#### UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF WISCONSIN MILWAUKEE DIVISION

CRYSTAL BARTZ, Individually and on Behalf of)	Case No.: 18-cv-410
All Others Similarly Situated,	CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT
Plaintiffs,	
v. j	
NRA GROUP, LLC d/b/a NATIONAL RECOVERY AGENCY,	Jury Trial Demanded
Defendant.	

#### **INTRODUCTION**

1. This class action seeks redress for debt collection practices that violate the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, 15 U.S.C. § 1692 *et seq.* (the "FDCPA"), and the Wisconsin Consumer Protection Act, Wis. Stat., Chs. 421-427, (the "WCA").

#### **JURISDICTION AND VENUE**

2. The court has jurisdiction to grant the relief sought by the Plaintiff pursuant to 15 U.S.C. § 1692k and 28 U.S.C. §§ 1331 and 1337. Venue in this District is proper in that Defendant directed its collection efforts into the District.

#### **PARTIES**

- 3. Plaintiff Crystal Bartz is an individual who resides in the Eastern District of Wisconsin (Milwaukee County).
- 4. Plaintiff is a "consumer" as defined in the FDCPA, 15 U.S.C. § 1692a(3), in that Defendants sought to collect from her a debt allegedly incurred for personal, family, or household purposes.
- 5. Plaintiff is also a "customer" as defined in the Wisconsin Consumer Act, Wis. Stat. § 421.301(17), in that she engaged in a consumer transaction.

- 6. Defendant NRA Group, LLC ("NRA") is a foreign limited liability company with its principal place of business located at 2491 Paxton Street, Harrisburg, PA 17111. It does business under the fictitious or trade name "National Recovery Agency."
- 7. NRA is engaged in the business of a collection agency, using the mails and telephone to collect consumer debts originally owed to others.
- 8. NRA is engaged in the business of collecting debts owed to others and incurred for personal, family, or household purposes. NRA is a debt collector as defined in 15 U.S.C. § 1692a and § 427.103(3), Wis. Stats.

#### **FACTS**

- 9. On or about July 12, 2017, NRA mailed a debt collection letter to Plaintiff regarding an alleged debt owed to "EXPRESS SCRIPTS." A copy of this letter is attached to this complaint as Exhibit A.
- 10. Express Scripts calls itself "a prescription benefit plan provider," and is also an online pharmacy that fills and delivers prescriptions to consumers by mail. <a href="https://www.express-scripts.com/frequently-asked-questions/#/">https://www.express-scripts.com/frequently-asked-questions/#/</a>.
- 11. Upon information and belief, the alleged debt referenced in <u>Exhibit A</u> was incurred as the result of a transaction for personal medical goods or services with an agreement to defer payment. *See Tylke v. Advanced Pain Mgmt.*, *S.C.*, Case No. 14cv5354 (Milwaukee Co. Cir. Ct., Dec. 11, 2014) ("Any time a merchant sends a bill for goods or services after a consumer transaction has taken place, there is an 'agreement to defer payment"").
- 12. Upon information and belief, <u>Exhibit A</u> is a form letter, generated by computer, and with the information specific to Plaintiff inserted by computer.

- 13. Upon information and belief, <u>Exhibit A</u> is a form debt collection letter used by NRA to attempt to collect alleged debts.
  - 14. Exhibit A includes the following representation:

 CREDITOR
 ACCOUNT #
 DATE
 AMOUNT
 COSTS
 AMT OWED

 EXPRESS SCRIPTS
 3987
 05/02/17
 60.23
 .00
 60.23

- 15. There is no explanation in the letter as to what the "COSTS" are or would be.
- 16. The unsophisticated consumer would interpret the line item "COSTS" as referring to a potential collection fee or other undisclosed fee.
- 17. By including a line item designated "COSTS" which is distinct from the amount owed, Exhibit A implies that NRA and/or the creditor may impose additional costs on the consumer. *Tylke v. Diversified Adjustment Serv.*, No. 14-cv-748; 2014 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 153281, \*7 (E.D. Wis. Oct. 28, 2014) ("the inclusion of a collection fee, even one showing a balance of zero, could imply the future possibility of one.").
- 18. Upon information and belief, neither NRA nor the creditor actually adds any additional costs to consumer collection accounts in the regular course of business.
- 19. <u>Exhibit A</u>, with its nebulous reference to "COSTS," falsely states or implies that NRA has a right to add collection fees to the debt.
- 20. Plaintiff was confused by the nebulous reference on NRA's letter to "COSTS" and has no idea what those charges are, potentially could be, or whether they are legitimate.
- 21. The unsophisticated consumer would be confused by the nebulous reference on NRA's letter to "COSTS" and would have no idea what those charges are, potentially could be, or whether they are legitimate.
  - 22. Plaintiff was confused and misled by Exhibit A.
  - 23. The unsophisticated consumer would be confused and misled by Exhibit A.

- 24. Plaintiff had to spend time and money investigating Exhibit A, and the consequences of any potential responses to Exhibit A.
- 25. Plaintiff had to take time to obtain and meet with counsel, including traveling to counsel's office by car and its related expenses, including but not limited to the cost of gasoline and mileage, to advise Plaintiff on the consequences of Exhibit A.
- 26. The FDCPA creates substantive rights for consumers; violations cause injury to consumers, and such injuries are concrete and particularized. Pogorzelski v. Patenaude & Felix APC, No. 16-C-1330, 2017 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 89678 \*9 (E.D. Wis. June 12, 2017) ("A plaintiff who receives misinformation from a debt collector has suffered the type of injury the FDCPA was intended to protect against."); Spuhler v. State Collection Servs., No. 16-CV-1149, 2017 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 177631 (E.D. Wis. Oct. 26, 2017) ("As in Pogorzelski, the Spuhlers' allegations that the debt collection letters sent by State Collection contained false representations of the character, amount, or legal status of a debt in violation of their rights under the FDCPA sufficiently pleads a concrete injury-in-fact for purposes of standing."); Lorang v. Ditech Fin. LLC, 2017 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 169286, at \*6 (W.D. Wis. Oct. 13, 2017) ("the weight of authority in this circuit is that a misrepresentation about a debt is a sufficient injury for standing because a primary purpose of the FDCPA is to protect consumers from receiving false and misleading information."); Qualls v. T-H Prof'l & Med. Collections, Ltd., 2017 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 113037, at \*8 (C.D. Ill. July 20, 2017) ("Courts in this Circuit, both before and after Spokeo, have rejected similar challenges to standing in FDCPA cases.") (citing "Hayes v. Convergent Healthcare Recoveries, Inc., 2016 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 139743 (C.D. Ill. 2016)); Long v. Fenton & McGarvey Law Firm P.S.C., 223 F. Supp. 3d 773, 777 (S.D. Ind. Dec. 9, 2016) ("While courts have found that violations of other statutes . . . do not create concrete injuries in fact, violations of the

