BARSHAY SANDERS, PLLC

100 Garden City Plaza, Suite 500 Garden City, New York 11530 Tel: (516) 203-7600 Fax: (516) 706-5055 Email: *ConsumerRights@BarshaySanders.com Attorneys for Plaintiff* Our File No.: 111895

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT EASTERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

Nicole Charleston, individually and on behalf of all others similarly situated,

Plaintiff,

vs.

Docket No:

CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT

JURY TRIAL DEMANDED

Nationwide Credit, Inc.,

Defendant.

Nicole Charleston, 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 Nationwide Credit, 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.

BARSHAY | SANDERS PLLC 100 GARDEN CTY PLAZA, SUITE 500 GARDEN CTY, NEW YORK 11530 Case 2:17-cv-02686 Document 1 Filed 05/04/17 Page 2 of 8 PageID #: 2

PARTIES

5. Plaintiff Nicole Charleston 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 Nationwide Credit, Inc., is a Pennsylvania Corporation with a principal place of business in Lehigh County, Pennsylvania.

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 Synchrony Bank.

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 19, 2016. ("<u>Exhibit 1."</u>)

18. The letter was the initial communication Plaintiff received from Defendant.

19. The letter is a "communication" as defined by 15 U.S.C. § 1692a(2).

FIRST COUNT Violation of 15 U.S.C. § 1692g Failure to Adequately Convey the Amount of the Debt

20. Plaintiff repeats and realleges the foregoing paragraphs as if fully restated herein.

21. 15 U.S.C. § 1692g provides that within five days after the initial communication with a consumer in connection with the collection of any debt, a debt collector shall, unless the

information is contained in the initial communication or the consumer has paid the debt, send the consumer a written notice containing certain enumerated information.

22. One such requirement is that the debt collector provide "the amount of the debt." 15 U.S.C. § 1692g(a)(1).

23. A debt collector has the obligation not just to convey the amount of the debt, but to convey such clearly.

24. The letter sets forth an "Account Balance."

25. The letter states, "the Account Balance as of the date of this letter is shown above."

26. The letter fails to disclose whether the "Account Balance" may increase due to additional interest.

27. The letter fails to disclose whether the "Account Balance" may increase due to additional late fees.

28. The letter fails to state that payment of a certain amount by a date certain would satisfy the debt.

29. 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).

30. The letter, because of the aforementioned failures, and especially because of the use of the phrase "as of the date of this letter," would render the least sophisticated consumer unable to determine the amount of his or her debt.

31. The letter, because of the aforementioned failures, and especially because of the use of the phrase "as of the date of this letter," 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.

32. The least sophisticated consumer could reasonably believe that the debt could be satisfied by remitting the "Account Balance" at any time after receipt of the letter.

33. The least sophisticated consumer could also reasonably believe that the "Account Balance" was accurate only on the date of the letter because of the continued accumulation of interest and/or late fees.

34. If interest is continuing to accrue, the least sophisticated consumer would not know how to satisfy the debt because the letter fails to indicate the applicable interest rate, or

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date of accrual.

35. If late fees are continuing to accrue, the least sophisticated consumer would not know how to satisfy the debt because the letter fails to indicate the amount of applicable and/or possible late fees.

36. For these reasons, Defendant failed to clearly state the amount of the debt.

37. For these reasons, Defendant failed to unambiguously state the amount of the debt.

38. For these reasons, the letter would likely make the least sophisticated consumer uncertain as to the amount of the debt.

39. For these reasons, the letter would likely make the least sophisticated consumer confused as to the amount of the debt.

40. Defendant violated § 1692g as it failed to clearly, explicitly and unambiguously convey the amount of the debt.

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

41. Plaintiff repeats and realleges the foregoing paragraphs as if fully restated herein.

42. 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.

43. The question of whether a collection letter is deceptive is determined from the perspective of the "least sophisticated consumer."

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. 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.

46. 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.

47. 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).

BARSHAY | SANDERS PLLC 100 GARDEN CITY PLAZA, SUITE 500 GARDEN CITY, NEW YORK 11530 48. As previously alleged, the least sophisticated consumer could reasonably read the letter to mean that the "Account Balance" was static.

49. As previously alleged, the least sophisticated consumer could also reasonably read the letter to mean that the "Account Balance" was dynamic due to the continued accumulation of interest and/or late fees.

