The principal issues are whether the Defendant's communications with the Plaintiff, such as the above stated claims, violate provisions of the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act.
- 44. The Plaintiff's claims are typical of the class members, as all are based upon the same facts and legal theories.
- 45. The Plaintiff will fairly and adequately protect the interests of the Plaintiff's Class defined in this complaint. The Plaintiff has retained counsel with experience in handling consumer lawsuits, complex legal issues, and class actions, and neither the Plaintiff nor

her attorneys have any interests, which might cause them not to vigorously pursue this action.

- 46. This action has been brought, and may properly be maintained, as a class action pursuant to the provisions of Rule 23 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure because there is a well-defined community interest in the litigation:
 - (a) <u>Numerosity:</u> The Plaintiff is informed and believes, and on that basis alleges, that the Plaintiff's Class defined above is so numerous that joinder of all members would be impractical.
 - (b) <u>Common Questions Predominate:</u> Common questions of law and fact exist as to all members of the Plaintiff's Class and those questions predominate over any questions or issues involving only individual class members. The principal issues are whether the Defendant's communications with the Plaintiff, such as the above stated claims, violate provisions of the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act.
 - (c) **Typicality:** The Plaintiff's claims are typical of the claims of the class members. Plaintiff and all members of the Plaintiff's Class defined in this complaint have claims arising out of the Defendant's common uniform course of conduct complained of herein.
 - (d) Adequacy: The Plaintiff will fairly and adequately protect the interests of the class members insofar as Plaintiff has no interests that are adverse to the absent class members. The Plaintiff is committed to vigorously litigating this matter. Plaintiff has also retained counsel experienced in handling consumer lawsuits, complex legal issues, and class actions. Neither the Plaintiff nor her counsel have any interests, which might cause them not to vigorously pursue the instant class action lawsuit.

- (e) Superiority: A class action is superior to the other available means for the fair and efficient adjudication of this controversy because individual joinder of all members would be impracticable. Class action treatment will permit a large number of similarly situated persons to prosecute their common claims in a single forum efficiently and without unnecessary duplication of effort and expense that individual actions would engender. Certification of a class under Rule 23(b)(l)(A) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure is appropriate because adjudications with respect to individual members create a risk of inconsistent or varying adjudications which could establish incompatible standards of conduct for Defendant who, on information and belief, collects debts throughout the United States of America.
- 47. Certification of a class under Rule 23(b)(2) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure is also appropriate in that a determination that the above stated claims, violate provisions of the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, and is tantamount to declaratory relief and any monetary relief under the FDCPA would be merely incidental to that determination.
- 48. Certification of a class under Rule 23(b)(3) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure is also appropriate in that the questions of law and fact common to members of the Plaintiff's Class predominate over any questions affecting an individual member, and a class action is superior to other available methods for the fair and efficient adjudication of the controversy.
- 49. Further, Defendant has acted, or failed to act, on grounds generally applicable to the Rule (b)(l)(A) and (b)(2) Class, thereby making appropriate final injunctive relief with respect to the Class as a whole.

50. Depending on the outcome of further investigation and discovery, Plaintiff may, at the time of class certification motion, seek to certify one or more classes only as to particular issues pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 23(c)(4).

AS AND FOR A FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION

Violations of the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act brought by Plaintiff on behalf of herself and the members of a class, as against the Defendant.

- 51. Plaintiff repeats, reiterates, and incorporates the allegations contained in paragraphs numbered one (1) through fifty (50) herein with the same force and effect is if the same were set forth at length herein.
- 52. This cause of action is brought on behalf of Plaintiff and the members of a class.
- of New York and who were sent a collection letter in substantially the same form letter as the letter sent to the Plaintiff on or about February 6, 2016; and (a) the collection letter was sent to a consumer seeking payment of a personal debt; and (b) the collection letter was not returned by the postal service as undelivered; and (c) the Plaintiff asserts that the letter contained violations of 15 U.S.C. §§ 1692d, 1692e, 1692e(5), 1692e(8), 1692e(10), and 1692f, for harassment and by threatening to engage in an act which is legally prohibited.