FDCPA are distinguishable from these other statutes and have been repeatedly found to establish concrete injuries."); Bock v. Pressler & Pressler, LLP, No. 11-7593, 2017 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 81058 \*21 (D.N.J. May 25, 2017) ("through [s]ection 1692e of the FDCPA, Congress established 'an enforceable right to truthful information concerning' debt collection practices, a decision that 'was undoubtedly influenced by congressional awareness that the intentional provision of misinformation' related to such practices, 'contribute[s] to the number of personal bankruptcies, to marital instability, to the loss of jobs, and to invasions of individual privacy,"); Quinn v. Specialized Loan Servicing, LLC, No. 16 C 2021, 2016 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 107299 \*8-13 (N.D. Ill. Aug. 11, 2016) (rejecting challenge to Plaintiff's standing based upon alleged FDCPA statutory violation); Lane v. Bayview Loan Servicing, LLC, No. 15 C 10446, 2016 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 89258 \*9-10 (N.D. Ill. July 11, 2016) ("When a federal statute is violated, and especially when Congress has created a cause of action for its violation, by definition Congress has created a legally protected interest that it deems important enough for a lawsuit."); Church v. Accretive Health, Inc., No. 15-15708, 2016 U.S. App. LEXIS 12414 \*7-11 (11th Cir. July 6, 2016) (same); see also Mogg v. Jacobs, No. 15-CV-1142-JPG-DGW, 2016 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 33229, 2016 WL 1029396, at \*5 (S.D. III. Mar. 15, 2016) ("Congress does have the power to enact statutes creating legal rights, the invasion of which creates standing, even though no injury would exist without the statute," (quoting Sterk v. Redbox Automated Retail, LLC, 770 F.3d 618, 623 (7th Cir. 2014)). For this reason, and to encourage consumers to bring FDCPA actions, Congress authorized an award of statutory damages for violations. 15 U.S.C. § 1692k(a).

27. Moreover, Congress has explicitly described the FDCPA as regulating "abusive practices" in debt collection. 15 U.S.C. §§ 1692(a) – 1692(e). Any person who receives a debt collection letter containing a violation of the FDCPA is a victim of abusive practices. *See* 15

- U.S.C. §§ 1692(e) ("It is the purpose of this subchapter to eliminate abusive debt collection practices by debt collectors, to insure that those debt collectors who refrain from using abusive debt collection practices are not competitively disadvantaged, and to promote consistent State action to protect consumers against debt collection abuses").
- 28. 15 U.S.C. § 1692e generally prohibits "any false, deceptive, or misleading representation or means in connection with the collection of any debt."
- 29. 15 U.S.C. § 1692e(10) specifically prohibits the "use of any false representation or deceptive means to collect or attempt to collect any debt.
- 30. 15 U.S.C. § 1692f generally prohibits "unfair or unconscionable means to collect or attempt to collect any debt."
- 31. 15 U.S.C. § 1692f(1) specifically prohibits the "collection of any amount (including any interest, fee, charge, or expense incidental to the principal obligation) unless such amount is expressly authorized by the agreement creating the debt or permitted by law."
- 32. Wis. Stat. § 427.104(1)(j) states that a debt collector may not: "Claim, or attempt or threaten to enforce a right with knowledge or reason to know that the right does not exist."
- 33. Wis. Stat. § 427.104(1)(L) also specifically prohibits a debt collector from "[t]hreaten[ing] action against the customer unless like action is taken in regular course or is intended with respect to the particular debt."

#### COUNT I – FDCPA

- 34. Plaintiff incorporates by reference as if fully set forth herein the allegations contained in the preceding paragraphs of this Complaint.
  - 35. The reference to "Costs" in NRA's letter is false, misleading and confusing.

- 36. NRA threatened to add costs to Plaintiff's debt when neither NRA nor Express Scripts are entitled to any costs and do not add interest to accounts such as Plaintiff's.
- 37. NRA's misrepresentation of the amounts it would attempt to collect is an unfair and/or unconscionable method by which to try and collect an alleged debt.
- 38. The unsophisticated consumer would be confused by the nebulous references in NRA's letter to "Costs" and would have no idea what those charges are, potentially could be, or whether they would be legitimate.
  - 39. Defendant violated 15 U.S.C. §§ 1692e, 1692e(10), 1692f and 1692f(1).

#### **COUNT II -- WCA**

- 40. Plaintiff incorporates by reference as if fully set forth herein the allegations contained in the preceding paragraphs of this Complaint.
- 41. <u>Exhibit A</u> threatens to collect "costs," even though neither NRA nor Express Scripts add interest to accounts such as Plaintiff's.
  - 42. Defendant violated Wis. Stat. §§ 427.104(1)(j) and 427.104(1)(L).