50. Because the letter is susceptible to an inaccurate reading by the least sophisticated consumer, it is deceptive under 15 U.S.C. § 1692e.

51. 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 under 15 U.S.C. § 1692e.

52. Defendant violated 15 U.S.C. § 1692e by using a false, deceptive and misleading representation in its attempt to collect a debt.

<u>THIRD COUNT</u> Violation of 15 U.S.C. § 1692e and § 1692f False or Misleading Representations

53. Plaintiff repeats and realleges the foregoing paragraphs as if fully restated herein.

54. 15 U.S.C. § 1692e prohibits a debt collector from using any false, deceptive, or misleading representations or means in connection with the collection of any debt.

55. § 1692e(2)(A) prohibits the false representation of the character, amount, or legal status of any debt.

56. § 1692e(2)(B) prohibits the false representation of any services rendered or compensation that may be lawfully received by any debt collector for the collection of a debt.

57. 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."

58. 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."

59. 15 U.S.C. § 1692f provides a debt collector may not use unfair or unconscionable means to collect or attempt to collect any debt.

60. §1692f(1) limits prohibits the collection of any amount, including any interest, fee, charge, or expense incidental to the debt, unless such amount is expressly authorized by the agreement creating the debt or permitted by law.

61. The letter states "Amount of Non-Interest Charges or Fees Accrued Since Charge-Off."

62. The "Amount of Non-Interest Charges or Fees Accrued Since Charge-Off" are listed as "\$0.00."

63. 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.

64. 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.

65. Although the "Amount of Non-Interest Charges or Fees Accrued Since Charge-Off" are listed as "\$0.00," the letter could reasonably be read by the least sophisticated consumer to mean that there could be "Non-Interest Charges or Fees" added to the debt in the future.

66. The letter could reasonably be read by the least sophisticated consumer to imply that there could be "Non-Interest Charges or Fees" added to the debt in the future.

67. The letter falsely implies that Defendant has the right to add "Non-Interest Charges or Fees" to the debt.

68. Defendant has no legal basis to add "Non-Interest Charges or Fees" to the debt.

69. The letter could reasonably be read by the least sophisticated consumer to threaten to collect a fee.

70. The letter falsely implies that Defendant has the right to add a fee to the debt.

71. Defendant has no legal basis to add a fee to the debt.

72. Defendant's conduct, as described, violates § 1692e and § 1692f.

CLASS ALLEGATIONS

73. 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.

74. 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.

75. Defendant regularly engages in debt collection, using the same unlawful letter described herein, in its attempts to collect delinquent consumer debts from other persons.

76. The Class consists of more than 35 persons from whom Defendant attempted to collect delinquent consumer debts using the same unlawful letter described herein.

77. 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.

78. 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.

79. 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

80. 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 3, 2017

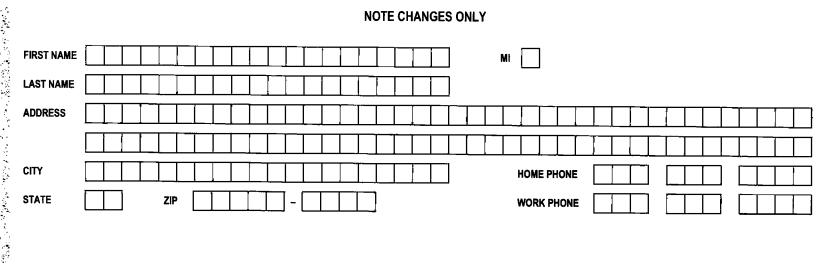
BARSHAY SANDERS, PLLC

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 csanders@barshaysanders.com *Attorneys for Plaintiff* Our File No.: 111895