Violations of the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act

- 54. The Defendant's actions as set forth above in the within complaint violates the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act.
- 55. Because the Defendant violated the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, the Plaintiff and the members of the class are entitled to damages in accordance with the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff, respectfully requests preliminary and permanent injunctive relief, and that this Court enter judgment in Plaintiff's favor and against the Defendant and award damages as follows:

- (a) Statutory damages provided under the FDCPA, 15 U.S.C. § 1692(k);
- (b) Attorney fees, litigation expenses and costs incurred in bringing this action; and
- (c) Any other relief that this Court deems appropriate and just under the circumstances.

Dated: Brooklyn, New York January 31, 2017

/s/ Maxim Maximov
Maxim Maximov, Esq.
Attorneys for the Plaintiff
Maxim Maximov, LLP
1701 Avenue P
Brooklyn, New York 11229
Office: (718) 395-3459

Facsimile: (718) 408-9570 E-mail: m@maximovlaw.com

Plaintiff requests trial by jury on all issues so triable.

/s/ Maxim Maximov
Maxim Maximov, Esq.

JS 44 (Rev. 1/2013)

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 decket sheet.

urpose of initiating the civil d I. (a) PLAINTIFFS	ocket sheet. (SEE INSTRUC	TIONS ON NEXT PAGE OF TE	DEFENDANTS		
SHTERNA BAROUK			NORTHLAND GROUP INC.		
(b) County of Residence of	f First Listed Plaintiff <u>}</u> XCEPT IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CA	KINGS ASES)	County of Residence of First Listed Defendant (IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES ONLY)		
(EACEFI IN U.S. FLAINTIFF CASES)				ONDEMNATION CASES, USE TO OF LAND INVOLVED.	,
(c) Attorneys (Firm Name,			Attorneys (If Known)		
MAXIM MAXIMOV, LLP 1701 AVENUE P		(718) 395-3459 8) 408-9570			
BROOKLYN, NEW YOR	•	M@MAXIMOVLAW.C	ОМ		
II. BASIS OF JURISDI	ICTION (Place an "X" in C	One Box Only)		RINCIPAL PARTIES	(Place an "X" in One Box for Plaintig
□ 1 U.S. Government	■ 3 Federal Question		(For Diversity Cases Only) P	rf def	and One Box for Defendant) PTF DEF
Plaintiff	(U.S. Government	Not a Party)	Citizen of This State	1	
☐ 2 U.S. Government Defendant	☐ 4 Diversity (Indicate Citizensh	ip of Parties in Item III)	Citizen of Another State	2	
			Citizen or Subject of a Foreign Country	3 🗖 3 Foreign Nation	□ 6 □ 6
IV. NATURE OF SUIT		nly) DRTS	FORFEITURE/PENALTY	BANKRUPTCY	OTHER STATUTES
□ 110 Insurance	PERSONAL INJURY	PERSONAL INJURY	☐ 625 Drug Related Seizure	☐ 422 Appeal 28 USC 158	☐ 375 False Claims Act
☐ 120 Marine ☐ 130 Miller Act	☐ 310 Airplane ☐ 315 Airplane Product	☐ 365 Personal Injury - Product Liability	of Property 21 USC 881 ☐ 690 Other	☐ 423 Withdrawal 28 USC 157	☐ 400 State Reapportionment☐ 410 Antitrust