#### **CLASS ALLEGATIONS**

- 43. Plaintiff brings this action on behalf of a Class, consisting of (a) all natural persons in the State of Wisconsin (b) who were sent a collection letter in the form represented by Exhibit A to the complaint in this action, (c) seeking to collect a debt for personal, family, or household purposes, (d) between March 14, 2017 and March 14, 2018, inclusive, (e) that was not returned by the postal service.
- 44. The Class is so numerous that joinder is impracticable. On information and belief, there are more than 50 members of the Class.

- 45. There are questions of law and fact common to the members of the class, which common questions predominate over any questions that affect only individual class members. The predominant common question is whether the Defendant complied with 15 U.S.C. §§ 1692e and 1692f and Wis. Stat. §§ 427.104(1)(j) and 427.104(1)(L).
- 46. Plaintiff's claims are typical of the claims of the Class members. All are based on the same factual and legal theories.
- 47. Plaintiff will fairly and adequately represent the interests of the Class members. Plaintiff has retained counsel experienced in consumer credit and debt collection abuse cases.
- 48. A class action is superior to other alternative methods of adjudicating this dispute. Individual cases are not economically feasible.

#### **JURY DEMAND**

49. Plaintiff hereby demands a trial by jury.

#### PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff requests that the Court enter judgment in favor of Plaintiff and the Class and against Defendant for:

- (a) actual damages;
- (b) statutory damages;
- (c) attorneys' fees, litigation expenses and costs of suit; and
- (d) such other or further relief as the Court deems proper.

Dated: March 14, 2018

#### ADEMI & O'REILLY, LLP

/s/ Mark A. Eldridge John D. Blythin (SBN 1046105) Mark A. Eldridge (SBN 1089944) Jesse Fruchter (SBN 1097673)

Ben J. Slatky (SBN 1106892) 3620 East Layton Avenue Cudahy, WI 53110 (414) 482-8000 (414) 482-8001 (fax) jblythin@ademilaw.com meldridge@ademilaw.com jfruchter@ademilaw.com bslatky@ademilaw.com

# **EXHIBIT A**

#### NATIONAL RECOVERY AGENCY

2491 Paxton Street, Harrisburg PA 17111 Toll Free: 800-521-4956

Crystal Bartz 5316 Mead Rd Greendale, WI 53129-1232 PIN #: 7232 NRA ID: 7232 TOTAL DUE: \$60.23

Dear Crystal Bartz,

Your account has been forwarded to this office for collections.

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.

Below is a listing of accounts included in the total amount due listed above:

<u>CREDITOR</u> EXPRESS SCRIPTS ACCOUNT #

DATE 05/02/17

AMOUNT 60.23

<u>COSTS</u> .00 AMT OWED

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

Unless you dispute this debt, your payment should be made directly to this office. Please choose one of the following methods of payment. Please note that a service charge of twenty dollars will be added to all checks returned to us by your bank as permitted by law.

NOTICE: SEE REVERSE SIDE FOR IMPORTANT NOTICES AND CONSUMER RIGHTS

#### **PAYMENT OPTIONS**



Telephone Hours:
Monday – Thursday 8:00 A.M. to 8:30 P.M.
Friday 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M.
Saturday 8:00 A.M. to 12:30 P.M.
Eastern Standard Time
800-521-4956



Send Mail To: NATIONAL RECOVERY AGENCY PO BOX 67015 HARRISBURG, PA 17106-7015



Via Internet:
Pay online by credit card or check at www.nationalrecovery.com

Calls to or from NATIONAL RECOVERY AGENCY may be recorded or monitored.