PERSONAL AND PO BOX 26315(LEHIGH VALLEY	CONFIDENTIAL Case 2:17-cv-02686 Document 1-1 Filed	05/04/17 AREGUNTOUDERDONDXXXXXXXXX007					
		NCI ID: 057 ACCOUNT BALANCE: \$7,572.05					
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04 0 /C47/217/05/19,	/2016	24-hour account access: <u>myaccount.ncirm.com</u> o Change of address: Print New Address on Back REMIT TO:					
61243-20A Nichole Ch 142 CEDAF	arleston R RD E	IIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIII					
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Please Detach and F	*** Please See Reverse Side of This Letter for In Return this Stub in the Enclosed Envelope with your Check or Mo	mportant Consumer Information ***					
	Nationwide Credit, Inc.	Current Creditor: Synchrony Bank-Old Navy Visa® Card					
*	PO BOX 26314	Account Number: XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX					
Netionwide Gredit, Inc.	LEHIGH VALLEY PA 18002-6314 Monday-Friday 8:00 am-6:00 pm ET 1-866-505-9316 myaccount.ncirm.com	Account Balance: \$7,572.05					
	ACCREDITED BUSINESS Better Business Bureau Rating of A+						
<u>[</u>]	Let Us Help You!						
	Your outstanding balance with the above referenced credi	tor is past due and has been referred to Nationwide Credit, Inc. s letter is shown above. The following options are available to					
	Secure Online Portal: myaccount.ncirm.com is	Pay by Mail: Send a check or money order					
myaccount.ncirm.com ≥24-hour Access	available 24 hours a day to schedule payments, negotiate alternatives, manage your account and more!	PO BOX 26314 LEHIGH VALLEY PA18002-6314					
	Login using your NCI ID: Constant B057 and Password: Last four digits of your SSN	Reference your NCI ID on your check or money order Pay by Phone: Toll free 1-866-505-9316					
Make or Reschedule		equires that NCI provide you the following information regarding					
Payments	your debt: Original Creditor: Synchrony Bank						
Change Your Contact	Total Amount of Interest Accrued Since Charge-Off: \$7,572.05 Total Amount of Interest Accrued Since Charge-Off: \$0.00						
Information	Total Amount of Non-Interest Charges or Fees Accrued Si Total Amount of Payments Made on the Debt Since Charge	ince Charge-Off: \$0.00					
 Tell Us How You Would Like Us to Contact You And More Unless you notify this office within thirty (30) days after receiving this notice that you dispute the validity of the debt, or any portion thereof, this office will assume this debt is valid. If you notify this office in writing within thirty (30) days after receiving this notice that the debt, or any portion thereof, is disputed, this office will obtain verification of the debt or obtain a copy of a judgment against you and mail you a copy of such judgment or verification. Upon your written request 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. 							
	This demand for payment does not eliminate your righ about this debt, as described in the previous paragrap We look forward to assisting you in resolving this account.	nt to dispute this debt or inquire for more information hs.					
	MAURICE RICO Nationwide Credit, Inc.						
	This communication is an attempt to collect a debt by information obtained will be used for that purpose.	y a debt collector or consumer collection agency and any					
		equires that NCI provide you with the following disclosure(s):					
	NEW YORK STATE: Debt collectors, in accordance with the are prohibited from engaging in abusive, deceptive, and un	he Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, 15 U.S.C. § 1692 et seq., rfair debt collection efforts, including but not limited to:					
	 (1) the use or threat of violence; (2) the use of obscene or profane language; and (3) repeated phone calls made with the intent to annoy, ab 	use, or harass.					
	following types of income from being taken to pay the debt	gainst you in court, state and federal laws may prevent the					
	 Supplemental security income, (SSI) Social security; Public assistance (welfare); 	 Workers' compensation benefits; Public or private pensions; Vatarana' honofita; 					
	 Fublic assistance (wenter), Spousal support, maintenance (alimony) or child support Unemptoyment benefits; Disability benefits; 	 9. Veterans' benefits; ort; 10. Federal student loans, federal student grants, and federal work study funds; and 11. Ninety percent of your wages or salary earned in the c47 last 60 days. 					

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THIS COMMUNICATION IS AN ATTEMPT TO COLLECT A DEBT BY A DEBT COLLECTOR OR CONSUMER COLLECTION AGENCY AND ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.

New York City Department of Consumer Affairs License Number: 0914159

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

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

for the

Eastern District of New York

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Nicole Charleston, individually and on behalf of all others similarly situated

Plaintiff(s)

v.

Civil Action No.

Nationwide Credit, Inc.

Defendant(s)

SUMMONS IN A CIVIL ACTION

To: (Defendant's name and address) Nationwide Credit, Inc. C T CORPORATION SYSTEM 111 EIGHTH AVENUE NEW YORK, NEW YORK, 10011

A lawsuit has been filed against you.

Within 21 days after service of this summons on you (not counting the day you received 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 plaintiff's attorney, whose name and address are: Craig B. Sanders, Esq.

