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

KEVIN CONNOLLY, Individually and on Behalf) Case No.: 19-cv-129 of All Others Similarly Situated, Plaintiff, VS. ALLTRAN FINANCIAL LP,

Defendant.

CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT

Jury Trial Demanded

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") and Wisconsin Consumer Act, Ch. 421-427, Wis. Stats. ("WCA").

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

2. The court has jurisdiction to grant the relief sought by the Plaintiff pursuant to 15 U.S.C. § 1692k and 28 U.S.C. §§ 1331, 1337, and 1367. Venue in this District is proper in that Defendant directed its collection efforts into the District.

PARTIES

3. Plaintiff Kevin Connolly is an individual who resides in the Eastern District of Wisconsin (Milwaukee County).

Plaintiff is a "consumer" as defined in the FDCPA, 15 U.S.C. § 1692a(3), in that 4. Defendant sought to collect from Plaintiff a debt allegedly incurred for personal, family or household purposes, namely a personal credit card account.

5. Plaintiff is also a "customer" as defined in the WCA, Wis. Stat. § 421.301(17), in that the alleged debt Defendant sought to collect from Plaintiff was incurred as a result of a consumer transaction.

6. Defendant Alltran Financial, LP, ("Alltran") is a foreign limited partnership with its primary offices located at 5800 North Course Drive, Houston, Texas 77072.

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

8. Alltran is engaged in the business of collecting debts owed to others and incurred for personal, family or household purposes.

9. Alltran is a debt collector as defined in 15 U.S.C. § 1692a and Wis. Stat § 427.103(3).

FACTS

Chase's February 18, 2018 Account Statement

10. On or about February 18, 2018, Chase Bank ("Chase") mailed an account statement to Plaintiff regarding an alleged debt, associated with Plaintiff's "Chase Freedom" credit card account with an account number ending in 6548 owned and issued by Chase. A copy of this account statement is attached to this complaint as <u>Exhibit A</u>.

11. Upon information and belief, the debt referenced in <u>Exhibit A</u> is a personal consumer credit card account, used only for personal, family, and household purposes.

12. <u>Exhibit A</u> states:

. . .

| The Past Due | Payment Due Date: | 03/15/18 |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------|-------------|
| amount of \$1,799.00 is | New Balance: | \$11,305.11 |
| included in your Minimum Payment. | Minimum Payment: | \$2,038.00 |
| | Account number: | 6548 |

| PAYMENT INFORMATION | |
|---------------------|-------------|
| New Balance | \$11,305.11 |
| Payment Due Date | 03/15/18 |
| Minimum Payment Due | \$2,038.00 |

Exhibit A.

13. <u>Exhibit A</u> states that, as of February 18, 2018, Plaintiff's account ending in 6548 had a "New Balance" of \$11,305.11, a "Past Due Amount" of \$1,799.00, a "Payment Due Date" of March 15, 2018, and a "Minimum Payment Due" of \$2,038.00.

14. Upon information and belief, the acceleration clause in the underlying credit agreement governing the alleged debt referenced in <u>Exhibit A</u> provided for *optional* acceleration upon the consumer's default. *See, e.g.*, <u>https://files.consumerfinance.gov/a/assets/credit-card-agreements/pdf/Chase_Bank_USA/Freedom_Visa_Agreement.pdf</u> ("2018 Chase Freedom Credit Card Agreement") at 2 ("If your account is in default, we **may** close it without notice and require you to pay your unpaid balance immediately.") (emphasis added).

15. <u>Exhibit A</u> also contains an "ACCOUNT MESSAGE" that the "account is closed and no longer available for use."

16. <u>Exhibit A</u> states that the creditor has closed the account but does not state that the consumer must pay the unpaid balance immediately. Instead, <u>Exhibit A</u> states that the consumer can avoid acceleration and return the account to a current status by tendering the minimum payment amount on or before March 15, 2018, the payment due date.

17. <u>Exhibit A</u> states that Chase would not exercise its rights under the optional acceleration clause until, at the earliest, March 15, 2018.

Alltran's March 7, 2018 Letter

18. On or about March 7, 2018 Alltran mailed Plaintiff a debt collection letter regarding an alleged debt, allegedly owed to "Chase Bank USA, N.A." and associated with

Plaintiff's Chase account ending in 6548. A copy of this letter is attached to this complaint as Exhibit B.

19. Upon information and belief, the alleged debt referenced in <u>Exhibit B</u> is the same alleged debt referenced in <u>Exhibit A</u>.

20. 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.

21. Upon information and belief, <u>Exhibit B</u> is a form debt collection letter, generated

by computer, and used by Alltran to attempt to collect alleged debts.

22. Upon information and belief, <u>Exhibit B</u> was the first letter that Alltran mailed to

Plaintiff with respect to the alleged Elan debt referenced in Exhibit B.

23. <u>Exhibit B</u> contains the statutory debt validation notice that the FDCPA, 15 U.S.C.

§ 1692g, requires that the debt collector send the consumer along with, or within five days of,

their initial communications:

<u>Exhibit B</u>.

24. <u>Exhibit B</u> contains the following account information:

Creditor: Chase Bank USA, N.A. Account: XXXXXXXXXX6548 Alltran ID: 6623 Past Due Amount: \$11,305.11 Partial Account Number for Your Security

<u>Exhibit B</u>.

25. <u>Exhibit B</u> also contains the following:

Unless you notify this office within 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 the thirty day period that the debt, or any portion thereof, is disputed, 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 this office in writing within 30 days from receiving this notice, this office will provide you the name and address of the original creditor, if different from the current creditor.

Please remit payment in full of any undisputed amount of the past due amount, payable to Chase Bank USA, N.A., in the enclosed envelope.

• • •

We want to help you resolve this account. If you wish to discuss your account, please call DESHUNDA ARCENEAUX at 888-793-6186, extension 4016, so we may assist you.

Exhibit B.

26. <u>Exhibit B</u>, mailed on March 7, 2018 --- a week before the "Payment Due Date" stated in <u>Exhibit A</u> --- states the "Past Due Amount" as of March 7, 2018 is \$11,305.11, and seeks "payment in full of any undisputed amount."

27. <u>Exhibit B</u> makes no reference whatsoever to any minimum payment amount that Plaintiff could pay to return the account to a current status.

