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Attorneys for Plaintiff Our File No.: 112004

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT EASTERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

Coleen Bonti, individually and on behalf of all others similarly situated,

Plaintiff,

VS.

ARS National Services, Inc.,

Defendant.

Docket No:

CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT

JURY TRIAL DEMANDED

Coleen Bonti, individually and on behalf of all others similarly situated (hereinafter referred to as "*Plaintiff*"), by and through the undersigned counsel, complains, states and alleges against ARS National Services, Inc. (hereinafter referred to as "*Defendant*"), as follows:

INTRODUCTION

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

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

- 2. This Court has federal subject matter jurisdiction pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1331 and 15 U.S.C. § 1692k(d).
- 3. Venue is proper under 28 U.S.C. §1391(b) because a substantial part of the events or omissions giving rise to the claim occurred in this Judicial District.
- 4. At all relevant times, Defendant conducted business within the State of New York.

PARTIES

- 5. Plaintiff Coleen Bonti is an individual who is a citizen of the State of New York residing in Suffolk County, New York.
 - 6. Plaintiff is a "consumer" as defined by 15 U.S.C. § 1692a(3).
- 7. On information and belief, Defendant ARS National Services, Inc., is a California Corporation with a principal place of business in San Diego County, California.
- 8. Defendant is regularly engaged, for profit, in the collection of debts allegedly owed by consumers.
 - 9. Defendant is a "debt collector" as defined by 15 U.S.C. § 1692a(6).

ALLEGATIONS

- 10. Defendant alleges Plaintiff owes a debt ("the debt").
- 11. The debt was primarily for personal, family or household purposes and is therefore a "debt" as defined by 15 U.S.C. § 1692a(5).
 - 12. Sometime after the incurrence of the debt Plaintiff fell behind on payments owed.
 - 13. The debt was incurred on a credit card issued by Citibank, N.A.
 - 14. At all relevant times herein, Plaintiff's debt accrued, and was subject to, interest.
 - 15. At all relevant times herein, Plaintiff's debt accrued, and was subject to, late fees.
- 16. Thereafter, at an exact time known only to Defendant, the debt was assigned or otherwise transferred to Defendant for collection.
- 17. In its efforts to collect the debt, Defendant contacted Plaintiff by letter ("the letter") dated May 7, 2016. ("Exhibit 1.")
 - 18. The letter is a "communication" as defined by 15 U.S.C. § 1692a(2).

FIRST COUNT Violation of 15 U.S.C. § 1692e False or Misleading Representations

- 19. Plaintiff repeats and realleges the foregoing paragraphs as if fully restated herein.
- 20. 15 U.S.C. § 1692e prohibits a debt collector from using any false, deceptive, or misleading representation or means in connection with the collection of any debt.
 - 21. The question of whether a collection letter is deceptive is determined from the

perspective of the "least sophisticated consumer."

- 22. While § 1692e specifically prohibits certain practices, the list is non-exhaustive, and does not preclude a claim of falsity or deception based on any non-enumerated practice.
- 23. A collection letter is deceptive under 15 U.S.C. § 1692e if it can reasonably be read by the least sophisticated consumer to have two or more meanings, one of which is inaccurate.
- 24. A collection letter is also deceptive under 15 U.S.C. § 1692e if it is reasonably susceptible to an inaccurate reading by the least sophisticated consumer.
- 25. 15 U.S.C. § 1692e requires debt collectors, when they notify consumers of their account balance, to disclose whether the balance may increase due to interest and fees. *Avila v. Riexinger & Associates, LLC*, 817 F.3d 72, 76 (2d Cir. 2016).
- 26. A debt collector has the obligation not just to convey the amount of the debt, but to convey such clearly.
 - 27. The letter sets forth a "Balance."
 - 28. The letter offers a settlement.
- 29. The letter fails to disclose whether the "Balance" may increase due to additional interest.
- 30. The letter fails to disclose whether the "Balance" may increase due to additional late fees.
- 31. The letter fails to disclose whether the "Balance" may increase due to additional interest if the settlement is not accepted.
- 32. The letter fails to disclose whether the "Balance" may increase due to additional late fees if the settlement is not accepted.
- 33. The letter fails to include any "safe harbor" language concerning the accrual of interest and/or fees. *Avila v. Riexinger & Associates, LLC*, 817 F.3d 72, 76 (2d Cir. 2016).
- 34. The letter, because of the aforementioned failures, would render the least sophisticated consumer unable to determine the amount of his or her debt.
- 35. The letter because of the aforementioned failures, would render the least sophisticated consumer unable to determine the amount of his or her debt because the consumer would not know whether interest and fees would continue to accrue, or whether the amount of the debt was static.

