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

SUSAN BRUCHHAUSER and CHARLES LIVERMORE, Individually and on Behalf of All Others Similarly Situated, Case No.: 17-cv-860

**CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT** 

vs.

**Jury Trial Demanded** 

CLIENT SERVICES, INC.,

Defendant.

Plaintiffs.

#### **INTRODUCTION**

1. This class action seeks redress for collection practices that violate the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, 15 U.S.C. § 1692 *et seq.* (the "FDCPA").

#### JURISDICTION AND VENUE

2. The court has jurisdiction to grant the relief sought by the Plaintiffs 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 Susan Bruchhauser is an individual who resides in the Eastern District of Wisconsin (Milwaukee County).

4. Plaintiff Charles Livermore is an individual who resides in the Eastern District of Wisconsin (Milwaukee County).

5. Each Plaintiff is a "consumer" as defined in the FDCPA, 15 U.S.C. § 1692a(3), in that Defendant sought to collect from each Plaintiff debts allegedly incurred for personal, family or household purposes, namely credit card debts.

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6. Defendant Client Services, Inc. ("Client Services") is a debt collection agency with its principal offices located at 3451 Harry S Truman Blvd., St. Charles, MO 63301.

7. Client Services is engaged in the business of a collection agency, using the mails and telephone to collect consumer debts originally owed to others.

8. Client Services is engaged in the business of collecting debts owed to others and incurred for personal, family or household purposes. Client Services is a debt collector as defined in 15 U.S.C. § 1692a.

#### **FACTS**

#### **Bruchhauser Letter**

9. On or about May 24, 2017, Client Services mailed a debt collection letter to Plaintiff Bruchhauser regarding an alleged debt, allegedly owed to "Citibank, N.A." ("Citibank"). A copy of this letter is attached to this complaint as <u>Exhibit A</u>.

10. The alleged debt identified in <u>Exhibit A</u> is a credit card debt, issued by Citibank and used only for personal, family or household purposes such as purchases of goods and services.

11. 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.

12. Upon information and belief, <u>Exhibit A</u> is a form debt collection letter used by Client Services to attempt to collect alleged debts.

13. <u>Exhibit A</u> contains the following text: "We are offering you a settlement amount of \$241.00 to settle this SEARS GOLD MASTERCARD account for less than balance due."

14. The letter also includes a "MINIMUM PAYMENT DUE: \$350." Exhibit A.

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15. <u>Exhibit A</u> is facially contradictory. In one place it states that the consumer can settle the debt for \$241, but also states that the "minimum payment due" is a greater number, \$350.

16. The unsophisticated consumer would be baffled by Exhibit A.

17. The unsophisticated consumer could not determine from <u>Exhibit A</u> if the settlement offer of \$241.00 or the MINIMUM PAYMENT DUE of \$350 is required to "settle this account for less than balance due."

18. The normal meaning of "settling" a debt means that the debt is permanently resolved in exchange for a payment of a portion of the balance.

19. The consumer could send a check for \$241.00 and would not know whether he or she had sent enough money to actually settle the account, due to the possibility that the MINIMUM PAYMENT DUE was actually the amount required to settle the account.

20. The consumer could not know whether Client Services would even accept a payment of \$241, as it is substantially less than the amount represented to be the "minimum payment."

21. The consequences of misleading a consumer with respect to settling a debt are much greater than misleading about the amount of the debt. *See eg. Miller v. McCalla, Raymer, Padrick, Cobb, Nichols, & Clark, L.L.C.*, 214 F.3d 872, 876 (7th Cir. 2000).

22. Client Services' language discourages settlements, as the terms are ambiguous and contradictory

23. Client Services' language also encourages the consumer to make a payment *greater than* the settlement amount to avoid the chance that payment of the smaller amount would be rejected as insufficient.

#### <u>Livermore Letter</u>

24. Plaintiff Livermore entered into a consumer transaction with "Capital One Bank (USA), N.A." ("Capital One") for a credit card.

