	Case 8:20-cv-01549 Document 1	Filed 08/20/20 Page 1 of 9 Page ID #:1
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10	Todd M. Friedman (SBN 216752) Meghan E. George (SBN 274525) Adrian R. Bacon (SBN 280332) Thomas E. Wheeler (SBN 308789) LAW OFFICES OF TODD M. FRIEDM 21550 Oxnard St., Suite 780 Woodland Hills, CA 91367 Phone: (323) 306-4234 Fax: 866-633-0228 tfriedman@toddflaw.com mgeorge@toddflaw.com abacon@toddflaw.com twheeler@toddflaw.com	MAN, P.C.
11	UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT	
12	CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA	
 13 14 15 16 17 	TERRY FABRICANT , individually and on behalf of all others similarly situated, Plaintiff,) Case No.) <u>CLASS ACTION</u>) COMPLAINT FOR VIOLATIONS
17 18	vs.) OF:) 1. NEGLIGENT VIOLATIONS OF
 19 20 21 22 	1ST RELIANT HOME LOANS, INC. ; and DOES 1 through 10, inclusive, Defendant.	 THE TELEPHONE CONSUMER PROTECTION ACT [47 U.S.C. §227 ET SEQ.] 2. WILLFUL VIOLATIONS OF THE TELEPHONE CONSUMER PROTECTION ACT [47 U.S.C. §227 ET SEQ.]
23 24 25)) DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL)
26 27 28	Plaintiff, TERRY FABRICANT ("Plaintiff"), individually and on behalf of all others similarly situated, alleges the following upon information and belief based upon personal knowledge:	

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NATURE OF THE CASE

1. Plaintiff brings this action individually and on behalf of all others similarly situated seeking damages and any other available legal or equitable remedies resulting from the illegal actions of Defendant 1ST RELIANT HOME LOANS, INC. ("Defendant"), in negligently, knowingly, and/or willfully contacting Plaintiff on Plaintiff's cellular telephone in violation of the Telephone Consumer Protection Act, *47. U.S.C. § 227 et seq.* ("TCPA"), thereby invading Plaintiff's privacy.

JURISDICTION & VENUE

2. Jurisdiction is proper under 28 U.S.C. § 1331 because this action arises under a Federal Question, namely the Telephone Consumer Protection Act, 47 U.S.C. § 227, et seq.. Plaintiffs also seek up to \$1,500.00 in damages for each call in violation of the TCPA, which, when aggregated among a proposed class in the thousands, exceeds the \$5,000,000.00 threshold for federal court jurisdiction. Therefore, both federal question jurisdiction and the damages threshold under the Class Action Fairness Act of 2005 ("CAFA") are present, and this Court has jurisdiction.

3. Venue is proper in the United States District Court for the Central District of California pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1391(b)(2) because Defendant does business within the state of California and Plaintiff resides within this District.

PARTIES

4. Plaintiff, TERRY FABRICANT ("Plaintiff"), is a natural person residing in Vallejo, California and is a "person" as defined by 47 U.S.C. § 153 (39).

5. Defendant, 1ST RELIANT HOME LOANS, INC. ("Defendant" or "DEFENDANT"), is a lender providing business loans, lines of credit and other financial products, and is a "person" as defined by 47 U.S.C. § 153 (39).

6. The above named Defendant, and its subsidiaries and agents, are collectively referred to as "Defendants." The true names and capacities of the

Defendants sued herein as DOE DEFENDANTS 1 through 10, inclusive, are
currently unknown to Plaintiff, who therefore sues such Defendants by fictitious
names. Each of the Defendants designated herein as a DOE is legally responsible
for the unlawful acts alleged herein. Plaintiff will seek leave of Court to amend the
Complaint to reflect the true names and capacities of the DOE Defendants when
such identities become known.

7. Plaintiff is informed and believes that at all relevant times, each and every Defendant was acting as an agent and/or employee of each of the other Defendants and was acting within the course and scope of said agency and/or employment with the full knowledge and consent of each of the other Defendants. Plaintiff is informed and believes that each of the acts and/or omissions complained of herein was made known to, and ratified by, each of the other Defendants.

FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS

8. Beginning in or around October of 2018, Defendant contacted Plaintiff on Plaintiff's cellular telephone ending in -1083, in an effort to solicit Plaintiff to purchase Defendants' services.

