## UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT EASTERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

KIARA DIAZ, on behalf of herself and all others similarly situated,

Plaintiffs,

-against-

CLIENT SERVICES, INC.,

Defendant.

Civil Case Number:

## <u>CIVIL ACTION</u> CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT AND DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL

Plaintiff KIARA DIAZ (hereinafter, "Plaintiff"), a New York resident, brings this class action complaint by and through her attorneys, Law Office of Alan J. Sasson, P.C., against Defendants CLIENT SERVICES, INC. (hereinafter "Defendant"), individually and on behalf of a class of all others similarly situated, pursuant to Rule 23 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, based upon information and belief of Plaintiff's counsel, except for allegations specifically pertaining to Plaintiff, which are based upon Plaintiff's personal knowledge.

## **INTRODUCTION/PRELIMINARY STATEMENT**

- Congress enacted the FDCPA in 1977 in response to the "abundant evidence of the use of abusive, deceptive, and unfair debt collection practices by many debt collectors." 15 U.S.C. § 1692(a). At that time, Congress was concerned that "abusive debt collection practices contribute to the number of personal bankruptcies, to material instability, to the loss of jobs, and to invasions of individual privacy." *Id.* Congress concluded that "existing laws . . . [we]re inadequate to protect consumers," and that "the effective collection of debts" does not require "misrepresentation or other abusive debt collection practices." 15 U.S.C. §§ 1692(b) & (c).
- 2. Congress explained that the purpose of the Act was not only to eliminate abusive debt collection practices, but also to "insure that those debt collectors who refrain from using

abusive debt collection practices are not competitively disadvantaged." *Id.* § 1692(e). After determining that the existing consumer protection laws were inadequate, *id.* § 1692(b), Congress gave consumers a private cause of action against debt collectors who fail to comply with the Act. *Id.* § 1692k.

## JURISDICTION AND VENUE

- 3. The Court has jurisdiction over this class action under 28 U.S.C. § 1331, 15 U.S.C. § 1692 *et seq.* and 28 U.S.C. § 2201. If applicable, the Court also has pendent jurisdiction over the state law claims in this action pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1367(a).
- 4. Venue is proper in this judicial district pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1391(b)(2).

### NATURE OF THE ACTION

- Plaintiff brings this class action on behalf of a class of New York consumers seeking redress for Defendant's actions of using an unfair and unconscionable means to collect a debt.
- 6. Defendant's actions violated § 1692 et seq. of Title 15 of the United States Code, commonly referred to as the Fair Debt Collections Practices Act ("<u>FDCPA</u>") which prohibits debt collectors from engaging in abusive, deceptive and unfair practices.
- 7. Plaintiff is seeking damages, and declaratory and injunctive relief.

## **PARTIES**

- Plaintiff is a natural person and a resident of the State of New York, and is a "Consumer" as defined by 15 U.S.C. §1692(a)(3).
- 1. Defendant is a collection agency with an office maintained in St. Charles, Missouri.
- 9. Defendant is a company that uses the mail, telephone, and facsimile and regularly engages in business the principal purpose of which is to attempt to collect debts alleged to be due another.
- 10. Defendant is a "debt collector," as defined under the FDCPA under 15 U.S.C. § 1692a(6).

## **CLASS ALLEGATIONS**

- 11. Plaintiff brings claims, pursuant to the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure (hereinafter "FRCP")Rule 23, individually and on behalf of the following consumer class (the "Class"):
  - All New York consumers who received a collection letter from Defendant attempting to collect an obligation owed to or allegedly owed to Capital One Bank (USA), N.A. ("Capital One"), that contains the alleged violations arising from Defendant's violation of 15 U.S.C. §1692e, *et seq*.
  - The Class period begins one year to the filing of this Action.
- 12. The Class satisfies all the requirements of Rule 23 of the FRCP for maintaining a class action:
  - Upon information and belief, the Class is so numerous that joinder of all members is impracticable because there are hundreds and/or thousands of persons who have received debt collection letters and/or notices from Defendant that violate specific provisions of the FDCPA. Plaintiff is complaining of a standard form letter and/or notice that is sent to hundreds of persons (*See Exhibit A*, except that the undersigned attorney has, in accordance with Fed. R. Civ. P. 5.2 partially redacted the financial account numbers in an effort to protect Plaintiff's privacy);
  - There are questions of law and fact which are common to the Class and which predominate over questions affecting any individual Class member. These common questions of law and fact include, without limitation:
    - a. Whether Defendant violated various provisions of the FDCPA;
    - b. Whether Plaintiff and the Class have been injured by Defendant's conduct;
    - c. Whether Plaintiff and the Class have sustained damages and are