25. On or about July 4, 2016, Client Services mailed a debt collection letter to Plaintiff regarding an alleged credit card debt, allegedly owed to Capital One and used only for personal, family or household purposes. A copy of the letter is attached to this complaint as <u>Exhibit B</u>.

26. Upon information and belief, <u>Exhibit B</u> is a form letter, generated by computer, and with the information specific to Plaintiff inserted by computer.

27. <u>Exhibit B</u> states the following: "Other Charges: \$0.00."

28. There is no explanation in the letter as to what the "Other Charges" are.

29. Although the amount of "Other Charges" in <u>Exhibit B</u> is \$0.00, the letter implies that there could be some unknown fees added to the debt in future letters. *See, eg. 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.").

30. The unsophisticated consumer interprets references to "charges" in collection letters, even when the amount is \$0.00, as representations that the debt collector has a right to add charges to the alleged debt, and that charges will be sought in future letters.

31. The unsophisticated consumer would be confused by the nebulous reference on Client Services' letter to "Other Charges," and would have no idea what those charges are, potentially could be, or whether they are legitimate.

32. Plaintiffs were confused by Exhibit A and Exhibit B.

- 33. The unsophisticated consumer would be confused by Exhibit A and Exhibit B.
- 34. Plaintiffs had to spend time and money investigating <u>Exhibit A</u> and <u>Exhibit B</u>.

35. Plaintiffs 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 Plaintiffs on the consequences of <u>Exhibit A</u> and <u>Exhibit B</u>.

36. The FDCPA creates substantive rights for consumers; violations cause injury to consumers, and such injuries are concrete and particularized. 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. Ill. 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).

37. 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").

38. 15 U.S.C. § 1692e generally prohibits "any false, deceptive, or misleading representation or means in connection with the collection of any debt."

39. 15 U.S.C. § 1692e(2)(a) specifically prohibits: "The false representation of—the character, amount, or legal status of any debt."

40. 15 U.S.C. § 1692e(5) specifically prohibits threatening "to take any action that cannot legally be taken or that is not intended to be taken."

41. 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."

42. 15 U.S.C. § 1692f generally prohibits "unfair or unconscionable means to collect or attempt to collect any debt."

#### <u>COUNT I – FDCPA</u>

43. Plaintiffs incorporate by reference as if fully set forth herein the allegations contained in the preceding paragraphs of this Complaint.

44. Count I is brought on behalf of Plaintiff Bruchhauser.

45. <u>Exhibit A</u> provides a purported "settlement offer," but that offer is misleading, as the amount necessary to effectuate the settlement is unclear.

46. A consumer who mails a payment in the full amount of the "settlement amount" listed on the letter may not have sent enough money to actually settle the account.

47. Client Service's letter encourages settlement payments to be short of the amount necessary for the creditor to agree to settle the alleged debt, allowing Client Service's or the creditor to continue collecting the remaining balance of the alleged debt, plus additional interest.

48. Defendant violated 15 U.S.C. §§ 1692e, 1692e(2)(a), 1692e(10) and 1692f.

#### COUNT II -- FDCPA

49. Plaintiffs incorporate by reference as if fully set forth herein the allegations contained in the preceding paragraphs of this Complaint.

50. Count II is brought on behalf of Plaintiff Livermore.

51. Client Services' threat to collect "other charges" which are not further specified or explained in <u>Exhibit B</u> is a false, deceptive, and/or misleading representation to the unsophisticated consumer recipient.

52. <u>Exhibit B</u> falsely represents that Defendant is lawfully entitled to collect other charges.

53. <u>Exhibit B</u> creates a false impression as to its authorization or approval for collecting other charges.