28. <u>Exhibit B</u>, thus, represents that the debt had been accelerated and the full balance was due when <u>Exhibit B</u> was mailed.

29. Moreover, <u>Exhibit B</u> not only represents that the full balance was due as of the date of <u>Exhibit B</u>, but also falsely represents that this amount was "past due."

30. The representation in <u>Exhibit B</u> that Plaintiff's account had a "past due amount" of \$11,305.11 as of March 7, 2018 is false, deceptive, misleading, and unconscionable.

31. According to <u>Exhibit A</u>, as of April 12, 2018, when Alltran mailed <u>Exhibit B</u>, Plaintiff's account had a "Past Due Amount" of \$1,799.00, a "Minimum Payment Due" of \$2,038.00, and a "Payment Due Date" of March 15, 2018. Exhibit A.

32. By mailing the February 18, 2018 account statement, Chase waived its right to accelerate the maturity of the account before March 15, 2018, and as of the March 7, 2018, when Alltran mailed its letter, Chase had not exercised the optional acceleration clause, notwithstanding whether Chase had closed or charged off the account for accounting purposes. *See, e.g., Johnson v. LVNV Funding*, No. 13-cv-1191, 2016 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 19651, at *15

(E.D. Wis. Feb. 18, 2016) ("That WaMu chose to write off the debt does not mean that it could improperly accelerate it."); *see also, Smither v. Asset Acceptance, LLC*, 919 N.E.2d 1153, 1160-61 (Ind. Ct. App. 2010) (in the context of credit card accounts, "a 'charge off' appears to be an accounting device that has no bearing upon the question of whether an optional acceleration clause has been invoked.").

33. The unsophisticated consumer cannot determine whether the debt had been accelerated or not, or how much debt is actually due as of the date of Exhibit B. Exhibit B states that the "Past Due Amount" as of March 7, 2018 is \$11,305.11 while Exhibit A states that only the minimum payment (\$2,038.00) is due, and that only a portion of the minimum payment (\$1,799.00) is past due. See Machnik v. RSI Enters., 2017 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 160772, at *6 (E.D. Wis. Sept. 29, 2017) ("In the context of a debt, 'owing' an amount is distinguishable from the amount 'due.""); see also Chuway v. Nat'l Action Fin. Servs., 362 F.3d 944, 947-48 (7th Cir. 2004) (debt collector misleads consumer by stating a "current balance" without disclosing that a portion of that balance "might not yet be due, let alone overdue."); Barnes v. Advanced Call Ctr. Techs, LLC, 493 F.3d 838, 840 (7th Cir. 2007) ("only the past due amount, the amount owed [to the debt collector], can be the 'amount of the debt' under § 809(a)(1)"); Miller v. McCalla, Raymer, Padrick, Cobb, Nichols, & Clark, L.L.C., 214 F.3d 872, 875 (7th Cir. 2000) ("What [the debt collector] certainly could do was to state the total amount **due** --- interest and other charges as well as principal --- on the date the dunning letter was sent. We think the statute required this.").

- 34. Plaintiff was confused by <u>Exhibits A and B</u>.
- 35. The unsophisticated consumer would be confused by Exhibits A and B.
- 36. Plaintiff had to spend time and money investigating Exhibits A and B.

The FDCPA

37. The FDCPA states that its purpose, in part, is "to eliminate abusive debt collection practices by debt collectors." 15 U.S.C. § 1692(e). It is designed to protect consumers from unscrupulous collectors, whether or not there is a valid debt. *Mace v. Van Ru Credit Corp.*, 109 F.3d 338 (7th Cir. 1997); *Baker v. G.C. Services Corp.*, 677 F.2d 775, 777 (9th Cir. 1982); *McCartney v. First City Bank*, 970 F.2d 45, 47 (5th Cir. 1992). The FDCPA broadly prohibits unfair or unconscionable collection methods; conduct which harasses, oppresses or abuses any debtor; and any false, deceptive or misleading statements in connection with the collection of a debt; it also requires debt collectors to give debtors certain information. 15 U.S.C. §§ 1692d, 1692e, 1692f and 1692g.

38. The Seventh Circuit has held that whether a debt collector's conduct violates the FDCPA should be judged from the standpoint of an "unsophisticated consumer." *Avila v. Rubin*, 84 F.3d 222, 227 (7th Cir. 1996); *Gammon v. GC Services, LP,* 27 F.3d 1254, 1257 (7th Cir. 1994). The standard is an objective one—whether the plaintiffs or any class members were misled is not an element of a cause of action. *Bartlett v. Heibl,* 128 F.3d 497, 499 (7th Cir. 1997). "The question is not whether these plaintiffs were deceived or misled, but rather whether an unsophisticated consumer would have been misled." *Beattie v. D.M. Collections Inc.,* 754 F. Supp. 383, 392 (D. Del. 1991).

39. Because it is part of the Consumer Credit Protection Act, 15 U.S.C. §§ 1601 *et seq.*, the FDCPA should be liberally construed in favor of the consumer to effectuate its purposes. *Cirkot v. Diversified Fin. Services, Inc.*, 839 F. Supp. 941, 944 (D. Conn. 1993).

The [Consumer Credit Protection] Act is remedial in nature, designed to remedy what Congressional hearings revealed to be unscrupulous and predatory creditor practices throughout the nation. Since the statute is remedial in nature, its terms must be construed in liberal fashion if the underlying Congressional purpose is to be effectuated. N.C. Freed Co. v. Board of Governors, 473 F.2d 1210, 1214 (2d Cir. 1973).

40. Statutory damages are recoverable for violations, whether or not the consumer proves actual damages. *Baker*, 677 F.2d at 780-1; *Woolfolk v. Van Ru Credit Corp.*, 783 F. Supp. 724, 727 and n. 3 (D. Conn. 1990); *Riveria v. MAB Collections, Inc.*, 682 F. Supp. 174, 177 (W.D.N.Y. 1988); *Kuhn v. Account Control Tech.*, 865 F. Supp. 1443, 1450 (D. Nev. 1994); *In re Scrimpsher*, 17 B.R. 999, 1016-7 (Bankr. N.D.N.Y. 1982); *In re Littles*, 90 B.R. 669, 680 (Bankr. E.D. Pa. 1988), *aff'd as modified sub nom. Crossley v. Lieberman*, 90 B.R. 682 (E.D. Pa. 1988), *aff'd*, 868 F.2d 566 (3d Cir. 1989).