- 36. The letter, because of the aforementioned failures, would render the least sophisticated consumer unable to determine the value of Defendant's settlement offer because the consumer would not know whether interest and fees would continue to accrue, or whether the amount of the debt was static, if the settlement was not accepted.
- 37. The letter, because of the aforementioned failures, could be read by the least sophisticated consumer to mean that the "Balance" was static.
- 38. The letter, because of the aforementioned failures, could also reasonably read the letter to mean that the "Balance" was dynamic due to the continued accumulation of interest and/or late fees.
- 39. Because the letter is susceptible to an inaccurate reading by the least sophisticated consumer, as described, it is deceptive under 15 U.S.C. § 1692e.
- 40. Because the letter can reasonably be read by the least sophisticated consumer to have two or more meanings, one of which is inaccurate, it is deceptive under 15 U.S.C. § 1692e.
- 41. Defendant violated 15 U.S.C. § 1692e by using a false, deceptive and misleading representation in its attempt to collect a debt.

SECOND COUNT

Violation of 15 U.S.C. § 1692e False or Misleading Representations as to the Name of the <u>Creditor to Whom the Debt is Owed</u>

- 42. Plaintiff repeats and realleges the foregoing paragraphs as if fully restated herein.
- 43. 15 U.S.C. § 1692e prohibits a debt collector from using any false, deceptive, or misleading representation or means in connection with the collection of any debt.
- 44. While § 1692e specifically prohibits certain practices, the list is non-exhaustive, and does not preclude a claim of falsity or deception based on any non-enumerated practice.
- 45. The question of whether a collection letter is deceptive is determined from the perspective of the "least sophisticated consumer."
- 46. A collection letter is deceptive under 15 U.S.C. § 1692e if it can reasonably be read by the least sophisticated consumer to have two or more meanings, one of which is inaccurate.
- 47. A collection letter is also deceptive under 15 U.S.C. § 1692e if it is reasonably susceptible to an inaccurate reading by the least sophisticated consumer.

- 48. For purposes of 15 U.S.C. § 1692e, the failure to clearly and accurately identify the creditor to whom the debt is owed is unfair and deceptive to the least sophisticated consumer.
- 49. A debt collector has the obligation not just to convey the name of the creditor to whom the debt is owed, but also to convey such clearly.
- 50. A debt collector has the obligation not just to convey the name of the creditor to whom the debt is owed, but also to state such explicitly.
- 51. Even if a debt collector conveys the required information, the debt collector nonetheless violates the FDCPA if it conveys that information in a confusing or contradictory fashion so as to cloud the required message with uncertainty.
- 52. When determining whether the name of the creditor to whom the debt is owed has been conveyed clearly, an objective standard, measured by how the "least sophisticated consumer" would interpret the notice, is applied.
 - 53. The letter lists a creditor of "Citibank, N.A./EXXONMOBIL."
- 54. The least sophisticated consumer would likely be confused as to whether the creditor to whom the debt is owed is "Citibank," or "EXXONMOBIL."
- 55. The least sophisticated consumer would likely be uncertain as to whether the creditor to whom the debt is owed is "Citibank," or "EXXONMOBIL."
- 56. Defendant failed to explicitly state the name of the creditor to whom the debt is owed.
- 57. Defendant failed to clearly state the name of the creditor to whom the debt is owed.
- 58. The least sophisticated consumer would likely be confused as to the name of the creditor to whom the debt is owed.
- 59. The least sophisticated consumer would likely be uncertain as to the name of the creditor to whom the debt is owed.
- 60. Because the letter can reasonably be read by the least sophisticated consumer to have two or more meanings, one of which is inaccurate, as described, it is deceptive within the meaning of 15 U.S.C. § 1692e.
- 61. Because the letter is reasonably susceptible to an inaccurate reading by the least sophisticated consumer, as described, it is deceptive within the meaning of 15 U.S.C. § 1692e.
 - 62. The least sophisticated consumer would likely be deceived by Defendant's

conduct.