100 Garden City Plaza Suite 500 Garden City, New York 11530

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.

CLERK OF COURT

Date:

Signature of Clerk or Deputy Clerk

Case 2:17-cv-02686 Document 1-2 Filed 05/04/17 Page 2 of 2 PageID #: 12

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))

	This summons for (nam	ne of individual and title, if any)							
was re	ceived by me on (date)	·							
	□ I personally served	the summons on the individual a	at (place)						
			on (date)	; or					
	I left the summons at the individual's residence or usual place of abode with (name)								
		, a person of suitable age and discretion who resid							
	on (date)								
	\Box I served the summa	ons on (name of individual)		,	who is				
	designated by law to a								
			on (date)	; or					
	\Box I returned the summ	nons unexecuted because			; or				
	Other (<i>specify</i>):								
	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.						
Date:									
Dute.			Server's signature						
			Printed name and title						

Additional information regarding attempted service, etc:

Server's address

JS 44 (Rev. 07/16) Case 2:17-cv-02686 Dequire to VEIes 05/04/17 Page 1 of 2 PageID #: 13

The JS 44 civil cover sheet and the information contained herein neither replace nor supplement the filing and service of pleadings or other papers as required by law, except as provided by local rules of court. This form, approved by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required for the use of the Clerk of Court for the purpose of initiating the civil docket sheet. (SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON NEXT PAGE OF THIS FORM.)

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I. (a) PLAINTIFFS				DEFENDAN	NTS					
NICOLE CHARLESTON (b) County of Residence of First Listed Plaintiff <u>SUFFOLK</u> (EXCEPT IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES)				NATIONWIDE CREDIT, INC.						
				County of Residence of First Listed Defendant <u>LEHIGH</u> (IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES ONLY) NOTE: IN LAND CONDEMNATION CASES, USE THE LOCATION O THE TRACT OF LAND INVOLVED.			F			
(c) Attorneys (Firm Name, A	ddress, and Telephone Numbe	er)		Attorneys (If Kn	own)					
	ERS, PLLC aza, Ste 500, Garden Ci	ty, NY 11530								
(516) 203-7600 II. BASIS OF JURISDI	CTION (Place an "X" in (One Box Only)	IL CI	<u> </u> TIZENSHIP O	F PF	RINCIP	AL PARTIES	Place an "X" in	One Box fo	r Plaintiff
				Diversity Cases Only)			,		Box for Defend	dant)
O 1 U.S. Government Plaintiff	• 3 Federal Question (U.S. Government)	Not a Party)	Citize	en of This State	PT 0 1				PIF O 4	DEF O 4
O 2 U.S. Government Defendant	O 4 Diversity (Indicate Citizenshi	p of Parties in Item III)	Citize	en of Another State	0 2	2 0 2	Incorporated and H of Business In A		O 5	O 5
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V. ORIGIN (Place an "X" in • 1 Original O 2 Remain Proceeding Course	ved from State O 3 Rem		4 Reinsta Reop	ened And	nsferred other D ecify)		O 6 Multidistrict Litigation – Transfer	I	Aultidistrict Litigation – Direct File	t
VI. CAUSE OF ACTIO		atute under which you are	0.				diversity): 15 USC	§1692		
VII. REQUESTED IN COMPLAINT:	• CHECK IF THIS I UNDER RULE 2	S A CLASS ACTION		t Collection Practice	es Act		CHECK YES onl	•	-	int:
VIII. RELATED CASE IF ANY		(See Instructions) JUDGE					URY DEMAND: CKET NUMBER	• Yes	O No	
DATE		SIGNATURE OF ATTO	RNEY (OF RECORD						
May 4, 2017		/s Cra	ig B.	Sanders						
FOR OFFICE USE ONLY RECEIPT # AM	OUNT	APPLYING IFP		JUD	GE		MAG. JUI	DGE		

Case 2:17-cv-02686 Document 1-3 Filed 05/04/17 Page 2 of 2 PageID #: 14 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,
- \Box the complaint seeks injunctive relief,
- \Box 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)

1. Is the civil action being filed in the Eastern District removed from a New York State Court located in Nassau or Suffolk County: <u>NO</u>

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? <u>YES</u>

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.

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:	/s Craig B. Sanders	

ClassAction.org

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