54. An unsophisticated consumer would have no idea what "other charges" are or could be or whether they are legitimate.

55. Defendant violated 15 U.S.C. §§ 1692e, 1692e(2), 1692e(5), and 1692e(10).

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#### **CLASS ALLEGATIONS**

56. Plaintiff brings this action on behalf of two classes.

57. Class One consists of (a) all natural persons in the State of Wisconsin (b) who were sent a collection letter in the form represented by <u>Exhibit A</u> to the complaint in this action, (c) seeking to collect a debt for personal, family or household purposes, (d) between June 21, 2016 and June 21, 2017, inclusive, (e) that was not returned by the postal service. Plaintiff Bruchhauser is the designated representative of Class One, which shall be called the "Settlement Class."

58. Class Two consists of (a) all natural persons in the State of Wisconsin (b) who were sent a collection letter in the form represented by <u>Exhibit B</u> to the complaint in this action, (c) seeking to collect a debt for personal, family or household purposes, (d) between June 21, 2016 and June 21, 2017, inclusive, (e) that was not returned by the postal service. Plaintiff Livermore is the designated representative of Class Two, which shall be called the "Other Charges Class."

59. Each Class is so numerous that joinder is impracticable. Upon information and belief, there are more than 50 members of each Class.

60. There are questions of law and fact common to the members of each 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, 1692e(2)(a), 1692e(5), 1692e(10) and 1692f.

61. Plaintiffs' claims are typical of the claims of the Class members. All are based on the same factual and legal theories.

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62. Plaintiffs will fairly and adequately represent the interests of the Class members. Plaintiffs have retained counsel experienced in consumer credit and debt collection abuse cases.

63. A class action is superior to other alternative methods of adjudicating this dispute. Individual cases are not economically feasible.

#### JURY DEMAND

64. Plaintiffs hereby demand a trial by jury.

#### PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, Plaintiffs requests that the Court enter judgment in favor of Plaintiffs 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: June 21, 2017

#### **ADEMI & O'REILLY, LLP**

By: <u>s/ John D. Blythin</u> Shpetim Ademi (SBN 1026973) John D. Blythin (SBN 1046105) Mark A. Eldridge (SBN 1089944) Denise L. Morris (SBN 1097911) 3620 East Layton Avenue Cudahy, WI 53110 (414) 482-8000 (414) 482-8001 (fax) sademi@ademilaw.com jblythin@ademilaw.com meldridge@ademilaw.com

## **EXHIBIT** A

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3451 Harry S Truman Blvd. Saint Charles, MO 63301-4047 RE: Citibank, N.A. ACCOUNT NUMBER: XXXXXXXXXX

ACCOUNT NUMBER: XXXXXXXXXXXXX2496 NEW BALANCE: \$602.21 MINIMUM PAYMENT DUE: \$350 REFERENCE NUMBER: 0079 Office Hours (Central Time) Monday-Thursday: 8am-8pm Friday: 7am-5pm Saturday: 7am-11am Sunday: Closed

PHONE: 877-288-0504

DATE: 5/24/2017

SETTLEMENT OFFER

We are offering you a settlement amount of \$241.00, to settle this SEARS GOLD MASTERCARD account for less than balance due. This offer is valid until 6/13/2017. If payment of the offered settlement amount is not received in our office by this date, this offer will be withdrawn and will be deemed null and void. We are not obligated to renew this offer. If you are unable to pay the offered settlement amount by this due date, please contact our office for alternative payment options which may be available to you.

As of the date of this letter, the balance due is \$602.21. If on the date you make a payment, the balance due is greater because of interest or other charges, our office will honor the above settlement offer if received in our office by the above due date.

We look forward to working with you in resolving this matter.

Joshua Pinkowski

#### THIS COMMUNICATION IS FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR. THIS IS AN ATTEMPT TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.

FOR IMPORTANT RIGHTS AND PRIVILEGES WHICH MIGHT APPLY TO YOUR STATE OF RESIDENCE, PLEASE SEE BELOW OR REVERSE SIDE (IF FAXED THEN FOLLOWING PAGE).