- 63. The least sophisticated consumer would likely be deceived in a material way by Defendant's conduct.
- 64. Defendant violated § 1692e by using a false, deceptive and misleading representation in its attempt to collect a debt.

CLASS ALLEGATIONS

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

legal issues raised by this class action complaint will not require extended contact with the members of the Class, because Defendant's conduct was perpetrated on all members of the Class and will be established by common proof. Moreover, Plaintiff HAS retained counsel experienced in actions brought under the FDCPA.

JURY DEMAND

72. Plaintiff hereby demands a trial of this action by jury.

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff respectfully requests judgment as follows:

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

DATED: April 2, 2017

BARSHAY SANDERS, PLLC

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

Craig B. Sanders, Esq. 100 Garden City Plaza, Suite 500 Garden City, New York 11530

Tel: (516) 203-7600

Fax: (516) 706-5055

cs anders @barshays anders.com

Attorneys for Plaintiff
Our File No.: 112004

Departmen PSP 1947-cv-02580 P.O. Box 3005 Phoenixville, PA 19460

Department #627 2017-cv-02580 Document 1-1 Filed 05/01/17 Page 1 of 2 PageID #: 8

PQ Box 469100 Escondido, CA 92046-9100 (888) 319-0986 FAX: (866) 422-0765 www.PavARS.com

May 07, 2016

ACCOUNT IDENTIFICATION

Creditor: Citibank, N.A./EXXONMOBIL

Account No.: *******0757 ARS Reference No.: 4516

Balance: \$1,194.93

SETTLEMENT OFFER

Dear Sir/Madam:

I want to make you aware that I may have new payment options to help you resolve the above-referenced account. I can offer to settle your account for the reduced amount of \$538.00. If you cannot make the settlement payment by 5/25/2016, please contact me to discuss alternative arrangements.

We reserve the right to treat any missed or late payment as a cancellation of the settlement agreement. We are not obligated to renew this offer.

To make a payment or review other options on this account 24 hours a day, please visit our website at www.PayARS.com. ARS also offers "Quick Check" by phone, Western Union "Quick Collect" (Code City: ARS 4516), and Moneygram "Express Payment" (Receive Code: 2471). Payments, made payable to Citibank, can be mailed to the ARS Escondido, CA address above.

Citibank, N.A./EXXONMOBIL will report any discharge of indebtedness as required by the Internal Revenue Code and corresponding IRS regulations. Please contact your tax advisor if you have any questions.

Please call me at (888) 319-0986 for any questions. Office hours are Monday through Friday, 6:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m. and Saturday 6:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. (Pacific Time).

Sincerely,
ANNETTE SANTUCCI X1056
Account Representative

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We are required under certain Federal, State and Local laws to notify consumers of certain rights. This list does not contain a complete list of the rights for consumers under Federal, State, or Local laws.

New York City Department of Consumer Affairs License numbers 2000745, 2000744, and 2000742.

Debt collectors, in accordance with the federal Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, 15 USC §1692 et seq., are prohibited from engaging in abusive, deceptive, and unfair debt collection efforts, including but not limited to:

- i) The use or threat of violence;
- ii) The use of obscene or profane language; and
- iii) Repeated phone calls made with the intent to annoy, abuse, or harass.

"If a creditor or debt collector receives a money judgment against you in court, state and federal laws may prevent the following types of income from being taken to pay the debt:

- 1. Supplemental security income, (SSI);
- 2. Social security;
- 3. Public assistance (welfare);
- 4. Spousal support, maintenance (alimony) or child support;
- 5. Unemployment benefits;
- 6. Disability benefits;
- 7. Workers' compensation benefits;
- 8. Public or private pensions;
- 9. Veterans' benefits;
- 10. Federal student loans, federal student grants, and federal work study funds; and
- 11. Ninety percent of your wages or salary earned in the last sixty days."