The FDCPA creates substantive rights for consumers; violations cause injury to 41. consumers, and such injuries are concrete and particularized. Derosia v. Credit Corp Solutions, 2018 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 50016, at *12 (E.D. Wis. Mar. 27, 2018) ("a plaintiff who receives misinformation form a debt collector has suffered the type of injury the FDCPA was intended to protect against' and 'satisfies the concrete injury in fact requirement of Article III."") (quoting Pogorzelski v. Patenaude & Felix APC, 2017 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 89678, 2017 WL 2539782, at *3 (E.D. Wis. June 12, 2017)); Spuhler v. State Collection Servs., No. 16-CV-1149, 2017 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 177631 (E.D. Wis. Oct. 26, 2017) ("As in Pogorzelski, the Spuhlers' allegations that the debt collection letters sent by State Collection contained false representations of the character, amount, or legal status of a debt in violation of their rights under the FDCPA sufficiently pleads a concrete injury-in-fact for purposes of standing."); Lorang v. Ditech Fin. LLC, 2017 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 169286, at *6 (W.D. Wis. Oct. 13, 2017) ("the weight of authority in this circuit is that a misrepresentation about a debt is a sufficient injury for standing because a primary purpose of the FDCPA is to protect consumers from receiving false and misleading information."); *Neeley* v. Portfolio Recovery Assocs., LLC, 268 F. Supp. 3d 978, 982 (S.D. Ind. Aug. 2, 2017) ("[N]othing in Spokeo overruled the Seventh Circuit's decisions that emphasized and affirmed

the power of Congress to pass legislation creating new rights, which if violated, would confer standing under Article III.") (alteration in original) (quoting Saenz v. Buckeye Check Cashing, 2016 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 127784, at *5 (N.D. Ill. Sep. 20, 2016); Qualls v. T-H Prof'l & Med. Collections, Ltd., 2017 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 113037, at *8 (C.D. Ill. July 20, 2017) ("Courts in this Circuit, both before and after Spokeo, have rejected similar challenges to standing in FDCPA cases.") (citing "Hayes v. Convergent Healthcare Recoveries, Inc., 2016 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 139743 (C.D. Ill. 2016)); 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).

42. 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").

43. 15 U.S.C. § 1692e prohibits "any false, deceptive, or misleading representation or means in connection with the collection of any debt."

44. 15 U.S.C. § 1692e(2)(A) specifically prohibits: "The false representation of — the character, amount, or legal status of any debt."

45. 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."

46. 15 U.S.C. § 1692f generally prohibits a debt collector from using "unfair or unconscionable means to collect or attempt to collect any debt."

47. 15 U.S.C. § 1692f(1) specifically prohibits the "collection of any amount (including any interest, fee, charge, or expense incidental to the principal obligation) unless such amount is expressly authorized by the agreement creating the debt or permitted by law."

48. 15 U.S.C. § 1692g(a) states:

a) Notice of debt; contents

Within five days after the initial communication with a consumer in connection with the collection of any debt, a debt collector shall, unless the

following information is contained in the initial communication or the consumer has paid the debt, send the consumer a written notice containing—

(1) the amount of the debt;

49. The debt collector must state the amount of the debt in a non-confusing manner. Janetos v. Fulton Friedman & Gullace, LLP, 825 F.3d 317, 323 (7th Cir. 2016) (citing Chuway, 362 F.3d at 947); see also, Ozier v. Rev-1 Sols., LLC, No. 17-cv-118, 2017 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 126017, at *6 (E.D. Wis. Aug. 9, 2017) ("The FDCPA requires a debt collector to accurately, and without deceptive language, state the amount of the debt owed.") (citing 15 U.S.C. § 1692e).

The WCA

50. The Wisconsin Consumer Act ("WCA") was enacted to protect consumers against unfair, deceptive, and unconscionable business practices and to encourage development of fair and economically sound practices in consumer transactions. Wis. Stat. § 421.102(2).

51. The Wisconsin Supreme Court has favorably cited authority finding that the WCA "goes further to protect consumer interests than any other such legislation in the country," and is "probably the most sweeping consumer credit legislation yet enacted in any state." *Kett* v. *Community Credit Plan, Inc.,* 228 Wis. 2d 1, 18 n.15, 596 N.W.2d 786 (1999) (citations omitted).

52. To further these goals, the Act's protections must be "liberally construed and applied." Wis. Stat. § 421.102(1); *see also* § 425.301.

53. "The basic purpose of the remedies set forth in Chapter 425, Stats., is to induce compliance with the WCA and thereby promote its underlying objectives." *First Wisconsin Nat'l Bank v. Nicolaou*, 113 Wis. 2d 524, 533, 335 N.W.2d 390 (1983). Thus, private actions under the WCA are designed to both benefit consumers whose rights have been violated and also competitors of the violators, whose competitive advantage should not be diminished because of their compliance with the law.

54. To carry out this intent, the WCA provides Wisconsin consumers with an array of protections and legal remedies. The Act contains significant and sweeping restrictions on the activities of those attempting to collect debts. *See* Wis. Stats. § 427.104.

55. The Act limits the amounts and types of additional fees that may be charged to consumers in conjunction with transactions. Wis. Stats. § 422.202(1). The Act also provides injured consumers with causes of action for class-wide statutory and actual damages and injunctive remedies against defendants on behalf of all customers who suffer similar injuries. *See* Wis. Stats. §§ 426.110(1); § 426.110(4)(e). Finally, "a customer may not waive or agree to forego rights or benefits under [the Act]." Wis. Stat. § 421.106(1).

56. Consumers' WCA claims under Wis. Stat. § 427.104(1) are analyzed using the same methods as claims under the FDCPA. Indeed, the WCA itself requires that the court analyze the WCA "in accordance with the policies underlying a federal consumer credit protection act," including the FDCPA. Wis. Stat. § 421.102(1).

57. Further, the Wisconsin Supreme Court has held that WCA claims relating to debt collection are to be analyzed under the "unsophisticated consumer" standard. *Brunton v. Nuvell Credit Corp.*, 785 N.W.2d 302, 314-15. In *Brunton*, the Wisconsin Supreme Court explicitly adopted and followed the "unsophisticated consumer" standard, citing and discussing *Gammon v. GC Servs. Ltd. P'ship*, 27 F.3d 1254, 1257 (7th Cir. 1994). *Id.*

58. Wis. Stat. § 427.104(1)(g) states that a debt collector may not: "Communicate with the customer . . . in such a manner as can reasonably be expected to threaten or harass the customer."