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entitled to restitution as a result of Defendant's wrongdoing and if so, what is the proper measure and appropriate statutory formula to be applied in determining such damages and restitution; and

- d. Whether Plaintiff and the Class are entitled to declaratory and/or injunctive relief.
- Plaintiff's claims are typical of the Class, which all arise from the same operative facts and are based on the same legal theories.
- Plaintiff has no interest adverse or antagonistic to the interest of the other members of the Class.
- Plaintiff will fairly and adequately protect the interest of the Class and has retained experienced and competent attorneys to represent the Class.
- A Class Action is superior to other methods for the fair and efficient adjudication of the claims herein asserted. Plaintiff anticipates that no unusual difficulties are likely to be encountered in the management of this class action.
- A Class Action will permit large numbers of similarly situated persons to prosecute their common claims in a single forum simultaneously and without the duplication of effort and expense that numerous individual actions would engender. Class treatment will also permit the adjudication of relatively small claims by many Class members who could not otherwise afford to seek legal redress for the wrongs complained of herein. Absent a Class Action, class members will continue to suffer losses of statutory protected rights as well as monetary damages. If Defendant's conduct is allowed to proceed without remedy they will continue to reap and retain the proceeds of their ill-gotten gains.

• Defendant has acted on grounds generally applicable to the entire Class, thereby making appropriate final injunctive relief or corresponding declaratory relief with respect to the Class as a whole.

#### **ALLEGATIONS OF FACT**

- 13. Plaintiff repeats, reiterates and incorporates the allegations contained in paragraphs numbered "1" through "12" herein with the same force and effect as if the same were set forth at length herein.
- 14. Defendant collects and attempts to collect debts incurred or alleged to have been incurred for personal, family or household purposes on behalf of creditors using the United States Postal Services, telephone and Internet.
- 15. Upon information and belief, within the last year Defendant commenced efforts to collect an alleged consumer "debt" as defined by 15 U.S.C. 1692a(5), when it mailed a Collection Letter to Plaintiff seeking to collect an unpaid tuition balance allegedly owing to Capital One.
- 16. On or about January 11, 2016 Defendant sent Plaintiff a collection letter. See Exhibit A.
- 17. The letter was sent or caused to be sent by persons employed by Defendant as a "debt collector" as defined by 15 U.S.C. §1692a(6).
- 18. The letter is a "communication" as defined by 15 U.S.C. §1692a(2).
- 19. Congress adopted the provisions of section 1692f with the stated intent to prohibit debt collectors from attempting collection of any amount unless such amount is expressly authorized by the agreement creating the debt or permitted by law.
- 20. Defendant's attempt at collecting more than what it initially stated was owed is exactly the type of harm Congress contemplated when enacting Section 1692f.
- 21. As such, Defendant's violations of the FDCPA created the risk of real harm that Plaintiff

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would overpay and thereby incur a significant monetary deficit due to Defendant's actions, when in reality; the amount allegedly owed on the debt would preclude such action.

- 22. Defendant's actions as described herein are part of a pattern and practice used to collect debts.
- 23. As set forth in the following Counts Defendant violated the FDCPA.

## <u>First Count</u> <u>Violation of 15 U.S.C. § 1692g</u> Failure to Adequately Convey the Amount of the Debt

- 24. Plaintiff repeats, reiterates and incorporates the allegations contained in paragraphs numbered "1" through "23" herein with the same force and effect as if the same were set forth at length herein.
- 25. 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.
- 26. One such requirement is that the debt collector provide "the amount of the debt." 15 U.S.C. § 1692g(a)(1).
- 27. A debt collector has the obligation not just to convey the amount of the debt, but also to convey such clearly.
- 28. Defendant's letters to Plaintiff sets forth a "Current Balance" of \$441.65.
- 29. Defendant's letters fail to disclose whether the balance may increase due to interest and fees.
- 30. The least sophisticated consumer would be confused as to how she could satisfy the debt.
- 31. The least sophisticated consumer might believe she could pay the debt in full by remitting the sum stated in the letter at any time after he received the letter.
- 32. Such a belief may or may not be correct, as Defendant has failed to disclose whether the balance may increase due to interest and fees.