To ensure proper credit to your account please detach bottom portion and return it with payment in the enclosed envelope. 3

PO Box 67015 Harrisburg, PA 17106-7015

Toll Free: 800-521-4956 Statement Date: July 12, 2017

IF PAYING B	BY CREDIT CARD, FILL OU	T BELOW.
VISA	VISA Master Carlet Master	erCard
CARD NUMBER		SECURITY/CVV2 CODE
SIGNATURE		EXP. DATE
TOTAL DUE \$60.23	\$ PAYMENT AMOUNT	NRA ID # 232
For Online Payn	nents visit www.nationa	alrecovery.com

MAKE PAYMENT AND REMIT TO:

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Crystal Bartz 5316 Mead Rd Greendale, WI 53129-1232

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NATIONAL RECOVERY AGENCY PO Box 67015 Harrisburg, PA 17106-7015

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CALIFORNIA RESIDENTS

The state Rosenthal Fair Debt Collection Practices Act and the Federal Fair Debt Collection Practices Act require that, except under unusual circumstances, collectors may not contact you before 8 a.m. or after 9 p.m. They may not harass you by using threats of violence or arrest or by using obscene language. Collectors may not use false or misleading statements or call you at work if they know or have reason to know that you may not receive personal calls at work. For the most part, collectors may not tell another person, other than your attorney or spouse, about your debt. Collectors may contact another person to confirm your location or enforce a judgment. For more information about debt collection activities, you may contact the Federal Trade Commission at 1-877-FTC-HELP or www.ftc.gov. Non Profit Counseling services may be available in your area.

**CALIFORNIA AND UTAH RESIDENTS:** 

As required by law, you are hereby notified that a negative credit report reflecting on your credit record may be submitted to a credit reporting agency if you fail to fulfill the terms of your credit obligations. But we will not submit a negative credit report to a credit reporting agency about this credit obligation until the expiration of the time period described in the first notice you received from us.

**COLORADO RESIDENTS** 

FOR INFORMATION ABOUT THE COLORADO FAIR DEBT COLLECTION PRACTICES ACT, SEE WWW.COAG.GOV/CAR. A CONSUMER HAS THE RIGHT TO REQUEST IN WRITING THAT A DEBT COLLECTOR OR COLLECTION AGENCY CEASE FURTHER COMMUNICATION WITH THE CONSUMER. A WRITTEN REQUEST TO CEASE COMMUNICATION WILL NOT PROHIBIT THE DEBT COLLECTOR OR COLLECTION AGENCY FROM TAKING ANY OTHER ACTION AUTHORIZED BY LAW TO COLLECT THE DEBT. YOU MAY CONTACT OUR OFFICE AT; ASSOCIATED COLLECTION AGENCIES INC., 27 NORTH WILLERUP, SUITE B, MONTROSE, CO 81401 OR BY TELEPHONE AT 970-249-7514.

MASSACHUSETTS RESIDENTS:

MASSACHUSETTS RESIDENTS MAY CONTACT OUR OFFICE BY TELEPHONE AT THE NUMBER, OFFICE HOURS, AND ADDRESS LISTED ON THE FRONT OF THIS NOTICE OR TO 155 FEDERAL STREET, SUITE 700, BOSTON, MA 02110.

NOTICE OF IMPORTANT RIGHTS

YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO MAKE A WRITTEN OR ORAL REQUEST THAT TELEPHONE CALLS REGARDING YOUR DEBT NOT BE MADE TO YOU AT YOUR PLACE OF EMPLOYMENT. ANY SUCH ORAL REQUEST WILL BE VALID FOR ONLY TEN DAYS UNLESS YOU PROVIDE WRITTEN CONFIRMATION OF THE REQUEST POSTMARKED OR DELIVERED WITHIN SEVEN DAYS OF SUCH REQUEST. YOU MAY TERMINATE THIS REQUEST BY WRITING TO THE COLLECTION AGENCY.

MINNESOTA MEDICAL PATIENTS ONLY:

This collection agency is licensed by the Minnesota Department of Commerce. If you feel that your concerns have not been addressed, please contact National Recovery Agency and allow us the opportunity to try and address your concerns. Or, you have the option to address any concerns with the Minnesota Attorney General's Office, which can be reached at 651-296-3353 or 1-800-657-3787.