59. Wis. Stat. § 427.104(1)(h) states that a debt collector may not: "Engage in other conduct which can reasonably be expected to threaten or harass the customer" Wis. Admin.

Code § DFI-Bkg 74.16(9) defines such "other conduct" as "including conduct which violates the Federal Fair Debt Collection Practices Act."

60. Wis. Stat. § 427.104(1)(j) states that a debt collector may not: "Claim, or attempt or threaten to enforce a right with knowledge or reason to know that the right does not exist."

61. Wis. Stat. § 427.104(1)(L) states that a debt collector may not: "Threaten action against the customer unless like action is taken in regular course or is intended with respect to the particular debt."

COUNT I – FDCPA

62. Plaintiff incorporates by reference as if fully set forth herein the allegations contained in the preceding paragraphs of this Complaint.

63. Prior to sending <u>Exhibit B</u>, Alltran knew or should have known Chase had sent Plaintiff an account statement stating Plaintiff's account had a "Minimum Payment Due" of \$2,038.00, and a "Payment Due Date" of March 15, 2018.

64. Prior to sending <u>Exhibit B</u>, Alltran knew or should have known that Chase had not accelerated Plaintiff's account balance on the date Alltran mailed <u>Exhibit B</u> to Plaintiff.

65. Alltran represented to Plaintiff that Plaintiff's Chase account had been accelerated by seeking to collect the entire balance and not just the amount actually due or the amount past due.

66. Alltran misrepresented the amount, character, and legal status of the debt it was collecting.

67. Defendant violated 15 U.S.C. §§ 1692e, 1692e(2)(A), 1692e(10), 1692f, 1692f(1), and 1692g(a)(1).

<u>COUNT II – WCA</u>

68. Plaintiff incorporates by reference as if fully set forth herein the allegations contained in the preceding paragraphs of this Complaint.

69. Prior to sending <u>Exhibit B</u>, Alltran knew or should have known Chase had sent Plaintiff an account statement stating Plaintiff's account had a "Minimum Payment Due" of \$2,038.00, and a "Payment Due Date" of March 15, 2018.

70. Prior to sending <u>Exhibit B</u>, Alltran knew or should have known that Chase had not accelerated Plaintiff's account balance on the date Alltran mailed <u>Exhibit B</u> to Plaintiff.

71. Alltran represented to Plaintiff that Plaintiff's Chase account had been accelerated by seeking to collect the entire balance and not just the amount actually due or the amount past due.

72. Alltran misrepresented the amount, character, and legal status of the debt it was collecting.

73. Defendant violated Wis. Stat. §§ 427.104(1)(g), 427.104(1)(h), 427.104(1)(j), and 427.104(1)(L).

CLASS ALLEGATIONS

74. Plaintiff brings this action on behalf of a Class, consisting of (a) all natural persons in the State of Wisconsin (b) who were sent an account statement by Chase in the form of <u>Exhibit A</u>, (c) and subsequently were sent a letter in the form of <u>Exhibit B</u>, (d) where the letter in the form of <u>Exhibit B</u> was mailed prior to the "Minimum Payment Due Date" stated in the account statement in the form of <u>Exhibit A</u>, (e) and the alleged debt was incurred for personal, family or household purposes, (f) and the letter in the form of <u>Exhibit B</u> was mailed between January 24, 2018 and January 24, 2019, (f) and was not returned by the postal service.

75. The Class is so numerous that joinder is impracticable.

76. Upon information and belief, there are more than 50 members of the Class.

77. There are questions of law and fact common to the members of the class, which common questions predominate over any questions that affect only individual class members. The predominant common question is whether <u>Exhibit B</u> violates the FDCPA and/or the WCA.

78. Plaintiff's claims are typical of the claims of the Class members. All are based on the same factual and legal theories.

79. Plaintiff will fairly and adequately represent the interests of the Class members. Plaintiff has retained counsel experienced in consumer credit and debt collection abuse cases.

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

JURY DEMAND

81. Plaintiff hereby demands a trial by jury.

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff requests that the Court enter judgment in favor of Plaintiff and the Class and against Defendants 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: January 24, 2019

ADEMI & O'REILLY, LLP

By: <u>/s/ Mark A. Eldridge</u>

John D. Blythin (SBN 1046105) Mark A. Eldridge (SBN 1089944) Jesse Fruchter (SBN 1097673) Ben J. Slatky (SBN 1106892) 3620 East Layton Avenue Cudahy, WI 53110 (414) 482-8000 (414) 482-8001 (fax) jblythin@ademilaw.com meldridge@ademilaw.com jfruchter@ademilaw.com

EXHIBIT A

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| CHASE 🗘 | | 0050390007730 | 351100000004 |
|---|---|--|--|
| P.O. BOX 15123 WILMINGTON, DE 19850-5123 | The Past Due amount of \$1,799.00 is included in your Minimum Payment. | Payment Due Date: New Balance: Minimum Payment: | 03/15/18 \$11,305.11 \$2,038.00 |
| | within and ruymone | Account number: | 6548 |
| 75796 BEX Z 04918 C | | \$Make your check payab | Amount Enclosed le to: Chase Card Services |
| KEVIN CONNOLLY 4155 S LAKE DR APT (SAINT FRANCIS WI 53 | 20 235-5927 | ¹¹¹ 1 - 1 ₁₁ 1 - 1 - 1- 1- 1- 1- 1- 1- 1- 1- 1- 1- | *** |
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| freedom | www.chase.com/cre | aditcards 1-800-945-2000 | Chase Mobile® app today |
| | | | |
| ACCOUNT SUMMARY | | PAYMENT INFORMATION | analan baran atalah kabulata kabatan Madala dalam daga tahu al <u>a panganan d</u> |
| Account Number: | 6548 | New Balance | \$11,305.11 |
| Previous Balance | \$11,178.73 | Payment Due Date | 03/15/18 |
| Payment, Credits | \$0.00 | Minimum Payment Due | \$2,038.00 |

Late Payment Warning: If we do not receive your minimum payment \$0.00 by the date listed above, you may have to pay a late fee of up to \$37.00.