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- 33. If interest continues to accrue after the date of the letter, the least sophisticated consumer would not know how to satisfy the debt because the Defendant has failed to indicate the applicable interest rate.
- 34. Conversely, the least sophisticated consumer might believe she may pay the debt in full by remitting the sum stated in the letter at any time after the date of the letter.
- 35. Defendant failed to clearly state the amount of the debt.
- 36. Because of this failure, the least sophisticated consumer would likely be confused as to the amount of the debt.
- 37. Because of this failure, the least sophisticated consumer would likely be uncertain as to the amount of the debt.
- 38. Defendant has violated the FDCPA because the letter fails to disclose whether the balance may increase due to interest and fees.
- 39. Defendant has violated § 1692g as it failed to clearly, explicitly and unambiguously convey the amount of the debt.
- 40. Nor has Defendant provided the safe harbor language adopted by the Second Circuit.<sup>1</sup>
- 41. By reason thereof, Defendant is liable to Plaintiff for judgment that Defendant's conduct violated Section 1692g *et seq*. of the FDCPA, actual damages, statutory damages, costs and attorneys' fees.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Avila v. Riexinger & Assocs., LLC, Nos. 15-1584(L), 15- 1597(Con), 2016 U.S. App. LEXIS 5327, at \*8 (2d Cir. Mar. 22, 2016) ("The district court also expressed a concern that requiring debt collectors to disclose this information might lead to more abusive practices, as debt collectors could use the threat of interest and fees to coerce consumers into paying their debts. This is a legitimate concern. To alleviate it, we adopt the "safe harbor" approach adopted by the Seventh Circuit in Miller v. McCalla, Raymer, Padrick, Cobb, Nichols, & Clark, L.L.C., 214 F.3d 872 (7th Cir. 2000)...The court[in Miller] held that a debt collector who used this form would not violate the [FDCPA], "provided, of course, that the information [the debt collector] furnishes is accurate.") (emphasis added).

## Second Count Violation of 15 U.S.C. § 1692e False or Misleading Representations

- 42. Plaintiff repeats, reiterates and incorporates the allegations contained in paragraphs numbered "1" through 41" herein with the same force and effect as if the same were set forth at length herein.
- 43. Pursuant to 15 U.S.C. §1692e, a debt collector is prohibited from using false, deceptive, or misleading representation in connection with the collection of a debt.
- 44. Said letter stated in pertinent part as follows: "Charges or fees accrued since charge-off: \$0.00."
- 45. The notification of said "Charges or fees accrued since charge-off: \$0.00" is unlawful.
- 46. Defendant did not have any legal basis for adding a "Charges or fees accrued since chargeoff" onto Plaintiff's alleged debt.
- 47. The least sophisticated consumer could be led to believe that although there are no "Charges or fees" at the time he received said letter, he may be liable to same in the near future.
- 48. The said letter language implies a threat, and is confusing to the least sophisticated consumer so as to falsely imply that the creditor is entitled to compensation for "Charges or fees."
- 49. Defendant was not entitled to impose "Charges or fees" as a permissible fee that a creditor may charge in connection with a consumer credit transaction. *Tylke v. Diversified Adjustment Service, Inc.*, No. 14-CV-748 (E.D. Wis. Oct. 28, 2014). ([I]t is possible that, as the defendant suggests, an "unsophisticated consumer" might understand the statement to be explaining that no part of the debt is a "collection fee" even though the (creditor's) agreement allows for one. On the other hand, it is also possible that an "unsophisticated consumer" would interpret the statement to mean that there is no "collection fee" now but that one could be assessed later on. In other words, the inclusion of a collection fee, even one showing a

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balance of zero, could imply the future possibility of one. Such a reading is neither bizarre nor idiosyncratic.)