☐ 140 Negotiable Instrument☐ 150 Recovery of Overpayment	Liability ☐ 320 Assault, Libel &	☐ 367 Health Care/ Pharmaceutical		PROPERTY RIGHTS	☐ 430 Banks and Banking☐ 450 Commerce
& Enforcement of Judgment	Slander	Personal Injury		□ 820 Copyrights	☐ 460 Deportation
☐ 151 Medicare Act☐ 152 Recovery of Defaulted☐	☐ 330 Federal Employers' Liability	Product Liability ☐ 368 Asbestos Personal		☐ 830 Patent ☐ 840 Trademark	☐ 470 Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations
Student Loans (Excludes Veterans)	☐ 340 Marine ☐ 345 Marine Product	Injury Product Liability	LABOR	SOCIAL SECURITY	■ 480 Consumer Credit ■ 490 Cable/Sat TV
☐ 153 Recovery of Overpayment of Veteran's Benefits	Liability ☐ 350 Motor Vehicle		☐ 710 Fair Labor Standards Act	☐ 861 HIA (1395ff) ☐ 862 Black Lung (923)	☐ 850 Securities/Commodities/ Exchange
☐ 160 Stockholders' Suits	☐ 355 Motor Vehicle	371 Truth in Lending	□ 720 Labor/Management	□ 863 DIWC/DIWW (405(g))	☐ 890 Other Statutory Actions
☐ 190 Other Contract☐ 195 Contract Product Liability☐	Product Liability 360 Other Personal	☐ 380 Other Personal Property Damage	Relations ☐ 740 Railway Labor Act	☐ 864 SSID Title XVI ☐ 865 RSI (405(g))	☐ 891 Agricultural Acts ☐ 893 Environmental Matters
☐ 196 Franchise	Injury ☐ 362 Personal Injury -	☐ 385 Property Damage Product Liability	☐ 751 Family and Medical Leave Act		☐ 895 Freedom of Information Act
DEAL PROPERTY	Medical Malpractice		☐ 790 Other Labor Litigation	EEDED AT TAV CHITC	☐ 896 Arbitration
REAL PROPERTY ☐ 210 Land Condemnation	CIVIL RIGHTS ☐ 440 Other Civil Rights	PRISONER PETITIONS Habeas Corpus:	☐ 791 Employee Retirement Income Security Act	FEDERAL TAX SUITS ☐ 870 Taxes (U.S. Plaintiff	☐ 899 Administrative Procedure Act/Review or Appeal of
☐ 220 Foreclosure ☐ 230 Rent Lease & Ejectment	☐ 441 Voting ☐ 442 Employment	☐ 463 Alien Detainee ☐ 510 Motions to Vacate		or Defendant) ☐ 871 IRS—Third Party	Agency Decision ☐ 950 Constitutionality of
☐ 240 Torts to Land	☐ 443 Housing/	Sentence		26 USC 7609	State Statutes
☐ 245 Tort Product Liability☐ 290 All Other Real Property	Accommodations ☐ 445 Amer. w/Disabilities -	☐ 530 General ☐ 535 Death Penalty	IMMIGRATION		
	Employment 446 Amer. w/Disabilities -	Other: 540 Mandamus & Other	☐ 462 Naturalization Application☐ 465 Other Immigration		
	Other 448 Education	☐ 550 Civil Rights ☐ 555 Prison Condition	Actions		
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		Conditions of Confinement			
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VII. REQUESTED IN COMPLAINT:	CHECK IF THIS UNDER RULE 2	IS A CLASS ACTION 3, F.R.Cv.P.	DEMAND \$	CHECK YES only JURY DEMAND:	if demanded in complaint: X Yes □ No
VIII. RELATED CASI IF ANY	E(S) (See instructions):	JUDGE		DOCKET NUMBER	
DATE SIGNATURE OF ATTORNEY OF RECORD O1/31/2017 /S/ MAXIM MAXIMOV, ESQ.					
FOR OFFICE USE ONLY					
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Case 1:17-cv-006RTIFICANTION 10F AFREITCRASTION PLAGGIB DE L'ETY ageID #: 13