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

for the

| Eastern Dis | trict of New York |
|--|--|
| Coleen Bonti, individually and on behalf of all others similarly situated Plaintiff(s) V. ARS National Services, Inc. Defendant(s) |)))) Civil Action No.))) |
| SUMMONS I | N A CIVIL ACTION |
| | CE COMPANY WHICH WILL DO BUSINESS IN CALIFORNIA CORPORATING SERVICE DR |
| A lawsuit has been filed against you. | |
| are the United States or a United States agency, or an off P. 12 (a)(2) or (3) — you must serve on the plaintiff an a | a you (not counting the day you received it) — or 60 days if you ficer or employee of the United States described in Fed. R. Civ. answer to the attached complaint or a motion under Rule 12 of ation must be served on the plaintiff or plaintiff's attorney, |
| If you fail to respond, judgment by default will be You also must file your answer or motion with the court. | be entered against you for the relief demanded in the complaint. |
| | CLERK OF COURT |
| Date: | Signature of Clash on Domester Clash |
| | Signature of Clerk or Deputy Clerk |

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

Civil Action No.

PROOF OF SERVICE

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

| was ra | This summons for (no ceived by me on (date) | ame of individual and title, if a | ny) | | | | |
|--------|---|-----------------------------------|---|--------------|--|--|--|
| was re | cerved by the on (aate) | | · | | | | |
| | ☐ I personally serve | ed the summons on the inc | lividual at (place) | | | | |
| | on (date) ; or | | | | | | |
| | ☐ I left the summon | s at the individual's reside | ence or usual place of abode with (name) | | | | |
| | | | , a person of suitable age and discretion who res | sides there, | | | |
| | on (date) | , and mailed a | copy to the individual's last known address; or | | | | |
| | ☐ I served the sumn | nons on (name of individual) | | , who is | | | |
| | designated by law to | accept service of process | s on behalf of (name of organization) | | | | |
| | | | on (date) | ; or | | | |
| | ☐ I returned the sum | nmons unexecuted becaus | e | ; or | | | |
| | ☐ Other (<i>specify</i>): | | | | | | |
| | My fees are \$ | for travel and S | \$ for services, for a total of \$ | 0.00 | | | |
| | I declare under penal | Ity of perjury that this info | ormation is true. | | | | |
| Date: | | _ | | | | | |
| | | | Server's signature | | | | |
| | | _ | Printed name and title | | | | |
| | | _ | Server's address | | | | |

Additional information regarding attempted service, etc:

Print Save As... Reset

JS 44 (Rev. 07/16) Case 2:17-cv-02580 Dequired Overlies 15/02/17 Page 1 of 2 PageID #: 12

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 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