- 50. Said language can be reasonably read to have two or more different meanings, one of which is false. *Pipiles v. Credit Bureau of Lockport, Inc.*, 886 F.2d 22, 25 (2d Cir. 1989). (Because the collection notice was reasonably susceptible to an inaccurate reading, it was deceptive within the meaning of the Act.), *Clomon v. Jackson*, 988 F.2d 1314, 1319 (2d Cir. 1993). (Collection notices are deceptive if they are open to more than one reasonable interpretation, at least one of which is inaccurate.), *Russell v. Equifax A.R.S.*, 74 F.3d 30, 34 (2d Cir. N.Y. 1996). (A collection notice is deceptive when it can be reasonably read to have two or more different meanings, one of which is inaccurate. The fact that the notice's terminology was vague or uncertain will not prevent it from being held deceptive under § 1692e(10) of the Act.)
- 51. Defendant, as a matter of pattern and practice, mails letters, or causes the mailing of letters, to debtors using language substantially similar or materially identical to that utilized by Defendant in mailing the above-cited letter to Plaintiff.
- 52. The letters Defendant mails, or causes to be mailed, are produced by Defendant's concerted efforts and integrated or shared technologies including computer programs, mailing houses, and electronic databases.
- 53. By reason thereof, Defendant is liable to Plaintiff for judgment that Defendant's conduct violated Section 1692g *et seq*. of the FDCPA, actual damages, statutory damages, costs and attorneys' fees.

## <u>Third Count</u> Violation of 15 U.S.C. § 1692e False or Misleading Representations as to the Rights of the Consumer

- 54. Plaintiff repeats, reiterates and incorporates the allegations contained in paragraphs numbered "1" through "53" herein with the same force and effect as if the same were set forth at length herein.
- 55. Defendant's debt collection efforts attempted and/or directed towards Plaintiff violated various provisions of the FDCPA, including but not limited to 15 U.S.C. § 1692e.
- 56. Pursuant to 15 U.S.C. §1692e, a debt collector is prohibited from using false, deceptive, or misleading representation in connection with the collection of a debt.
- 57. Defendant was attempting to collect on Plaintiff's purportedly overdue credit card account with Capital One.
- 58. Upon information and belief, Plaintiff's account with Capital One was charged-off and is not subject to change, and will never increase due to any terms of the original agreement.
- 59. Upon information and belief, the Defendant has no legal or contractual right to change the amount that the Plaintiff allegedly owes to the Creditor.
- 60. Nonetheless, Defendant's collection letter states in pertinent part:

<b>Balance Due at Charge-Off:</b>	\$441.65
Interest:	\$0.00
Other Charges:	\$0.00
<b>Current Balance:</b>	\$441.65

- 61. Defendant violated §1692e by falsely implying that additional charges, such as "Other Charges" may accrue at some point in the near-future if the account goes unpaid.
- 62. As the account balance Defendant seeks to collect never varies from the date of Charge-Off, and Defendant never makes an adjustment due to miscellaneous dues or fees, the statement in its letter is false, deceptive and misleading.

- 63. Upon information and belief, Defendant only put the above-mentioned language in its dunning letter to create a sense of urgency to pay in Plaintiff.
- 64. By reason thereof, Defendant is liable to Plaintiff for judgment that Defendant's conduct violated Section 1692e et seq. of the FDCPA, actual damages, statutory damages, costs and attorneys' fees.

## **Fourth Count** 15 U.S.C. §1692e *et seq*. False or Misleading Representations as to Status of Debt

- 65. Plaintiff repeats, reiterates and incorporates the allegations contained in paragraphs numbered "1" through "64" herein with the same force and effect as if the same were set forth at length herein.
- 66. Defendant's debt collection efforts attempted and/or directed towards Plaintiff violated various provisions of the FDCPA, including but not limited to 15 U.S.C. § 1692e.
- 67. Pursuant to 15 U.S.C. §1692e, a debt collector is prohibited from using false, deceptive, or misleading representation in connection with the collection of a debt.
- 68. Despite Defendant's instructions to pay online at www.csiconsumercenter.com, upon entering Defendant's website do same Plaintiff encountered an error which prevented her from checking the status of her debt online.
- 69. Defendant's website requested both a reference number and a password. However, the Collection Letter received by Plaintiff only mentions a reference number and not a password. Nonetheless, the website required insertion of a password in order to gain access.
- 70. Upon information and belief, the only way to gain access to Plaintiff's personal information on Defendant's website is to call Defendant and speak to a live operator.
- 71. Upon information and belief, this was a collection ploy designed to urge the least sophisticated consumer to call the collection agency and thus be more vulnerable to

collection efforts.