Minimum Payment Warning: If you make only the minimum payment each period, you will pay more in interest and it will take you longer to pay off your balance. For example:

| If you make no additional charges using this card and each month you pay | You will pay off the balance shown on this statement in about | And you will end up paying an estimated total of |
|---|--|--|
| Only the minimum payment | 31 years | \$21,546 |

If you would like information about credit counseling services, call 1-866-797-2885.

YOUR ACCOUNT MESSAGES

Balance over the Credit Access Line

Purchases

Cash Advances

Fees Charged

New Balance

Interest Charged

Opening/Closing Date

Credit Access Line

Available Credit

Cash Access Line

Available for Cash

Past Due Amount

Balance Transfers

You are over your credit line/credit access line by \$305.11. You can pay down your balance faster by including this amount with your payment.

\$0.00

\$0.00

\$0.00

+\$126.38

\$11,000

\$2,200

\$1,799.00

\$305.11

\$0

\$0

\$11,305,11

01/19/18 - 02/18/18

Your account is closed and no longer available for use.

| CHASE FREEDOM: ULTIMATE REWARDS® SUMMARY | | | |
|--|---|--|--|
| Previous points balance | 0 | | |
| + 1% (1 Pt)/\$1 earned on all purchases | 0 | | |
| = Total points available for redemption | 0 | | |

You always earn unlimited 1% cash back on all your purchases. Activate new bonus categories every quarter. You'll earn an additional 4% cash back, for a total of 5% cash back on up to \$1,500 in combined bonus category purchases each quarter. Activate for free at chase.com/freedom, visit a Chase branch or call the number on the back of your card.

| Date of Transaction | Merchant Name or Transaction Description | \$ Amount |
|------------------------|--|-----------|
| INTEREST CH | ARGED | |
| 02/18 | PURCHASE INTEREST CHARGE | 123.71 |
| 02/18 | BALANCE TRANSFER INTEREST CHARGE | 2.67 |
| | TOTAL INTEREST FOR THIS PERIOD | \$126.38 |

| 2018 Totals Year-to-D | ate |
|--|-----------------------|
| Total fees charged in 2018 | \$37.00 |
| Total interest charged in 2018 | \$250.98 |
| Year-to-date totals do not reflect any fee | e or interest refunds |
| you may have receive | d |

you may have received.

Address Change Request

Please provide information below only if the address information on front is incorrect.

Street Address:

| City: | | | |
|-----------------|----------|------------------|------|
| State: | Zip: | | |
| *Home Phone: | | *Work Phone: | |
| E-mail Address: | | | |

*When you give us your mobile phone number, we have your permission to contact you at that number about all your Chase or J.P. Morgan accounts. Your consent allows us and companies working on our behalf to use text messaging, artificial or prerecorded voice messages and automatic dialing technology for informational and account service calls, but not for telemarketing or sales calls. Message and data rates may apply. You may contact us anytime to change these preferences.

To contact us regarding your account:



006802015494000100000000

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Call Customer Service: A \bowtie ? In U.S. Español 1-800-945-2000 ٢ 1-888-446-3308 Send Inquiries to: Mail Payments to: Visit Our Website: TTY 1-800-955-8060 Pay by phone 1-800-436-7958 P.O. Box 94014 P.O. Box 15298 www.chase.com/creditcards Wilmington, DE 19850-5298 Palatine, IL 60094-4014 Outside U.S. call colle 1-302-594-8200

information About Your Account

Crediting of Payments: You may make payments by any of the options listed below. The amount of your payment should be at least your minirumu payment due, payable in U.S. dollars and drawn or payable through a U.S. financial institution or the U.S. branch of a foreign financial institution. You can pay down balances fastler by paying more than the minimum payment or the total unpaid balance on your account.

You may make payments by regular U.S. mail, Send your payment to the Payments address shown on this statement. Your payments by mail must comply with the instructions on this statement. Do not send ash. Write your Account number on your check or money order. Payments must be accompanied by the payment coupon in the envelope annot contain more than one payment or coupon; and there can be no staples, paper clips, tape or correspondence included with your payment. If your payment is in accordance with our payment instructions and is made available to us on any day by 5:00 p.m. local time at our Payments address on this statement, we will credit the payment instructions, but is made available to us after 5:00 p.m. local time at the Payments address on this statement, we will credit it by your Account as of the next calendar day.

You may make payments electronically through our website or by one of our above listed oustomer service telephone numbers. If we receive your completed payment request through one of these channels by 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time, we will credit your payment as of that day. If we receive your request after 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time, we will credit your payment as of the next calendar day. If you specify a future date in your request we will credit your payment as of the next calendar day. If you specify a future date in your request we will credit your payment as of that day.

For all other payments or for any payment type above for which you do not follow our payment instructions, crediting of your payments may be delayed for up to 5 days.

Account Information Reported to Credit Bureaus: We may report information about your Account to credit bureaus. Late payments, missed payments or other defaults on your Account may be reflected in your credit report. If you think we have reported inaccurate information to a credit bureau, you may write to us at the inquiries address shown on this statement.

To Service and Manage Any of Your Account(s): When you give us your mobile phone number, we have your permission to contact you at that number about all your Chase or JP. Morgan accounts: Your consent allows us to use taxt messaging, artificial or prerecorded voice messages and automatic dialing technology for informational and account service calls, but not for telemarketing or sales calls. It may include contact from companies working on our behalf to service your accounts. Message and data rates may apply. You may contact us anytime to change these preferences.

Notice About Electronic Check Conversion: When you pay by check, you authorize us alither to use Information from your check to make a one-time electronic fund transfer from your account or to process the payment as a check transaction. When we use information from your check to make an electronic fund transfer, funds may be withdrawn from your account as soon as the same day we receive your payment, and you will not receive your check back from your financial institution. Call the Customer Service number on this statement if you have questions about electronic check collection or do not want your your payment sollected electronically.

Conditional Payments: Any payment check or other form of payment that you send us for less than the full balance due that is marked "paid in full" or contains a similar notation, or that you otherwise tender in full satisfaction of a disputed amount, must be sent to Card Services, P.O. Box 15049, Willmington, DE 19850-5049, We reserve all our inghts regarding these payments (e.g., if it is determined there is no valid dispute or if any such check is received at any other address, we may accept the check and you will still owe any remaining balance). We may refuse to accept any such payment by returning it to you, not cashing it or detroying it. All other payments that you make should be sent to the regular Payment address shown on this statement.