**NEVADA HOSPITAL PATIENTS:** 

If the debtor pays or agrees to pay the debt or any portion of the debt, the payment or agreement to pay may be construed as: (1) An acknowledgement of the debt by the debtor, and (2) A waiver by the debtor of any applicable statute of limitations set forth in NRS 11.190 that otherwise precludes the collection of the debt. If the debtor does not understand or has questions concerning his legal rights or obligations relating to the debt, the debtor should seek legal advice. As used in this section, "hospital" has the meaning ascribed to it in NRA 449.012.

#### NORTH CAROLINA RESIDENTS:

NC Permit Number: 4485

TENNESSEE RESIDENTS:
This collection agency is licensed by the collection service board of TN Department of Commerce and Insurance, permit number 812.

	MEDICA	I DATENIES DE	ELGE COLON	ETE THE DIEGDMAT	ION DELOW	
	MEDICA	AL PATIENTS PI		LETE THE INFORMAT	ION BELOW	
			OR			
		SEND FRONT	T/BACK COPY	OF INSURANCE CAR	D	-
Patient Name:		Date of Birth:				
Guarantor's Name:		Date of Birth:		Primary Insurance Co:		
	L	<u> </u>		Policy #:	Group #:	
Address:				Address:		
City:	State	e:	Zip:	City:	State:	Zip:
Phone #:				Effective Date:		
			-			
				Secondary Insurance		
Policy Holder Name:				Co:		
Address:				Policy #:	Group #:	
City:	Stat	te:	Zip:	Address:		
Phone #:				City:	State:	Zip:
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#### **CIVIL COVER SHEET**

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 THE REVERSE OF THE FORM.)