72. By reason thereof, Defendant is liable to Plaintiff for judgment that Defendant's conduct violated Section 1692g *et seq*. of the FDCPA, actual damages, statutory damages, costs and attorneys' fees.

## PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff demands judgment against Defendants as follows:

- (a) Declaring that this action is properly maintainable as a Class Action and certifying Plaintiff as Class representative and the Law Office of Alan J. Sasson, P.C., as Class Counsel;
- (b) Awarding Plaintiff and the Class statutory damages;
- (c) Awarding Plaintiff and the Class actual damages;
- (d) Awarding Plaintiff costs of this Action, including reasonable attorneys' fees and expenses;
- (e) Awarding pre-judgment interest and post-judgment interest; and
- (f) Awarding Plaintiff and the Class such other and further relief as this Court may deem just and proper.
- Dated: Brooklyn, New York January 9, 2017

Respectfully submitted,

By: <u>/s/ Alan J. Sasson</u> Alan J. Sasson, Esq. Law Office of Alan J. Sasson, P.C. 2687 Coney Island Avenue, 2nd Floor Brooklyn, New York 11235 Phone: (718) 339-0856 Facsimile: (347) 244-7178 *Attorney for Plaintiff*  Case 1:17-cv-00111 Document 1 Filed 01/09/17 Page 13 of 13 PageID #: 13

## **DEMAND FOR TRIAL BY JURY**

Pursuant to Rule 38 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, Plaintiff hereby requests a

trial by jury on all issues so triable.

/s/ Alan J. Sasson Alan J. Sasson, Esq.

