1 2 3 4 5	ROBERT S. GREEN (SBN 136183) JAMES ROBERT NOBLIN (SBN 114442) EVAN M. SUMER (SBN 329181) GREEN & NOBLIN, P.C. 2200 Larkspur Landing Circle, Suite 101 Larkspur, CA 94939 gnecf@classcounsel.com Tal: (415) 477, 6700	
6	Tel: (415) 477-6700 Fax: (415) 477-6710	
7 8 9 10	ALICIA L. HINTON (SBN 292849) LAW OFFICE OF A.L. HINTON 1616 W. Shaw Avenue, Suite B7 Fresno, CA 93711 alicia@alhintonlaw.com Tel: (559) 691-6900 Fax: (559) 421-0373	JAMES C. STURDEVANT (SBN 94551) THE STURDEVANT LAW FIRM, APC 4040 Civic Center Drive, Suite 200 San Rafael, CA 94903 jsturdevant@sturdevantlaw.com Tel: (415) 477-2410 Fax: (415) 492-2810
12	Attorneys for Plaintiff LARRY FACIO	
13		
14	UNITED STATES	S DISTRICT COURT
15	NORTHERN DISTR	AICT OF CALIFORNIA
16	LARRY FACIO, individually and on	Case No.
17	behalf of those similarly situated,	COMPLAINT
17 18 19		COMPLAINT  1. Violation of Consumers Legal Remedies Act (Cal.Civ.Code
18	behalf of those similarly situated,	COMPLAINT  1. Violation of Consumers Legal Remedies Act (Cal.Civ.Code § 1750, et seq.); 2. Violation of Unfair & Deceptive
18 19	behalf of those similarly situated,  Plaintiffs,	<ol> <li>COMPLAINT</li> <li>Violation of Consumers Legal Remedies Act (Cal.Civ.Code § 1750, et seq.);</li> <li>Violation of Unfair &amp; Deceptive Business Practices (Cal. Bus. &amp; Prof. Code § 17200 et seq.);</li> <li>Violation of Unruh (Cal.Civ.Code § 1801, et seq.)</li> </ol>
18 19 20 21	behalf of those similarly situated,  Plaintiffs,  vs.	<ol> <li>COMPLAINT</li> <li>Violation of Consumers Legal Remedies Act (Cal.Civ.Code § 1750, et seq.);</li> <li>Violation of Unfair &amp; Deceptive Business Practices (Cal. Bus. &amp; Prof. Code § 17200 et seq.);</li> <li>Violation of Unruh (Cal.Civ.Code § 1801, et seq.)</li> <li>Money Had and Received</li> </ol>
18 19 20 21 22 23	behalf of those similarly situated,  Plaintiffs,  vs.  AMERICAN FIRST FINANCE, INC.	<ol> <li>COMPLAINT</li> <li>Violation of Consumers Legal Remedies Act (Cal.Civ.Code § 1750, et seq.);</li> <li>Violation of Unfair &amp; Deceptive Business Practices (Cal. Bus. &amp; Prof. Code § 17200 et seq.);</li> <li>Violation of Unruh (Cal.Civ.Code § 1801, et seq.)</li> </ol>
18 19 20 21 22	behalf of those similarly situated,  Plaintiffs,  vs.  AMERICAN FIRST FINANCE, INC.	COMPLAINT  1. Violation of Consumers Legal Remedies Act (Cal.Civ.Code § 1750, et seq.);  2. Violation of Unfair & Deceptive Business Practices (Cal. Bus. & Prof. Code § 17200 et seq.);  3. Violation of Unruh (Cal.Civ.Code § 1801, et seq.)  4. Money Had and Received  CLASS ACTION
18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25	behalf of those similarly situated,  Plaintiffs,  vs.  AMERICAN FIRST FINANCE, INC.	COMPLAINT  1. Violation of Consumers Legal Remedies Act (Cal.Civ.Code § 1750, et seq.);  2. Violation of Unfair & Deceptive Business Practices (Cal. Bus. & Prof. Code § 17200 et seq.);  3. Violation of Unruh (Cal.Civ.Code § 1801, et seq.)  4. Money Had and Received  CLASS ACTION
18 19 20 21 22 23 24	behalf of those similarly situated,  Plaintiffs,  vs.  AMERICAN FIRST FINANCE, INC.	COMPLAINT  1. Violation of Consumers Legal Remedies Act (Cal.Civ.Code § 1750, et seq.);  2. Violation of Unfair & Deceptive Business Practices (Cal. Bus. & Prof. Code § 17200 et seq.);  3. Violation of Unruh (Cal.Civ.Code § 1801, et seq.)  4. Money Had and Received  CLASS ACTION

1.