Send your payment in the enclosed envelope using the remittance coupon below.	Online: www.csiconsumercenter.com
Pay-by-Phone: 1-877-552-5905	If you are unable to pay the above settlement offer, contact our office at 877-288-0504 for payment options, which may be available to you.

PO Box 1503 Saint Peters, MO 63376 Checks Payable To: Citibank, N.A.

REMIT TO:

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SUSAN G BRUCHHAUSER 2415 NICHOLSON AVE APT 510-5 SOUTH MILWAUKEE WI 53172-2341

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#### CALIFORNIA

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 8:00 a.m. or after 9:00 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 credit counseling services may be available in the area.

#### COLORADO

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. The address and telephone number for Client Services, Inc.'s local Colorado office is: The Executive Building, Attn: Stokes & Wolf, P.C. as agent for Client Services, Inc., 1776 S. Jackson St., Suite 900 Denver, CO 80210 (TEL: (303) 753-0945).

#### KANSAS

An investigative consumer report, which includes information as to your character, general reputation, personal characteristics and mode of living, has been requested. You have the right to request additional information, which includes the nature and scope of the investigation.

#### MASSACHUSETTS

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 debt collector.

#### MINNESOTA

This collection agency is licensed by the Minnesota Department of Commerce.

#### **NEW YORK**

In accordance with the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, 15 U.S.C. § 1692 et seq., debt collectors are prohibited from engaging in abusive, deceptive, and unfair debt collection efforts, including but not limited to: the use or threat of violence, the use of obscene or profane language, and 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: supplemental security income (SSI), social security, public assistance (welfare), spousal support including maintenance (alimony) or child support, unemployment benefits, disability benefits, workers' compensation benefits, public or private pensions, veterans' benefits, federal student loans, federal student grants, federal work study funds, and ninety percent of your wages or salary earned in the last sixty days.

#### **NEW YORK CITY**

New York City Department of Consumer Affairs License Number: 1306512

#### **NORTH CAROLINA**

North Carolina Permit Number: 100705

#### TENNESSEE

This collection agency is licensed by the Collection Service Board of the Department of Commerce and Insurance.

# Exhibit B

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3451 Harry S Truman Blvd. Saint Charles, MO 63301-4047	<u>Office Hours (Central Time)</u> Monday-Thursday: 8am-8pm Friday: 7am-5pm Saturday: 7am-11am Sunday: Closed
CREDITOR: CAPITAL ONE BANK (USA), N.A.	PHONE: 877-665-3303
BALANCE DUE: \$11, <del>368.65</del> REFERENCE NUMBER: 1678	DATE: 07/04/2016
NÉW INFORMATION ON YOUR ACCOU	VT

Dear Valued Customer:

The above CAPITAL ONE BANK (USA), N.A. account has been placed with our organization for collections.

Balance Due At Charge-Off:	11,368.65
Interest:	0.00
Other Charges:	0.00
Payments Made:	0.00
Current Balance:	11,368.65

Unless you notify our office within thirty (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 thirty (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 thirty (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.

Please note, we have many payment options that may meet your individual needs. If we are unable to arrange repayment, Capital One will send your account to an attorney in your state for possible legal action. Please note, no decision has been made to take legal action against you at this time. If a lawsuit is filed, you'll have the opportunity at any court hearing to raise applicable defenses or property exemptions. I want to help you avoid any possible legal action. Please call me at 877-665-3303 for more information. I look forward to working with you to resolve this balance.

Joshua Pinkowski Client Services, Inc.

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THIS COMMUNICATION IS FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR. THIS IS AN ATTEMPT TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.

FOR IMPORTANT RIGHTS AND PRIVILEGES WHICH MIGHT APPLY TO YOUR STATE OF RESIDENCE, PLEASE SEE BELOW OR REVERSE SIDE (IF FAXED THEN FOLLOWING PAGE).

PO Box 1586 Saint Peters, MO 63376

		<hr/>
REFERENCE NUMBER	1678	
AMOUNT ENCLOSED	a the second	

Checks Payable To: Client Services, Inc.