9. Defendant called Plaintiff on Plaintiff's cellular telephone from phone numbers confirmed to belong to Defendant, including without limitation (949) 346
- 9002.

10. Defendant used an "automatic telephone dialing system", as defined by 47 U.S.C. § 227(a)(1) to place its calls to Plaintiff seeking to sell or solicit its business services.

11. Defendant's calls constituted calls that were not for emergency purposes as defined by 47 U.S.C. § 227(b)(1)(A).

12. Defendant's calls were placed to telephone number assigned to a cellular telephone service for which Plaintiff incurs a charge for incoming calls pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 227(b)(1).

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13. Plaintiff is not a customer of Defendant's services and never provided

1 his cellular telephone number to Defendant.

14. Defendant never received Plaintiff's "prior express consent" to receive calls using an automatic telephone dialing system or an artificial or prerecorded voice on Plaintiff's cellular telephone pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 227(b)(1)(A).

15. Plaintiff alleges upon information and belief, including without limitation his experiences as recounted herein, especially his experience of being called despite Defendant's lack of express consent to call him, that Defendant lacks reasonable policies and procedures to avoid the violations of the Telephone Consumer Protection act herein described.

CLASS ALLEGATIONS

16. Plaintiff brings this action individually and on behalf of all others similarly situated, as a member the proposed class (hereafter, "The Class") defined as follows:

All persons within the United States who received any solicitation/telemarketing telephone calls from Defendant to said person's cellular telephone made through the use of any automatic telephone dialing system or an artificial or prerecorded voice and such person had not previously consented to receiving such calls within the four years prior to the filing of this Complaint

17. Plaintiff represents, and is a member of, The Class, consisting of all persons within the United States who received any solicitation telephone calls from Defendant to said person's cellular telephone made through the use of any automatic telephone dialing system or an artificial or prerecorded voice and such person had not previously not provided their cellular telephone number to Defendant within the four years prior to the filing of this Complaint.

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18. Defendant, its employees and agents are excluded from The Class.

Plaintiff does not know the number of members in The Class, but believes the Class members number in the thousands, if not more. Thus, this matter should be certified as a Class Action to assist in the expeditious litigation of the matter.

19. The Class is so numerous that the individual joinder of all of its members is impractical. While the exact number and identities of The Class members are unknown to Plaintiff at this time and can only be ascertained through appropriate discovery, Plaintiff is informed and believes and thereon alleges that The Class includes thousands of members. Plaintiff alleges that The Class members may be ascertained by the records maintained by Defendant.

20. Plaintiff and members of The Class were harmed by the acts of Defendant in at least the following ways: Defendant illegally contacted Plaintiff and The Class members via their cellular telephones thereby causing Plaintiff and The Class members to incur certain charges or reduced telephone time for which Plaintiff and The Class members had previously paid by having to retrieve or administer messages left by Defendant during those illegal calls, and invading the privacy of said Plaintiff and The Class members.

21. Common questions of fact and law exist as to all members of The Class which predominate over any questions affecting only individual members of The Class. These common legal and factual questions, which do not vary between Class members, and which may be determined without reference to the individual circumstances of any Class members, include, but are not limited to, the following:

a. Whether, within the four years prior to the filing of this Complaint, Defendant made any telemarketing/solicitation call (other than a call made for emergency purposes or made with the prior express consent of the called party) to a Class member using any automatic telephone dialing system or any artificial or prerecorded voice to any telephone number assigned to a cellular telephone service;

- b. Whether Plaintiff and the Class members were damaged thereby, and the extent of damages for such violation; and
- c. Whether Defendant should be enjoined from engaging in such conduct in the future.

22. As a person that received a telemarketing/solicitation call from Defendant using an automatic telephone dialing system or an artificial or prerecorded voice, without Plaintiff's prior express consent, Plaintiff is asserting claims that are typical of The Class.

23. Plaintiff will fairly and adequately protect the interests of the members of The Class. Plaintiff has retained attorneys experienced in the prosecution of class actions.