Annual Renewal Notice: If your Account Agreement has an annual membership fee, you are responsible for it every year your Account is open. We will add your annual membership fee to your monthly billing statement once a year, whether or not you use your account. Your annual membership fee will be added to your purchase balance and may incur interest. The annual membership fee is non-refundable unless you notify us that you wish to losse your account within 30 days or one billing cycle (whichever is less) after we provide the statement on which the annual membership fee is billed. Your payment of the annual membership fee does not affect our rights to close your Account and to limit your right to make transactions on your Account. If your Account is closed by you or us, the annual membership fee will no longer be billed to your account.

Calculation of Balance Subject to Interest Rate: To figure your periodic interest charges for each billing cycle when a daily periodic rate(s) applies, we use the daily balance method (including new transactions). To figure your periodic interest charges for each billing cycle when a monthly periodic rate(s) applies, we use the average daily balance method (including new transactions). For an explanation of either method, or questions about a particular interest charge calculation on your statement, please call us at the toil free customer service phone number listed above.

We calculate periodic interest charges separately for each feature (for example, purchases, balance transfers, cash advances or overdraft advances). These calculated per may sempline different categories with the same periodic rates. Variable Case 2:19-cV-00122-WED FIECD 01/24/19

rates will vary with the market based on the Prime Rate or such index described in your Account Agreement. There is a transaction fee for each balance transfer, cash advance, or check transaction in the amount stated in your Account Agreement. There is a foreign transaction lee of 3% of the U.S. dollar amount of any foreign transaction for some accounts. Please see your Account Agreement for information about these fees.

We add transactions and fees to your daily balance no earlier than:

- the date of the transaction for new purchases, balance transfers, overdraft advances or cash advances;
- the date the payee deposits the check for new cash advance checks or balance transfer checks;
- 3) the date of a related transaction, the date they are posted to your account, or
- the last day of the billing cycle, whichever we may choose for fees

How to Avoid Paying Interest on Purchases: Your due date will be a minimum of 21 days after the close of each billing cycle. If you pay your account in full each billing period by the date and time due, no interest is charged on new purchases month to month. Also, we will not impose interest charges on any portion of a purchase balance you repay while that balance is subject to an interest-free period. Subject to any interest-free period for new purchases, we will begin charging interest form the date at transaction (including any balance transfer, cash advance) to evertdraft davance), tee or interest charge is added to your daily balance until your account is paid in full. Because we apply payments in excess of your minimum payment first to higher rate balances; you may not be able to avoid interest to any purchases if you have another balance at a higher interest rate unless you pay your balance in full each month.

What To Do If You Think You Find A Mistake On Your Statement

If you think there is an error on your statement, write to us on a separate sheet at Customer Service, P.O. Box 15299 Wilmington, DE 19850-5299. You may also contact us on the web at chase.com.

- In your letter, give us the following information:
 - · Account information: Your name and Account number.
 - · Dollar amount: The dollar amount of the suspected error
 - Description of Problem: If you think there is an error on your bill, describe what you believe is wrong and why you believe it is a mistake.
- You must contact us within 60 days after the error appeared on your statement

You must notify us of any potential errors in writing or on the web at chase.com. You may call us, but if you do we are not required to investigate any potential errors and you may have to pay the amount in question.

- While we investigate whether or not there has been an error, the following are true: • We cannot try to collect the amount in question, or report you as delinquent on
 - The charge in question may remain on your statement, and we may continue to charge you interest on that amount. But, if we determine that we made a mistake, you will not have to pay the amount in question or any interest or
 - other fees related to that amount. While you do not have to pay the amount in question, you are responsible for
 - the remainder of your balance. • We can apply any unpaid amount against your credit limit.
- Your Rights If You Are Dissatistied With Your Credit Card Purchase

If you are dissatisfied with the goods or services that you have purchased with your credit card, and you have tried in good faith to correct the problem with the merchant, you may have the right not to pay the remaining amount due on the purchase.

To use this right, all of the following must be true:

- The purchase must have been made in your home state or within 100 miles of your current mailing address, and the purchase price must have been more than SSO. (Note: Nether of these are necessary if your purchase was based on an advertisement we mailed to you, or if we own the company that sold you the goods or services.)
- You must have used your credit card for the purchase. Purchases made with cash advances from an ATM or with a check that accesses your credit card Account do not qualify.
- 3. You must not yet have fully paid for the purchase.

If all of the criteria above are met and you are still dissatisfied with the ourchase, contact us in writing at Customer Service, P.O. Box 15299 Wilmington, DE 19850-5299 or on the web at chase.com.

While we investigate, the same rules apply to the disputed amount as discussed above. After we finish our investigation, we will tell you our decision. At that point, if we think you owe an amount and you do not pay we may report you as delinquent.

MA10042017

freedom

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Manage your account online: www.chase.com/creditcards



Mobile: Download the Chase Mobile® app today

31 Days in Billing Period

INTEREST CHARGES

Your Annual Percentage Rate (APR) is the annual interest rate on your account.

| Balance Type | Annual Percentage Rate (APR) | Balance Subject To interest Rate | Interest Charges |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------------------|--|---------------------|
| PURCHASES | | | |
| Purchases prior to 01/22/2018 | 13.24%(v)(d) | \$11,002.34 | \$123.71 |
| Purchases | 13.24%(v)(d) | -0- | -0- |
| CASH ADVANCES | | | |
| Cash Advances | 26.24%(v)(d) | -0- | -0- |
| BALANCE TRANSFERS | | | |
| Balance Transfer prior to 01/22/2018 | 13.24%(v)(d) | \$71.64 | \$0.81 |
| Balance Transfer prior to 01/22/2018 | 13.24%(v)(d) | \$165.78 | \$1.86 |
| Balance Transfer | 13.24%(v)(d) | -0- | -0- |

(v) = Variable Rate (d) = Daily Balance Method (including new transactions) (a) = Average Daily Balance Method (including new transactions)

Please see Information About Your Account section for the Calculation of Balance Subject to Interest Rate, Annual Renewal Notice, How to Avoid Interest on Purchases, and other important information, as applicable.