exclusiv	e of intere		ons, actions seeking money damages only in an amount not in excess of \$150,000, tration. The amount of damages is presumed to be below the threshold amount unless a			
I N/A		counsel for	do hereby certify that the above cantioned civil action is			
ineligib	ole for c	ompulsory arbitration for the following	, do hereby certify that the above captioned civil action is ng 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	or the following reason			
		DISCLOSURE STATEMEN	NT - FEDERAL RULES CIVIL PROCEDURE 7.1			
		Identify any parent corporation and an	y publicly held corporation that owns 10% or more or its stocks:			
N/A						
		RELATED CASE STATE	EMENT (Section VIII on the Front of this Form)			
provides because same jud case: (A)	that "A c the cases ge and m involves	civil case is "related" to another civil case for arise from the same transactions or events, a nagistrate judge." Rule 50.3.1 (b) provides that identical legal issues, or (B) involves the same	on of Business Rule 50.3.1 in Section VIII on the front of this form. Rule 50.3.1 (a) purposes of this guideline when, because of the similarity of facts and legal issues or substantial saving of judicial resources is likely to result from assigning both cases to the it "A civil case shall not be deemed "related" to another civil case merely because the civil ne parties." Rule 50.3.1 (c) further provides that "Presumptively, and subject to the power vil cases shall not be deemed to be "related" unless both cases are still pending before the			
		NY-E DIVIS	ION OF BUSINESS RULE 50.1(d)(2)			
1.)	Is the c County		rict removed from a New York State Court located in Nassau or Suffolk			
2.)	2.) 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? NO					
	b) Did the events of omissions giving rise to the claim or claims, or a substantial part thereof, occur in the Eastern District? YES					
Suffolk	County, olk Coun	or, in an interpleader action, does the claty?	ant (or a majority of the defendants, if there is more than one) reside in Nassau or a majority of the claimants, if there is more than one) reside in Nassau resident of the County in which it has the most significant contacts).			
	(1)	vote. At corporation shall be considered a				
			BAR ADMISSION			
I am cu	rently ac	dmitted in the Eastern District of New York Yes	ork and currently a member in good standing of the bar of this court. No			
Are you	currentl	ly the subject of any disciplinary action (Yes (If yes, please explai	s) in this or any other state or federal court? n) 🔀 No			
I certify	the accu	uracy of all information provided above.				
Signatu	re: /S	/ MAXIM MAXIMOV, ESQ.				





P.O. Box 390905 Minneapolis, MN 55439 Mail Code CNYE4

866-595-2447
For General Business Hours, please visit us at: www.payments2northland.com

www.payments2northland.com

February 6, 2016

ACCOUNT INFORMATION

Creditor: CITIBANK, N.A.

Regarding: CITI AADVANTAGE WORLD MASTERCARD
Original Account #: ***********2081

Current Balance Due: \$5,423.89

NORTHLAND REFERENCE NUMBER





Discount and Save: Pay Discounted Amount Over 12 Months

Our client, CITIBANK, N.A., will allow you to settle your account for \$2,181.60 in 12 payments over 12 months starting on 02/27/2016. If you need additional time to respond to this offer, please contact us. We are not obligated to renew this offer. Once all 12 payments of \$181.80 have been paid to our office on time, a letter will be sent confirming the above referenced account has been resolved. Make check payable to Citi.

Payments must NOT be more than 30 days apart or this settlement will be cancelled. Please send payments to the address above.

Sincerely,

Kyle Lundeen

CITIBANK, N.A. will report forgiveness of debt as required by IRS regulations.



Pay Online: www.payments2northland.com



Pay by Phone: Please call Northland Group, Inc. at 866-595-2447. We offer check by phone, Western Union, and debit card.



Pay by Mail: Send payments to PO Box 390905, Minneapolis, MN 55439.

This is an attempt to collect a debt by a debt collector and any information obtained will be used for that purpose. This communication is sent to you by Northland Group, Inc., a debt collector and a member of ACA International.

This collection agency's New York City Department of Consumer Affairs License number is 1283580.

EASTERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK				
SHTERNA BAROUK on behalf of herse all other similarly situated consumers	elf and			
Plaintiff,				
-against-				
NORTHLAND GROUP INC.				
Defendant.				
SUMMON	NS IN A CIVIL ACTION			
TO: NORTHLAND GROUP INC. 7831 GLENROY ROAD, SUITE 250 EDINA, MINNESOTA 55439				
YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMORANT and serve upon PLAINTIFF'S ATTORN	NED and required to file with the Clerk of this Court EY:			
MAXIM MAXIMOV, ESQ. MAXIM MAXIMOV, LLP 1701 AVENUE P BROOKLYN, NEW YORK 1122	29			
	with served upon you, with 21 days after service of this of service. If you fail to do so, judgment by default will ded in the complaint.			
CLERK	DATE			
BY DEPUTY CLERK	-			

ClassAction.org

This complaint is part of ClassAction.org's searchable class action lawsuit database and can be found in this post: Northland Group Inc. Hit with Debt Collection Class Action