Dated: Brooklyn, New York January 9, 2017

# JS 44 (Rev. 07/16) Case 1:17-cv-00111 Document 20 VER SHEET Page 1 of 2 PageID #: 14

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.)* 

I. (a) PLAINTIFFS			DEFENDANTS	5	
KIARA DIAZ, on behalf of herself and all others similarly situated			CLIENT SERVICES, INC.		
<ul> <li>(b) County of Residence of First Listed Plaintiff (EXCEPT IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES)</li> <li>(c) Attorneys (Firm Name, Address, and Telephone Number)</li> <li>LAW OFFICE OF ALAN J. SASSON, P.C., 2687 Coney Island Ave</li> </ul>		NOTE: IN LAND CO THE TRACT Attorneys (If Known)	e of First Listed Defendant (IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES C ONDEMNATION CASES, USE T F OF LAND INVOLVED.	,	
2nd Floor, Brooklyn, NY	11235, (718) 339-0856				
II. BASIS OF JURISDI	CTION (Place an "X" in Or	ne Box Only)	III. CITIZENSHIP OF P	RINCIPAL PARTIES	
□ 1 U.S. Government Plaintiff	3 Federal Question (U.S. Government N	lot a Party)		TF DEF D 1 D 1 Incorporated or Pr of Business In D	
2 U.S. Government Defendant	4 Diversity (Indicate Citizenship)	p of Parties in Item III)	Citizen of Another State	2 2 Incorporated and a of Business In .	1
			Citizen or Subject of a Foreign Country	3 🗖 3 Foreign Nation	
IV. NATURE OF SUIT		ly) RTS	FORFEITURE/PENALTY	BANKRUPTCY	OTHER STATUTES
<ul> <li>Ito Insurance</li> <li>120 Marine</li> <li>130 Miller Act</li> <li>140 Negotiable Instrument</li> <li>150 Recovery of Overpayment &amp; Enforcement of Judgment</li> <li>151 Medicare Act</li> <li>152 Recovery of Defaulted Student Loans (Excludes Veterans)</li> <li>153 Recovery of Overpayment of Veteran's Benefits</li> <li>160 Stockholders' Suits</li> <li>190 Other Contract</li> <li>195 Contract Product Liability</li> <li>196 Franchise</li> </ul> <b>REAL PROPERTY</b> <ul> <li>210 Land Condemnation</li> <li>220 Foreclosure</li> <li>230 Rent Lease &amp; Ejectment</li> <li>245 Tort Product Liability</li> <li>290 All Other Real Property</li> </ul>	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 362 Personal Injury - Medical Malpractice CIVIL RIGHTS 440 Other Civil Rights 441 Voting 442 Employment 443 Housing/ Accommodations 445 Amer. w/Disabilities - Employment	<ul> <li>PERSONAL INJURY</li> <li>365 Personal Injury - Product Liability</li> <li>367 Health Care/ Pharmaceutical Personal Injury Product Liability</li> <li>368 Asbestos Personal Injury Product Liability</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Y □ 625 Drug Related Seizure of Property 21 USC 881</li> <li>□ 690 Other</li> <li>□ 710 Fair Labor Standards Act</li> <li>□ 710 Fair Labor Standards</li> <li>□ 720 Labor/Management Relations</li> <li>□ 740 Railway Labor Act</li> <li>□ 751 Family and Medical Leave Act</li> <li>□ 790 Other Labor Litigation</li> <li>■ 790 Other Labor Litigation</li> <li>■ 791 Employee Retirement Income Security Act</li> <li>■ 100 Cher Security Act</li> <li>■ 462 Naturalization Application</li> </ul>	□       422 Appeal 28 USC 158         □       423 Withdrawal 28 USC 157         ■       PROPERTY RIGHTS         □       820 Copyrights         □       820 Copyrights         □       840 Trademark         ■       840 Trademark         ■       861 HIA (1395ff)         □       863 DIWC/DIWW (405(g))         □       863 ADIWC/DIWW (405(g))         □       864 SSID Title XVI         □       865 RSI (405(g))         ■       870 Taxes (U.S. Plaintiff or Defendant)         □       871 IRS—Third Party 26 USC 7609	<ul> <li>375 False Claims Act</li> <li>376 Qui Tam (31 USC 3729(a))</li> <li>400 State Reapportionment</li> <li>410 Antitrust</li> <li>430 Banks and Banking</li> <li>450 Commerce</li> <li>460 Deportation</li> <li>470 Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations</li> <li>480 Consumer Credit</li> <li>490 Cable/Sat TV</li> <li>850 Securities/Commodities/ Exchange</li> <li>890 Other Statutory Actions</li> <li>891 Agricultural Acts</li> <li>895 Freedom of Information Act</li> <li>896 Arbitration</li> <li>950 Constitutionality of State Statutes</li> </ul>
<b>V. ORIGIN</b> (Place an "X" in $\mathbb{A}$ 1 Original $\square$ 2 Re		Confinement Remanded from	□ 4 Reinstated or □ 5 Transf	erred from <b>1</b> 6 Multidistr	rict 🛛 8 Multidistrict
	te Court	Appellate Court	Reopened Anothe (specify	er District Litigation ) Transfer	
VI. CAUSE OF ACTION	DN 15 USC 1692 Brief description of car		e filing (Do not cite jurisdictional sta PA	tutes unless diversity):	
VII. REQUESTED IN COMPLAINT:	CHECK IF THIS UNDER RULE 23	IS A <b>CLASS ACTION</b> 3, F.R.Cv.P.	DEMAND \$	CHECK YES only JURY DEMAND	if demanded in complaint: : X Yes □ No
VIII. RELATED CASI IF ANY	(See instructions):	JUDGE		DOCKET NUMBER	
DATE 01/09/2017		SIGNATURE OF ATT /s/ Alan J. Sass	TORNEY OF RECORD		
FOR OFFICE USE ONLY       RECEIPT #	MOUNT	APPLYING IFP	JUDGE	MAG. JU	DGE

## Case 1:17-cv-00111 Document 1-1 Filed 01/09/17 Page 2 of 2 PageID #: 15 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,	ALAN J. SASSON	counsel for <u>PLAINTIFF</u>		, do hereby certify that the above captioned civil action is
in	eligible for compulsory arbit	tration for the following rease	on(s):	

- monetary damages sought are in excess of \$150,000, exclusive of interest and costs,
- the complaint seeks injunctive relief,
- Questions of law rather than questions of fact predominate DISCLOSURE STATEMENT - FEDERAL RULES CIVIL PROCEDURE 7.1
- NONE

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: NO
- If you answered "no" above:
   a) Did the events or omissions giving rise to the claim or claims, or a substantial part thereof, occur in Nassau or Suffolk County?