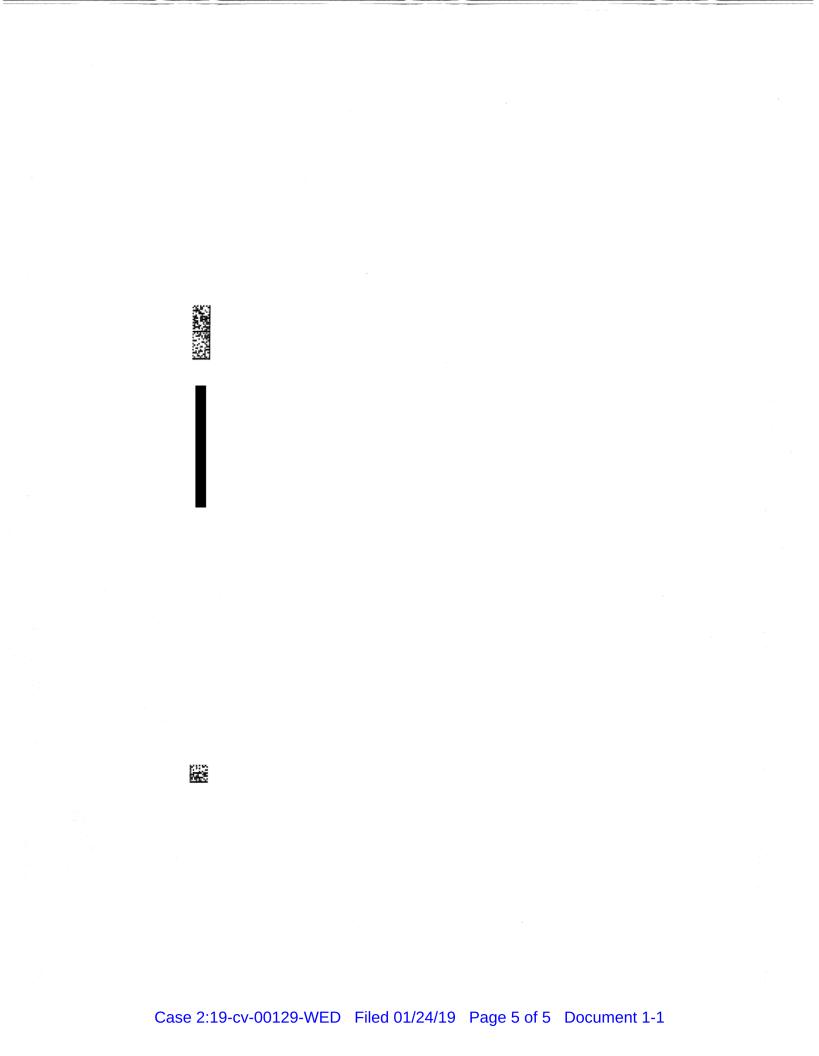


Exhibit B

Case 2:19-cv-00129-WED Filed 01/24/19 Page 1 of 2 Document 1-2

March 7, 2018

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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Kevin Connolly 4155 S LAKE DR APT 20 SAINT FRANCIS WI 53235-5927

Alltran Financial, LP

Creditor: Chase Bank USA, N.A. Account: XXXXXXXXXXX6548 Alltran ID: 6623 Past Due Amount: \$11,305.11 Partial Account Number for Your Security

Please detach at perforation and return with your payment.

YOUR ACCOUNT IS PAST DUE

Please remit payment in full of any undisputed amount of the past due amount, payable to Chase Bank USA, N.A., in the enclosed envelope.

Unless you notify this office within 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 the thirty day period that the debt, or any portion thereof, is disputed, 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 this office in writing within 30 days from receiving this notice, this office will provide you the name and address of the original creditor, if different from the current creditor.

We want to help you resolve this account. If you wish to discuss your account, please call DESHUNDA ARCENEAUX at 888-793-6186, extension 4016, so we may assist you.

This communication is from a debt collector. We are required to inform you that this is an attempt to collect a debt, and any information obtained will be used for this purpose.

Sincerely, DESHUNDA ARCENEAUX 888-793-6186, extension 4016 Alltran Financial, LP P.O. Box 722929 HOUSTON TX 77272-2929

Looking for a secure and more convenient way to pay your account? Make payments with your Debit Card using your mobile phone or other electronic device at <u>www.alltranfinancialpay.com</u> to take advantage of this simple and free service available 24 hours a day.

If you write to us and ask us to stop communicating with you about this debt, we will, but if you owe this debt, you will still owe it and the debt may still be collected from you. If you have a complaint about the way we are collecting this debt, you may write to our Contact Center, 5800 North Course Drive, Houston, TX 77072 or call our toll-free Complaint Hotline at (800) 326-8040 between 7 AM and 4 PM (Central Time) Monday-Friday

Telephone: 888-793-6186, ext 4016

Office Hours (all times Central) Monday-Thursday: 8 AM to 9 PM • Friday: 8 AM to 4 PM • Saturday: 7 AM to 11 AM