demanding a trial by jury, complains and pleads on knowledge as to himself and his own acts and upon information, the investigation of counsel, and belief as to all other matters, as follows:

4

#### A. INTRODUCTORY STATEMENT

Plaintiff LARRY FACIO, on behalf of himself and all others similarly situated, and

5

6

7 8

9

10 11

12 13

14

15

16 17

18 19

20 21

22

23 24

25

26

27 28

2. Plaintiff Larry Facio ("Plaintiff Facio"), individually and on behalf of those similarly situated (collectively "Plaintiffs"), brings this lawsuit against Defendant American First Finance, Inc. ("AFF") which has entered into a scheme with California merchants whereby consumers are deceived into receiving loans from an unlicensed lender, AFF, in which the essential terms are undisclosed and interest rates exceed maximum statutory limits.

- 3. AFF is incorporated in Kansas, and at all times relevant to Plaintiffs' claims was not licensed to transact business in California in any form or fashion. On February 6, 2018, AFF registered with the Secretary of State to transact business in the State of California as a foreign corporation, and as of that date became qualified to transact business in California, but did not at any time acquire a financing license.
- 4. At all relevant times, AFF provided loans to California residents for the purchase of consumer goods at affiliated retail stores despite its failure to obtain a license to provide loans in California. At the time of filing this Third Amended Complaint, AFF continues to operate as an unlicensed lender in California.
- 5. Plaintiffs purchased goods and services from AFF affiliated businesses with the understanding that they would be making installment payments to the retail merchants. Without the Class Members' knowledge or consent, at the time of sale those businesses submitted the Class Members' personal information to AFF which then generated a financing agreement purporting to be between the merchants and the Class Members without proper disclosure of the financing terms and purporting to obligate consumers to make payments to AFF, which is not even a named party to the agreements.
- 6. Plaintiffs suffered damage in that their personal information was shared with AFF without permission and they paid for financing they did not request or agree to, and at undisclosed terms including an exorbitant interest rate. As a pattern and practice, AFF and its affiliate network

1

4

6

5

7 8

9

10

11 12

13 14

15 16

17

18 19

20

21 22

23 24

25 26

27

28

**COMPLAINT** 

failed and continue to fail to adequately inform consumers concerning the nature of the transaction, including that they are entering into financing agreements at interest rates often exceeding 120%.

- 7. Plaintiffs seek declaratory relief that AFF Security Agreements are loans subject to California's Financial Code §22000 et seq., known as the California Finance Lenders Law; that AFF did not have the licensing required by the California Finance Lenders Law necessary to offer and fund loans in California; that AFF's Security Agreements are void and that AFF had no right to collect or receive any principal, charges, or recompense in connection with the transactions; and, that all payments received to date are to be refunded.
- 8. Plaintiffs seek to preliminarily and permanently enjoin AFF from engaging in the practices delineated in this Complaint which continue to injure and harm the members of the public who unwittingly purchase consumer goods and services subject to AFF loans made in violation of federal and state consumer protection statutes;
- 9. Plaintiffs seek an award of monetary damages, according to proof; available statutory or punitive damages, in an amount to be determined at trial; and, restitution to the Class for all principal, interest, charges, or recompense in connection with the transaction paid to AFF during the class period and disgorgement of all profits.

#### **B. JURISDICTION AND VENUE**

- 10. This Court has jurisdiction pursuant to the "Class Action Fairness Act," 28 U.S.C. §§ 1332(d), 1435 ("CAFA"). At least one member of the proposed class is a citizen of a state other than where a defendant is incorporated and headquartered. The proposed class consists of more than 100 members. Further, the amount in controversy exceeds \$5 million taking into account all damages and equitable relief on behalf of the proposed class, and excluding interest and costs.
- 11. California maintains a strong public policy to protect consumers from unfair and deceptive acts and practices and promote economic justice and security. California's consumer protection statutes are designed to help consumers both to avoid predatory transactions and unfair practices and to obtain legal relief if they are victimized or treated unfairly in the marketplace. Further, California supports an overall legislative policy designed to enable consumers and others

who may be in a disadvantageous contractual bargaining position to protect their rights through

12. The Consumers Legal Remedies Act ("CLRA"), Civ.Code § 1750, et seq. is one of the strongest consumer protection statutes in California. "The CRLA is a legislative embodiment of a desire to protect California consumers and furthers a strong public policy of this state. 'The CLRA was enacted in an attempt to alleviate social and economic problems stemming from

deceptive business practices...' (citation)" *America OnLine, Inc. v. Superior Court (Mendoza)*, (2001) 90 Cal.App.4th 1, 9-10. The CLRA's anti-waiver provision states: "Any waiver by a

consumer of the provisions of this title is contrary to public policy and shall be unenforceable and

void." Civ.Code § 1751.