REMIT TO:

CHARLES W LIVERMORE PO BOX 11098 MILWAUKEE WI 53211-0098

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#### CALIFORNIA

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 8:00 a.m. or after 9:00 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 credit counseling services may be available in the area.

#### COLORADO

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. The address and telephone number for Client Services, Inc.'s local Colorado office is: The Executive Building, Attn: Stokes & Wolf, P.C. as agent for Client Services, Inc., 1776 S. Jackson St., Suite 900 Denver, CO 80210 (TEL: (303) 753-0945).

#### **KANSAS**

An investigative consumer report, which includes information as to your character, general reputation, personal characteristics and mode of living, has been requested. You have the right to request additional information, which includes the nature and scope of the investigation.

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#### **MINNESOTA**

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#### **NEW YORK**

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New York City Department of Consumer Affairs License Number: 1306512

#### NORTH CAROLINA

North Carolina Permit Number: 100705

#### TENNESSEE

This collection agency is licensed by the Collection Service Board of the Department of Commerce and Insurance.



3451 Harry S Truman Blvd. Saint Charles, MO 63301-4047 CREDITOR: CAPITAL ONE BANK (USA), N.A. ACCOUNT NUMBER: XXXXXXXXXXX4215 BALANCE DUE: \$11,368.65 REFERENCE NUMBER: 1678 Office Hours (Central Time) Monday-Thursday: 8am-8pm Friday: 7am-5pm Saturday: 7am-11am Sunday: Closed

PHONE: 877-665-3303

DATE: 07/04/2016

NEW INFORMATION ON YOUR ACCOUNT



PO Box 1586

Saint Peters, MO 63376

Send your payment in the enclosed envelope using the remittance coupon below.

Pay-by-Phone: 1-877-552-5905

Online: www.csiconsumercenter.com

If you are unable to pay the balance in full, contact our office at 877-665-3303 for payment options, which may be available to you.

REFERENCE NUMBER	1678	
AMOUNT ENCLOSED		

Checks Payable To: Client Services, Inc.

REMIT TO:

CHARLES W LIVERMORE PO BOX 11098 MILWAUKEE WI 53211-0098

#### CALIFORNIA

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North Carolina Permit Number: 100705

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This collection agency is licensed by the Collection Service Board of the Department of Commerce and Insurance.