CIVIL COVER SHEET

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

| Place an X in the appropriate | Box: Green | n Bay Division | | Ŀ | Milwaukee Division | |
|---|--|---|--|--|---|--|
| I. (a) PLAINTIFFS | | | | DEFENDANTS | | |
| KEVIN CON | NOLLY | | | ALLTRAN F | FINANCIAL, LP | |
| | e of First Listed Plaintiff XCEPT IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CA | Milwaukee | | NOTE: IN LAN | of First Listed Defendant (IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES D CONDEMNATION CASES, U | |
| | | | | | INVOLVED. | |
| | e, Address, and Telephone Numb 3620 E. Layton Ave., Cudahy, WI | | | Attorneys (If Known) | | |
| (414) 482-8000-Telephor | ne (414) 482-8001-Facsimile | | | | | |
| II. BASIS OF JURISE | DICTION (Place an "X" | in One Box Only) | | TIZENSHIP OF P (For Diversity Cases Only) | RINCIPAL PARTIES | (Place an "X" in One Box for Plaintiff and One Box for Defendant) |
| 1 U.S. Government Plaintiff | ✓ 3 Federal Question (U.S. Government | Not a Party) | | I | PTF DEF 1 1 Incorporated or P of Business In The | |
| 2 U.S. Government Defendant | 4 Diversity (Indicate Citizensh | ip of Parties in Item III) | Citize | en of Another State | 2 2 Incorporated and of Business In | |
| | | | | en or Subject of a reign Country | 3 3 Foreign Nation | |
| IV. NATURE OF SUI | - | nly) RTS | FC | ORFEITURE/PENALTY | BANKRUPTCY | OTHER STATUTES |
| 110 Insurance 120 Marine 130 Miller Act 140 Negotiable Instrument 150 Recovery of Overpayment & Enforcement of Judgment 151 Medicare Act 152 Recovery of Defaulted Student Loans (Excl. Veterans) 153 Recovery of Overpayment of Veteran's Benefits 160 Stockholders' Suits 190 Other Contract 195 Contract Product Liability 196 Franchise REAL PROPERTY 210 Land Condemnation 220 Foreclosure 230 Rent Lease & Ejectment 240 Torts to Land 245 Tort Product Liability 290 All Other Real Property | PERSONAL INJURY 310 Airplane 315 Airplane Product Liability 320 Assault, Libel & Slander 330 Federal Employers' Liability 340 Marine 345 Marine Product Liability 350 Motor Vehicle 355 Motor Vehicle Product Liability 360 Other Personal Injury CIVIL RIGHTS 441 Voting 442 Employment 443 Housing/ Accommodations 444 Welfare 446 Amer. w/Disabilities - Other 440 Other Civil Rights | PERSONAL INJURY 362 Personal Injury - Med. Malpractice 365 Personal Injury - Product Liability PERSONAL PROPER 370 Other Fraud 371 Truth in Lending 380 Other Personal Property Damage 385 Property Damage Product Liability PRISONER PETITION 510 Motions to Vacate Sentence Habeas Corpus: 530 General 535 Death Penalty 540 Mandamus & Oth 555 Prison Condition | Y 61 e 62 1 64 4 64 67 71 72 73 NS 74 e 79 1 46 4 46 | 0 Agriculture 0 Other Food & Drug 5 Drug Related Seizure of Property 21 USC 881 0 Liquor Laws 0 R.R. & Truck 0 Airline Regs. 0 Occupational Safety/Health 0 Other LABOR 0 Fair Labor Standards Act 0 Labor/Mgmt. Relations 0 Labor/Mgmt. Relations 0 Labor/Mgmt. Relations 0 Labor/Mgmt. Relations 0 Labor/Mgmt. Relations 1 Empl. Ret. Inc. Security Act IMMIGRATION 2 Naturalization Application 3 Habeas Corpus - Alien Detainee 5 Other Immigration Actions | 422 Appeal 28 USC 158 423 Withdrawal 28 USC 157 PROPERTY RIGHTS 820 Copyrights 830 Patent 840 Trademark Social Security 861 H1A (1395ff) 862 Black Lung (923) 863 DIWC/DIWW (405(g)) 864 SSID Title XVI 865 RSI (405(g)) FEDERAL TAX SUITS 870 Taxes (U.S. Plaintiff or Defendant) 871 IRS—Third Party 26 USC 7609 | 400 State Reapportionment 410 Antitrust 430 Banks and Banking 450 Commerce 460 Deportation 470 Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations 480 Consumer Credit 490 Cable/Sat TV 810 Selective Service 850 Securities/Commodities/ Exchange 875 Customer Challenge 12 USC 3410 890 Other Statutory Actions 891 Agricultural Acts 892 Economic Stabilization Act 895 Freedom of Information Act 900 Appeal of Fee Determination Under Equal Access to Justice 950 Constitutionality of State Statutes |
| ☑ 1 Original □ 2 R | tate Court | Appellate Court | Reop | bened anoth (speci | | n Judgment |
| VI. CAUSE OF ACTI | 15 U.S.C. 1692 et seq | - | re filing | (Do not cite jurisdictior | nal statutes unless diversity) | : |
| | Violation of Fair Debt | Collection Practices Act | | | | |
| VII. REQUESTED IN COMPLAINT: | CHECK IF THIS UNDER F.R.C.P | IS A CLASS ACTION | Į D. | EMAND \$ | CHECK YES only JURY DEMAND | y if demanded in complaint: ■ |
| VIII. RELATED CAS IF ANY | E(S) (See instructions): | JUDGE | | | DOCKET NUMBER | |
| January 24, 201 | 9 | signature of at // S/ Mark A | | | | |
| FOR OFFICE USE ONLY RECEIPT #A | MOUNT Case 2:19-cv-001 | 129-WED File | d 01/2 | 24/19 Page 1- | of 2 Docu ment 1 | IDGE |

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

| |)) |
|-----------------------|------------------------------|
| KEVIN CONNOLLY |) |
| Plaintiff(s) | _ |
| v. |) Civil Action No. 19-cv-129 |
| |) |
| |) |
| ALLTRAN FINANCIAL, LP |) |
| Defendant(s) |) |
| | · |

SUMMONS IN A CIVIL ACTION

To: (Defendant's name and address)

ALLTRAN FINANCIAL, LP c/o C T CORPORATION SYSTEM 301 South Bedford Street, Suite One Madison, WI 53703

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: Mark A. Eldridge Adami & O'Beilly, LLB

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

Date:

Signature of Clerk or Deputy Clerk

Civil Action No. 19-cv-129

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):

| \Box I personally served | d the summons and the attached cor | nplaint on the individual at (place): | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|------------------|
| | | on (date) | ; or |
| \Box I left the summons | s and the attached complaint at the i | ndividual's residence or usual place of | |
| | , a 1 | person of suitable age and discretion wh | o resides there, |
| | | to the individual's last known address; | |
| \Box I served the summ | ons and the attached complaint on | (name of individual) | |
| who is designated by | law to accept service of process on | behalf of (name of organization) | |
| | | on (date) | ; or |
| \Box I returned the sum | mons unexecuted because | | ; or |
| □ Other (<i>specify</i>): | | | |
| | | | |
| My fees are \$ | for travel and \$ | for services, for a total of \$ | 0.00 |
| I declare under penalt | y of perjury that this information is | true. | |
| | | | |
| | | Server's signature | |
| | | | |
| | | 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: <u>Alltran Financial Attempted to Collect Debt Amount Not Yet Due, Class Action Claims</u>