- 13. California's public policy is also aligned with the Congressional purpose underlying the Truth In Lending Act ("TILA"), 15 USC 1601 *et seq.*, which is to "assure a meaningful disclosure of credit terms so that the consumer will be able to compare more readily the various credit terms available to him and avoid the uninformed use of credit and to guard against the danger of unscrupulous lenders taking advantage of consumers through fraudulent or otherwise confusing practices."
- 14. "The [California Financing Law] 'shall be liberally construed and applied to promote its underlying purposes and policies,' which include protecting California borrowers, 'ensur[ing] and adequate supply of credit to borrowers in this state,' and 'develop[ing] fair and economically sound lending practices.' (*Fin. Code*, §22001, subd. (a).)" *The Commissioner of Business Oversight v. Sezzle, Inc.* (2019) 2019 Cal. Sec. Lexis 151, CFL File No.: 60DBO-104155.
- 15. This Court has personal jurisdiction over Defendant because Defendant has sufficient minimum contacts with California and/or Defendant otherwise purposely availed itself of the markets in California by providing financing for consumer goods in California, maintaining offices in California, employing workers in California, and advertising in California. Defendant's purposeful availment of the markets in California renders the exercise of jurisdiction by this Court permissible under traditional notions of fair play and substantial justice.

1 16. Venue is proper under 28 U.S.C. § 1391 because Defendant is subject to personal
2 jurisdiction in the Northern District of California.
3 C. THE PARTIES
4 I. Plaintiff Class
5 17. The acts complained of herein occurred, at least in part, within the last four (4)

17. The acts complained of herein occurred, at least in part, within the last four (4) years preceding the filing of this Complaint. During the relevant statutory period, Plaintiff LARRY FACIO and the Class Members were induced to purchase consumer goods and services from AFF retail associates under a scheme that precluded their access to AFF's Security Agreement and had no knowledge of the essential terms—including the interest rates—of those contracts.

18. At all times during the class period, Class Members were customers of AFF retail associates who unknowingly became customers of AFF. The Class was charged exorbitant interest on the loans funding these purchases of consumer goods, and when they attempted to contact the retail sellers, were informed that their loans had been "assigned" to AFF. The loan documents later provided by AFF to Plaintiffs demonstrate that the purchase contracts were never "assigned" but were computer generated on an AFF form obligating consumers to contact AFF alone regarding the terms of the loans.

### II. Representative Plaintiff, Larry Facio

- 19. At the time of his sales transaction, Plaintiff Larry Facio was living in and his permanent residence is in Sacramento County, California. On September 28, 2017, Facio purchased wheels and tires from Roseville Wheels & Tires aka California Wheels & Tires ("Roseville Wheels & Tires") in Roseville, California, totaling \$2,292.00.
- 20. At the time of purchase Mr. Facio was neither informed that the sale was financed with AFF nor of the financing terms. Mr. Facio suffered financial damages as a result of AFF's failures to disclose the terms of the obligation. Had he known of the interest rates and other terms of the financing, Mr. Facio would have refused to complete the transaction. Mr. Facio brings this litigation on his own behalf as well as other similarly situated individuals.

### Case 3:21-cv-08184 Document 1 Filed 10/20/21 Page 6 of 21

21. During the Class Period (defined below) Mr. Facio paid 144.59% interest on his purchase made at an AFF affiliated business.III. Defendant

- 22. **Defendant AMERICAN FIRST FINANCE INC. ("AFF")** is organized and incorporated under the laws of the State of Kansas with its principal place of business at 3515 N. Ridge Rd, Ste 200, Wichita, KS 67205.
- 23. Despite lacking a license to provide loans in California, AFF provides purchase money loans for the sale of consumer goods and services through retailers with whom AFF has a preexisting relationship. AFF promises almost instant credit approvals with little to no credit history. AFF provides loans of up to \$5,000.00 for purchases at interest rates often exceeding 120%.

### D. FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS

### I. AFF's Wrongful Scheme for Providing Consumer Loans in California

- 24. Despite lacking a license to provide loans in California, through the efforts of its network of retailers, AFF provides loans for the sale of consumer goods. Retailers comply with AFF's fraudulent and illegal scheme because the Retailers are able to increase sales by selling consumer goods or services to class members by offering an installment payment option that the Retailers do not otherwise have the ability to offer to customers who require or prefer a payment plan.
  - 25. AFF targets its products to consumers with poor or little to no credit.
  - 26. AFF promises almost instant credit approvals with little to no credit history.
- 27. AFF provides loans of up to \$5,000.00 for purchases at interest rates often exceeding 120%.
- 28. AFF provides the loans through a standard "Security Agreement," differing only the interest rates and total amount of the loan based on the amount of the purchase and its evaluation of the borrower's credit rating.
- 29. AFF mischaracterizes its loans as after-the-fact assignments of retail installment sales contracts.