| The JS 44 civil cover sheet and provided by local rules of court purpose of initiating the civil do | . This form, approved by th | e Judicial Conference of t | he Unite | ed States in Septembe | er 19 | 74, is required for the use of | of the Clerk of Co | aw, exce urt for th | epi as | |
|---|---|---|--|--|-------------------|---|--|---|---|--|
| I. (a) PLAINTIFFS | | | | DEFENDANTS | | | | | | |
| COLEEN BONTI | | | | ARS NATIONAL SERVICES, INC. | | | | | | |
| (b) County of Residence of First Listed Plaintiff SUFFOLK (EXCEPT IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES) | | | County of Residence of First Listed Defendant (IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES ONLY) NOTE: IN LAND CONDEMNATION CASES, USE THE LOCATION OF THE TRACT OF LAND INVOLVED. | | | | | | | |
| (c) Attorneys (Firm Name, A BARSHAY SAND | • | | | Attorneys (If Know | wn) | | | | | |
| (516) 203-7600 | iaza, Sie 300, Garden Ci | цу, 14 Г 11330 | | | | | | | | |
| II. BASIS OF JURISDI | CTION (Place an "X" in C | One Box Only) | | | PR | RINCIPAL PARTIE | | | | |
| O 1 U.S. Government Plaintiff | • 3 Federal Question (U.S. Government) | Not a Party) | | on of This State | PTI 0 1 | | · Principal Place | PIF O 4 | DEF | |
| O 2 U.S. Government Defendant | O 4 Diversity (Indicate Citizenshi | ip of Parties in Item III) | Citize | n of Another State | O 2 | | ad Principal Place In Another State | • | | |
| NATION OF CHIE | | | | n or Subject of a preign Country | 0 3 | O 3 Foreign Nation | 1 | O 6 | O 6 | |
| IV. NATURE OF SUIT CONTRACT | | ly) DRTS | FO | RFEITURE/PENALT | ΓY | BANKRUPTCY | OTHER | STATUT | TES | |
| O 110 Insurance O 120 Marine O 130 Miller Act O 140 Negotiable Instrument O 150 Recovery of Overpayment & Enforcement of Judgment O 151 Medicare Act O 152 Recovery of Defaulted Student Loans (Excludes Veterans) O 153 Recovery of Overpayment of Veteran's Benefits O 160 Stockholders' Suits O 190 Other Contract O 195 Contract Product Liability O 196 Franchise REAL PROPERTY O 210 Land Condemnation O 220 Foreclosure O 230 Rent Lease & Ejectment O 240 Torts to Land O 245 Tort Product Liability O 290 All Other Real Property | PERSONAL INJURY O 310 Airplane O 315 Airplane Product Liability | PERSONAL INJURY O 365 Personal Injury - Product Liability O 367 Health Care/ Pharmaceutical Personal Injury Product Liability O 368 Asbestos Personal Injury Product Liability O 368 Asbestos Personal Injury Product Liability PERSONAL PROPERT O 370 Other Fraud O 371 Truth in Lending O 380 Other Personal Property Damage Product Liability PRISONER PETITIONS Habeas Corpus: O 463 Alien Detainee O 510 Motions to Vacate Sentence O 530 General O 535 Death Penalty Other: O 540 Mandamus & Other O 550 Civil Rights O 555 Prison Condition O 560 Civil Detainee Conditions of Confinement | O 625 O 690 O 710 O 720 O 740 O 751 O 790 O 462 O 462 | Drug Related Seizure of Property 21 USC 881 Other LABOR Fair Labor Standards Act Labor/Management Relations Railway Labor Act Family and Medical Leave Act Other Labor Litigation Employee Retirement Income Security Act IMMIGRATION Naturalization Applica 465 Other Immigration extions | of n | O 422 Appeal 28 USC 158 O 423 Withdrawal 28 USC 157 PROPERTY RIGHTS O 820 Copyrights O 830 Patent O 840 Trademark SOCIAL SECURITY O 861 HIA (1395ff) O 862 Black Lung (923) O 863 DIWC/DIWW (405(g)) O 864 SSID Title XVI O 865 RSI (405(g)) FEDERAL TAX SUITS O 870 Taxes (U.S. Plaintiff or Defendant) O 871 IRS—Third Party 26 USC 7609 | O 375 False C O 400 State R O 410 Antitru O 430 Banks a O 450 Commo O 460 Deport O 470 Rackete Corrup • 480 Consun O 490 Cable/S O 850 Securiti Exchai) O 890 Other S O 891 Agricu O 893 Enviror O 895 Freedor Act O 896 Arbitra O 899 Admini Act/Re Agenc O 950 Constitt | Claims Act eapportion ist and Bankinerce ation ber Influen of Organization rer Credit Sat TV res/Commenge statutory A ltural Acts mental M m of Infor strative Pr vview or A y Decision | t nnment ng aced and attions odities/ Actions s latters mation cocedure appeal of n | |
| V. ORIGIN (Place an "X" in 1 Original O 2 Remo Proceeding Cou | oved from State O 3 Ren con | urt | 4 Reinsta Reop | ened Anotl (speci | her Di ify) | O managan | – L D | Iultidistric itigation – virect File | | |
| VI. CAUSE OF ACTIO | | ise. | | Collection Practices | | | - | | | |
| VII. REQUESTED IN COMPLAINT: | • CHECK IF THIS I UNDER RULE 2 | S A CLASS ACTION 3, F.R.Cv.P. | DI | EMAND \$ | | CHECK YES JURY DEMAN | only if demanded i D: • Yes | _ | int: | |
| VIII. RELATED CASE IF ANY | $\mathbb{C}(\mathbf{S})$ | (See Instructions) JUDGE | | | | DOCKET NUMBER | t | | | |
| DATE | | SIGNATURE OF ATTO | | | | | | | | |
| May 1, 2017 FOR OFFICE USE ONLY | | /s Cra | 1g B. | Sanders | | | | | | |
| | 10UNT | APPLYING IFP | | JUDG | E | MAG. | JUDGE | | | |

Case 2:17-cv-02580 Document 1-3 Filed 05/01/17 Page 2 of 2 PageID #: 13 CERTIFICATION OF ARBITRATION ELIGIBILITY

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

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

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

ClassAction.org

This complaint is part of ClassAction.org's searchable class action lawsuit database and can be found in this post: NY Consumer Claims ARS National Services Failed to Note Interest, Fees