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. X Yes No

Are you currently the subject of any disciplinary action (s) in this or any other state or federal court?

(If yes, please explain)

No No

I certify the accuracy of all information provided above.

Yes

Signature: /s/ Alan J. Sasson

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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

)

KIARA DIAZ, on behalf of herself and all others similarly situated,

similarly situated, ))
Plaintiff(s)
V.
CLIENT SERVICES, INC.
)
Defendant(s)

Civil Action No.

## SUMMONS IN A CIVIL ACTION

To: (Defendant's name and address) CLIENT SERVICES, INC. C/O CORPORATION SERVICE COMPANY 80 STATE STREET ALBANY, NEW YORK 12207

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:

LAW OFFICE OF ALAN J. SASSON, P.C. 2687 CONEY ISLAND AVENUE SECOND FLOOR BROOKLYN, NEW YORK 11235

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.

> DOUGLAS C. PALMER CLERK OF COURT

Date:

Signature of Clerk or Deputy Clerk

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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 a	ny)	
was re	ceived by me on (date)			
	□ I personally served	the summons on the ind	lividual at (place)	
			on (date)	; or
	□ I left the summons	at the individual's reside	ence or usual place of abode with (name)	
			, a person of suitable age and discretion who res	ides there,
			copy to the individual's last known address; or	
	$\Box$ I served the summa	ons on (name of individual)		, who is
	designated by law to a	accept service of process	s on behalf of (name of organization)	
		· ·	on (date)	; or
	$\Box$ I returned the summ	nons unexecuted becaus	e	; or
	□ Other ( <i>specify</i> ):			
	My fees are \$	for travel and S	\$ for services, for a total of \$	0.00 ·
	I declare under penalty	y of perjury that this info	ormation is true.	
Date:				
Duter		-	Server's signature	
		-	Printed name and title	

Server's address

Additional information regarding attempted service, etc:

Case 1:17-cv-00111 Document 1-3 Filed 01/09/17 Page 1 of 2 PageID #: 18 Office Hours (Central Time) Monday-Thursday: 8am-9pm Friday: 7am-5pm Saturday: 7am-12pm 3451 Harry S Truman Blvd. Sunday: Closed Saint Charles, MO 63301-4047 CREDITOR: CAPITAL ONE BANK (USA), N.A. PHONE: 877-665-3303 ACCOUNT NUMBER: XXXXXXXXXXXX0197 **BALANCE DUE: \$441.65** DATE: January 11, 2016 **REFERENCE NUMBER:** 1267 **NEW INFORMATION ON YOUR ACCOUNT** 

#### 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:	441.65
Interest:	0.00
Other Charges:	0.00
Payments Made:	0.00
Current Balance:	441.65

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. Please call me at 877-665-3303 for more information.

I look forward to working with you to resolve this balance.

Josh Pinkowski

Client Services, Inc.

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

PO Box 1586 Saint Peters, MO 63376

**KIARA DIAZ** 

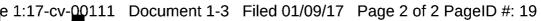
REFERENCE NUMBER	1267
AMOUNT ENCLOSED	



Checks Payable To: Client Services, Inc.

**REMIT TO:** CLIENT SERVICES, INC.

3451 HARRY S. TRUMAN BLVD ST. CHARLES MO 63301-4047 <u>իսինելիսումներիկյուներիկյուներըներիներին գիրուկովների</u>





## Welcome

## Welcome to the Client Services, Inc. Payment Website

To make a payment, you will need to know the reference number you received from our agency and password. Please refer to the bottom of this page to acquire the details for your password.

If you are not an account holder, and proceed to use this payment web site, you acknowledge you are legally authorized by the account holder or law to access this payment web site and the account holder's information.

If you are having difficulty logging on, please contact us at 800-521-3236 or email WebPayAssistance@CSI.com.

Failed to login. Bad Reference Number and Password combination.

**Reference Number:** 



<u>Change</u>

Password



# **ClassAction.org**

This complaint is part of ClassAction.org's searchable class action lawsuit database and can be found in this post: <u>FDCPA Class Action Filed Against Client Services, Inc.</u>