∞JS 44	4 (Rev. 12/07)		CIVIL CO	OVFI	R SHFFT					
The JS by loca	5 44 civil cover sheet and al rules of court. This fo	the information contained h rm, approved by the Judicial	erein neither replace nor Conference of the Unite	supplement	nt the filing and servic	ce of ple equired	eadings or other papers as re l for the use of the Clerk of (	quired by law, Court for the p	except as ourpose of	provided initiating
	an X in the appropriate	NSTRUCTIONS ON THE REV Box:	ERSE OF THE FORM.) n Bay Division			M	ilwaukee Division			
L (a)	) PLAINTIFFS				DEFENDANT	S				
10 (u)		CHHAUSER, et a	1.		CLIENT SE		ICES, INC.			
(h)	County of Residence	of First Listed Plaintiff	Milwaukee		County of Residence	ce of Fi	rst Listed Defendant			
(U)		XCEPT IN U.S. PLAINTIFF C.	ASES)		County of Residence		IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES C	)NLY)		
	(2					AND CO	ONDEMNATION CASES, US OLVED.		ION OF TH	Е
(c)	Attorney's (Firm Name	, Address, and Telephone Numb	er)		Attorneys (If Known	n)				
		3620 E. Layton Ave., Cudahy, W			•					
		e (414) 482-8001-Facsimile								
II. B	BASIS OF JURISE	<b>ICTION</b> (Place an "X"	in One Box Only)	III. CI	TIZENSHIP OF	PRI	NCIPAL PARTIES	Place an "X" in	One Box fo	r Plaintiff
-			-	(	(For Diversity Cases Only	y) PTF	DEF	and One Box	for Defend PTF	ant) DEF
	U.S. Government Plaintiff	3 Federal Question (U.S. Government)	Not a Party)	Citize	en of This State		1 Incorporated or Prin of Business In This			
2	U.S. Government Defendant	4 Diversity (Indicate Citizensh	ip of Parties in Item III)	Citize	en of Another State	<b>2</b> 2	2 Incorporated and Profile of Business In A		5	5
					en or Subject of a reign Country	3	3 Foreign Nation			6
IV.	NATURE OF SUI CONTRACT	T (Place an "X" in One Box C			ORFEITURE/PENALTY	¥7	DANIZD HDT GM	OTHE	R STATUT	T.C.
	Insurance	PERSONAL INJURY	RTS				BANKRUPTCY 422 Appeal 28 USC 158			
_	Marine	310 Airplane	PERSONAL INJUR 362 Personal Injury -		0 Agriculture 0 Other Food & Drug		422 Appeal 28 USC 158 423 Withdrawal	400 State F 410 Antitru	Reapportion: ust	ment
	Miller Act	315 Airplane Product	Med. Malpractice	e 🗌 62	5 Drug Related Seizure		28 USC 157		and Bankin	g
	Negotiable Instrument Recovery of Overpayment	Liability 320 Assault, Libel &	365 Personal Injury - Product Liability	<b>G</b> 63	of Property 21 USC 881 0 Liquor Laws	1	PROPERTY RIGHTS	450 Comm 460 Depor		
	& Enforcement of Judgment	Slander	368 Asbestos Persona		0 R.R. & Truck		820 Copyrights		teer Influenc	ced and
	Medicare Act	330 Federal Employers'	Injury Product		0 Airline Regs.		830 Patent		ot Organizati	ions
	Recovery of Defaulted Student Loans	Liability 340 Marine	Liability PERSONAL PROPER'		0 Occupational Safety/Health	Ц	840 Trademark	✓ 480 Consu 490 Cable/		
	(Excl. Veterans)	345 Marine Product	370 Other Fraud		0 Other			810 Selecti		
	Recovery of Overpayment	Liability	371 Truth in Lending		LABOR		SOCIAL SECURITY		ties/Commo	dities/
	of Veteran's Benefits Stockholders' Suits	350 Motor Vehicle 355 Motor Vehicle	380 Other Personal Property Damage	71	0 Fair Labor Standards Act		861 HIA (1395ff) 862 Black Lung (923)	Exchar 875 Custor	•	œ
_	Other Contract	Product Liability	385 Property Damage	72	0 Labor/Mgmt. Relations		863 DIWC/DIWW (405(g))		C 3410	50
		360 Other Personal	Product Liability	73	0 Labor/Mgmt.Reporting		864 SSID Title XVI		Statutory A	ctions
	Franchise REAL PROPERTY	Injury CIVIL RIGHTS	PRISONER PETITION		& Disclosure Act 0 Railway Labor Act	p.	865 RSI (405(g)) FEDERAL TAX SUITS	891 Agricu	ıltural Acts mic Stabiliz	ation Act
	Land Condemnation	441 Voting	510 Motions to Vacate		0 Other Labor Litigation		870 Taxes (U.S. Plaintiff		onmental M	
220	Foreclosure	442 Employment	Sentence	_	1 Empl. Ret. Inc.		or Defendant)		y Allocation	
		443 Housing/	Habeas Corpus:		Security Act		871 IRS—Third Party		om of Inform	nation
	Torts to Land Tort Product Liability	Accommodations 444 Welfare	530 General 535 Death Penalty		IMMIGRATION		26 USC 7609	Act 900Appeal	l of Fee Dete	ermination
	All Other Real Property	445 Amer. w/Disabilities -		ner 🔲 46	2 Naturalization Applicat	tion			Equal Acce	