Place an X in the appropriate l	Box: Green E	Bay Division		Milwaukee Division	
I. (a) PLAINTIFFS			DEFENDANTS		
CRYSTAL B	ARTZ		NRA GROUF	P, LLC	
(E.	XCEPT IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASI	,	NOTE: IN LAND	of First Listed Defendant (IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES OF CONDEMNATION CASES, USINVOLVED.	
•	, Address, and Telephone Number) 3620 E. Layton Ave., Cudahy, WI 53		Attorneys (If Known)		
	ie (414) 482-8001-Facsimile	1110			
II. BASIS OF JURISD	OICTION (Place an "X" in	One Box Only)	CITIZENSHIP OF P	RINCIPAL PARTIES	Place an "X" in One Box for Plaintiff and One Box for Defendant)
U.S. Government Plaintiff	3 Federal Question (U.S. Government No	t a Party)		TF DEF  1	PTF DEF incipal Place 4 4
2 U.S. Government Defendant	4 Diversity (Indicate Citizenship of		Citizen of Another State	2 Incorporated and I of Business In A	
			Citizen or Subject of a Foreign Country	3 Foreign Nation	6 6
IV. NATURE OF SUI					
110 Insurance   120 Marine   130 Miller Act   140 Negotiable Instrument   150 Recovery of Overpayment & Enforcement of Judgment   151 Medicare Act   152 Recovery of Defaulted Student Loans (Excl. Veterans)   153 Recovery of Overpayment of Veteran's Benefits   160 Stockholders' Suits   190 Other Contract   195 Contract Product Liability   196 Franchise   REAL PROPERTY   210 Land Condemnation   220 Foreclosure   230 Rent Lease & Ejectment   240 Torts to Land   245 Tort Product Liability   290 All Other Real Property	□ 315 Airplane Product Liability □ 320 Assault, Libel & Slander □ 330 Federal Employers' Liability □ 340 Marine □ 345 Marine Product Liability □ 350 Motor Vehicle □ 355 Motor Vehicle Product Liability □ 360 Other Personal Injury	PERSONAL INJURY  362 Personal Injury - Med. Malpractice  365 Personal Injury - Product Liability  368 Asbestos Personal Injury Product Liability  PERSONAL PROPERTY  370 Other Fraud  371 Truth in Lending 380 Other Personal Property Damage 385 Property Damage  385 Property Damage Product Liability  PRISONER PETITIONS  510 Motions to Vacate Sentence Habeas Corpus: 530 General 535 Death Penalty 540 Mandamus & Other 550 Civil Rights  555 Prison Condition	610 Agriculture 620 Other Food & Drug 625 Drug Related Seizure of Property 21 USC 881 630 Liquor Laws 640 R.R. & Truck 650 Airline Regs. 660 Occupational Safety/Health 690 Other  LABOR 710 Fair Labor Standards Act 720 Labor/Mgmt. Relations 730 Labor/Mgmt.Reporting & Disclosure Act 740 Railway Labor Act 790 Other Labor Litigation 791 Empl. Ret. Inc. Security Act  IMMIGRATION 462 Naturalization Application 463 Habeas Corpus - Alien Detainee 465 Other Immigration Actions	422 Appeal 28 USC 158     423 Withdrawal 28 USC 157     PROPERTY RIGHTS     820 Copyrights     830 Patent     840 Trademark     861 HIA (1395ff)     862 Black Lung (923)     863 DIWC/DIW W (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	OTHER STATUTES   400 State Reapportionment 410 Antitrust 430 Banks and Banking 450 Commerce 460 Deportation 470 Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations  ✓ 480 Consumer Credit 490 Cable/Sat TV 810 Selective Service 850 Securities/Commodities/ Exchange 875 Customer Challenge 12 USC 3410 890 Other Statutory Actions 891 Agricultural Acts 892 Economic Stabilization Act 893 Environmental Matters 894 Energy Allocation Act 895 Freedom of Information Act 900Appeal of Fee Determination Under Equal Access to Justice 950 Constitutionality of State Statutes
☑ 1 Original ☐ 2 Re	ate Court A <sub>1</sub>	ppellate Court I	Reopened another (speci	ferred from 6 Multidistred from Litigation Litigation al statutes unless diversity):	Judgment
VI. CAUSE OF ACTION	ON Brief description of cause			ai statutes uniess uiversity).	
VII. REQUESTED IN COMPLAINT:	CHECK IF THIS IS UNDER F.R.C.P. 2	A CLASS ACTION 3	DEMAND \$	CHECK YES only JURY DEMAND:	if demanded in complaint:  ☑ Yes ☐ No
VIII. RELATED CAS IF ANY	(See instructions):	UDGE		DOCKET NUMBER	
DATE		SIGNATURE OF ATTORN			
March 14, 2018  FOR OFFICE USE ONLY		/s/ Mark A. Eld	dridge		

- <sup>AMOUNT</sup> Case <del>2:18-cv-0041</del>0-DEJ Fil<del>ed 03/14/18</del> Page 1<del>-of 2 Docu</del>ment 1-2

#### 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.C.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; 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 the nature of suit cannot be determined, be sure the cause of action, in Section VI below, is sufficient to enable the deputy clerk or the statistical clerks in the Administrative Office to determine the nature of suit. If the cause fits more than one nature of suit, select the most definitive.
- 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. (6) Check this box when a multidistrict case is transferred into the district under authority of Title 28 U.S.C. Section 1407. When this box is checked, do not check (5) above.

Appeal to District Judge from Magistrate Judgment. (7) Check this box for an appeal from a magistrate judge's decision.

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 dollar amount (in thousands of dollars) 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.

## UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

for the Eastern District of Wisconsin

		)
CRYSTAL	BARTZ	) ) )
Plaintif	f(s)	
V.		Civil Action No. 18-cv-410
NRA GROUP, NATIONAL RECOV		) ) )
Defendar	nt(s)	
	a	
	SUMMONS	IN A CIVIL ACTION
To: (Defendant's name and address)	NRA GROUP, LLC 2491 Paxton Street Harrisburg, PA 17111	
A lawsuit has been fil	ed against you.	
the United States or a United 12(a)(2) or (3) – you must se	States agency, or an officerve on the plaintiff an ans	n you (not counting the day you receive it) – or 60 days if you are there or employee of the United States described in Fed. R. Civ. P. swer to the attached complaint or a motion under Rule 12 of the n must be served on the plaintiff or the plaintiff's attorney, whose
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 answe	• •	-
		STEPHEN C. DRIES, CLERK OF COURT
Date:		
·		Signature of Clerk or Deputy Clerk

Civil Action No. 18-cv-410

#### PROOF OF SERVICE

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

□ I personally served the summons and the attached complaint on the individual at (place):  □ I left the summons and the attached complaint at the individual's residence or usual place of abode with	ceived by me on (date)	·		
☐ I left the summons and the attached complaint at the individual's residence or usual place of abode with	☐ I personally served	the summons and the attached con	plaint on the individual at (place):	
			On (date)	; or
on (date), and mailed a copy to the individual's last known address; or I served the summons and the attached complaint on (name of individual) who is designated by law to accept service of process on behalf of (name of organization) on (date); or I returned the summons unexecuted because; or	☐ I left the summons	and the attached complaint at the i	ndividual's residence or usual place of a	abode with
□ I served the summons and the attached complaint on (name of individual)  who is designated by law to accept service of process on behalf of (name of organization)  on (date)  ; or  □ I returned the summons unexecuted because  □ Other (specify):  My fees are \$ for travel and \$ for services, for a total of \$		, a ŗ	erson of suitable age and discretion wh	o resides th
who is designated by law to accept service of process on behalf of (name of organization)  on (date)  ; or  I returned the summons unexecuted because  Other (specify):  My fees are \$ for travel and \$ for services, for a total of \$	on (date)	, and mailed a copy	to the individual's last known address;	or
on (date) ; or  I returned the summons unexecuted because ; or  Other (specify):  My fees are \$ for travel and \$ for services, for a total of \$  I declare under penalty of perjury that this information is true.  Server's signature	☐ I served the summo	ons and the attached complaint on (	name of individual)	
☐ I returned the summons unexecuted because ☐ Other (specify): ☐ Othe	who is designated by la	aw to accept service of process on l	ehalf of (name of organization)	
☐ I returned the summons unexecuted because ☐ Other (specify): ☐ Othe				
Other (specify):  My fees are \$ for travel and \$ for services, for a total of \$ 0.00  I declare under penalty of perjury that this information is true.  Server's signature			on (date)	; or
My fees are \$ for travel and \$ for services, for a total of \$ 0.00  I declare under penalty of perjury that this information is true.  Server's signature	☐ I returned the summ	nons unexecuted because		
I declare under penalty of perjury that this information is true.  Server's signature				
Server's signature				
Server's signature	Other (specify):			;
Server's signature	Other (specify):  My fees are \$	for travel and \$	for services, for a total of \$	;
Printed name and title	Other (specify):  My fees are \$	for travel and \$	for services, for a total of \$	;
Printed name and title	☐ Other (specify):  My fees are \$  I declare under penalty	for travel and \$	for services, for a total of \$ rue.	;
	☐ Other (specify):  My fees are \$  I declare under penalty	for travel and \$	for services, for a total of \$ rue.  Server's signature	;
	☐ Other (specify):  My fees are \$  I declare under penalty	for travel and \$	for services, for a total of \$ rue.  Server's signature	;
	☐ Other (specify):  My fees are \$  I declare under penalty	for travel and \$	for services, for a total of \$ rue.  Server's signature	;

Additional information regarding attempted service, etc.:

# **ClassAction.org**

This complaint is part of ClassAction.org's searchable class action lawsuit database and can be found in this post: <u>Lawsuit: NRA Group's Debt Collection Letter Left Wisconsin Woman 'Confused'</u>