24. A class action is superior to other available methods of fair and efficient adjudication of this controversy, since individual litigation of the claims of all Class members is impracticable. Even if every Class member could afford individual litigation, the court system could not. It would be unduly burdensome to the courts in which individual litigation of numerous issues would proceed. Individualized litigation would also present the potential for varying, inconsistent, or contradictory judgments and would magnify the delay and expense to all parties and to the court system resulting from multiple trials of the same complex factual issues. By contrast, the conduct of this action as a class action presents fewer management difficulties, conserves the resources of the parties and of the court system, and protects the rights of each Class member.

25. The prosecution of separate actions by individual Class members would create a risk of adjudications with respect to them that would, as a practical matter, be dispositive of the interests of the other Class members not parties to such adjudications or that would substantially impair or impede the ability of such non-party Class members to protect their interests.

26. Defendant has acted or refused to act in respects generally applicable

to The Class, thereby making appropriate final and injunctive relief with regard to
 the members of the Class as a whole.

FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION

Negligent Violations of the Telephone Consumer Protection Act 47 U.S.C. §227 et seq.

27. Plaintiff repeats and incorporates by reference into this cause of action the allegations set forth above at Paragraphs 1-26.

28. The foregoing acts and omissions of Defendant constitute numerous and multiple negligent violations of the TCPA, including but not limited to each and every one of the above cited provisions of 47 U.S.C. § 227 et seq.

29. As a result of Defendant's negligent violations of 47 U.S.C. § 227 et *seq.*, Plaintiff and the Class Members are entitled an award of \$500.00 in statutory damages, for each and every violation, pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 227(b)(3)(B).

30. Plaintiff and the Class members are also entitled to and seek injunctive relief prohibiting such conduct in the future.

SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION

Knowing and/or Willful Violations of the Telephone Consumer Protection Act 47 U.S.C. §227 et seq.

31. Plaintiff repeats and incorporates by reference into this cause of action the allegations set forth above at Paragraphs 1-26.

32. The foregoing acts and omissions of Defendant constitute numerous and multiple knowing and/or willful violations of the TCPA, including but not limited to each and every one of the above cited provisions of 47 U.S.C. § 227 et seq.

33. As a result of Defendant's knowing and/or willful violations of 47 U.S.C. § 227 et seq., Plaintiff and the Class members are entitled an award of \$1,500.00 in statutory damages, for each and every violation, pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 227(b)(3)(B) and 47 U.S.C. § 227(b)(3)(C).

Plaintiff and the Class members are also entitled to and seek 34. 1 injunctive relief prohibiting such conduct in the future. 2 PRAYER FOR RELIEF 3 WHEREFORE, Plaintiff requests judgment against Defendant for the following: 4 FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION 5 **Negligent Violations of the Telephone Consumer Protection Act** 6 47 U.S.C. §227 et seq. 7 • As a result of Defendant's negligent violations of 47 U.S.C. 8 \$227(b)(1), Plaintiff and the Class members are entitled to and 9 request \$500 in statutory damages, for each and every violation, 10 pursuant to 47 U.S.C. 227(b)(3)(B); and 11 • Any and all other relief that the Court deems just and proper. 12 **SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION** 13 Knowing and/or Willful Violations of the Telephone Consumer Protection Act 14 47 U.S.C. §227 et seq. 15 • As a result of Defendant's willful and/or knowing violations of 47 16 U.S.C. (227(b)(1)), Plaintiff and the Class members are entitled to 17 and request treble damages, as provided by statute, up to \$1,500, for 18 each and every violation, pursuant to 47 U.S.C. (227(b)(3)(B)) and 47 19 $U.S.C. \ (227(b)(3)(C); and$ 20 • Any and all other relief that the Court deems just and proper. 21 /// 22 /// 23 /// 24 /// 25 /// 26 /// 27 /// 28 CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT -8-

JURY DEMAND

35. Pursuant to Plaintiff's rights under the Seventh Amendment to the United States Constitution, Plaintiff demands a jury on all issues so triable.

Respectfully Submitted this 20th day of August, 2020.

LAW OFFICES OF TODD M. FRIEDMAN, P.C.

By: <u>/s/ Todd M. Friedman</u> Todd M. Friedman Law Offices of Todd M. Friedman Attorney for Plaintiff

ClassAction.org

This complaint is part of ClassAction.org's searchable class action lawsuit database and can be found in this post: <u>1st Reliant Home Loans Hit with TCPA Suit Over Alleged Spam Calls</u>