	440	Other Civil Rights		Actions				
$\square 1$ Original $\square 2$	ce an "X" ir Removed State Cou		Remanded from Appellate Court	Reinstated or 🔲 🖞	Transferred from another district (specify)	6 Multidistric Litigation	ct 🔲 7	Appeal to District Judge from Magistrate Judgment
	1	Cite the U.S. Civil Sta 5 U.S.C. 1692 et seq	tute under which you are f	filing (Do not cite jur	isdictional statutes	unless diversity):		
VI. CAUSE OF ACT	E	Brief description of ca /iolation of Fair Debt 0	use: Collection Practices Act					
VII. REQUESTED I COMPLAINT:	n E	CHECK IF THIS UNDER F.R.C.P.	IS A CLASS ACTION 23	DEMAND \$		CHECK YES only it JURY DEMAND:	f demanded i Ves	n complaint: D No
VIII. RELATED CA IF ANY	SE(S)	(See instructions):	JUDGE		DOCK	ET NUMBER		
DATE			SIGNATURE OF ATTO	RNEY OF RECORD				
June 21, 2017			/s/ John D. B	lythin				
FOR OFFICE USE ONLY								
RECEIPT #	AMOUNT	a <del>se 2:17-cv-(</del>	00860 Filed 06	<del>/21/17 P</del> age <sup>'</sup>	<sup>uDGE</sup> 1 Of <del>2 DOC</del>	ument 1-3	GE	

462 Naturalization Application 463 Habeas Corpus -

Alien Detainee

465 Other Immigration

to Justice 950 Constitutionality of State Statutes

550 Civil Rights

555 Prison Condition

Employment

446 Amer. w/Disabilities -Other

#### **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

SUSAN BRUCHHAUSER and CHARLES LIVERMORE	) ) )	
Plaintiff(s)	)	
V.	)	Civil Action No.
CLIENT SERVICES, INC.	) ) )	
Defendant(s)	)	
	,	

#### SUMMONS IN A CIVIL ACTION

To: (Defendant's name and address) CLIENT C/O CO 8040 EX

CLIENT SERVICES, INC. C/O CORPORATION SERVICE COMPANY 8040 EXCELSIOR DRIVE, SUITE 400 MADISON, WI 53717

A lawsuit has been filed against you.

Within 21 days after service of this summons on you (not counting the day you receive it) – or 60 days if you are the United States or a United States agency, or an officer or employee of the United States described in Fed. R. Civ. P. 12(a)(2) or (3) – you must serve on the plaintiff an answer to the attached complaint or a motion under Rule 12 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure. The answer or motion must be served on the plaintiff or the plaintiff's attorney, whose name and address are: John D. Blythin Ademi & O'Beilly LLP

Ademi & O'Reilly, LLP 3620 East Layton Avenue Cudahy, WI 53110

If you fail to respond, judgment by default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the complaint. You also must file your answer or motion with the court.

STEPHEN C. DRIES, CLERK OF COURT

17-cv-860

Date:

Signature of Clerk or Deputy Clerk

Civil Action No. 17-cv-860

#### **PROOF OF SERVICE**

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

This summons and the attached complaint for (name of individual and title, if any):

□ T 11 1			
□ I personally served	the summons and the attached con	iplaint on the individual at (place):	
		On (date)	; or
$\Box$ I left the summons	and the attached complaint at the in	ndividual's residence or usual place of a	abode with (name
	, a p	erson of suitable age and discretion wh	o resides there.
on (date)	, and mailed a copy	to the individual's last known address;	or
$\Box$ I served the summer	ons and the attached complaint on (	name of individual)	
who is designated by la	aw to accept service of process on l	ehalf of (name of organization)	
		on (date)	; or
$\Box$ I returned the sum	nons unexecuted because		
			7 -
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	rue.	
		Server's signature	
		server's signature	
		Printed name and title	
		Printed name and title	
		Printed name and title	

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: Lawsuit: Client Services' Letters Mislead Consumers