1	30.	The C	alifornia Finance Lenders Law looks to the actual substance rather than the
2	form of the transaction, revealing the true nature of AFF financing as loans.		
3	31.	AFF's	s involvement with the merchants goes beyond that necessary to effectuate the
4	purchase of c	redit sal	es, in that:
5		a.	AFF recruits new merchants with the claim that merchants who offer AFF
6	loans can "su	perchar	ge sales" and AFF decisions to finance loans will be "super fast!";
7		b.	AFF enters into Merchant Agreements with retailers prior to consumers'
8	contemplating	g a purc	hase of goods;
9		c.	Merchants are required to create an online account with AFF prior to
10	offering AFF	loans to	o consumers;
11		d.	AFF provides in-store marketing materials to merchants for AFF products,
12	including a 90	0-day sa	ame as cash offer;
13		e.	AFF provides credit applications and "security agreement" forms that
14	merchants are	e require	ed to use;
15		f.	AFF provides in-person and online training to merchants on how to prepare
16	and upload A	FF forn	ns to its website;
17		g.	AFF provides merchants with a hyperlink to AFF's pre-approval process
18	that can be, an	nd ofter	is, integrated into the merchants' own retail website;
19		h.	AFF's loan agreement is a non-negotiable, clickthrough agreement, the
20	terms of whic	h are di	ctated by AFF, non-modifiable by the merchant and non-negotiable by
21	consumers;		
22		i.	Throughout the consumer purchase transaction, the role of AFF and the
23	terms of the t	ransacti	on are not fully disclosed to the consumer;
24		j.	AFF's retail partners are not true parties to the loan agreements;
25		k.	AFF makes the sole determination of consumers' creditworthiness;
26		1.	The Security Agreement states that the consumer's loan has been assigned
27	to AFF, but th	nere is n	no actual assignment;
28			

### Case 3:21-cv-08184 Document 1 Filed 10/20/21 Page 8 of 21

m. AFF requires consumers to apply for the funds at the time of the retail sale transaction; 3 AFF dictates all financing decisions; and n. 4 AFF handles all administration of consumer loans. 0. 5 32. AFF made and continues to make these loans in willful violation of California Finance Lenders Law and even if not in willful violation has had more than 60 days since notification of the error to notify the customer and correct the error. 8 II. Facts as to Plaintiff Larry Facio 9 33. On September 28, 2017, Facio purchased wheels and tires from Roseville Wheels & Tires in Roseville, California, totaling \$2,292.00, and was not informed at the time of purchase 10 11 that the sale was going to be financed with AFF and was not informed of any financing terms. 12 Roseville Wheels & Tires told Facio that if the purchase price for the wheels and tires was paid in 13 full within 100 days of purchase he would not pay any interest. Facio paid \$800 toward the total 14 purchase price on the date of sale and received a Work Order from Roseville Wheels & Tires 15 showing a balance owing of \$1,492.00. At the conclusion of the sale transaction, Facio was 16 instructed to electronically sign the Security Agreement but the financing terms were not made 17 visible to him. Unbeknownst to Mr. Facio, American First Finance then debited twice monthly 18 payments out of Mr. Facio's bank account. 19 34. Mr. Facio was not informed about AFF and believed that his payments would be 20 made to Roseville Wheels & Tires. He was not shown the face of the computer to know what he 21 was authorizing by e-signing on the small electronic pad. 22 35. Roseville Wheels & Tires presented Mr. Facio with a Work Order describing the 23 wheels and tires, parts and labor charges, the tax, total charge and balance owed after payment of 24 his \$800 on the date of sale, paid by debit card. This is the only sales document provided to him 25 by Roseville Wheels & Tires. A true and correct copy of the Work Order between Facio and

27

26

1

2

6

7

28

Roseville Wheels & Tires is attached hereto as Exhibit "A."

5

4

6 7

8

9

10 11

12 13

14

15

16

17 18

19

20

21 22

23 24

25 26

27 28

36. Without Mr. Facio's knowledge, AFF electronically prepared a seven page "Security Agreement" which specified an annual percentage rate of 144.59%. Mr. Facio was not shown the "Security Agreement," did not sign it, and was not given a copy at the time of sale.

- 37. The form Security Agreement generated by AFF and used to collect funds from Mr. Facio is dated September 28, 2017 and states that it was assigned by Roseville Wheels to AFF, but there is no record of an actual assignment. AFF simply created the appearance of an assignment as cover for a loan that it was making directly to Facio using the retailer's business as the place where the loan is consummated.
- 38. On about October 6, 2017, and twice a month thereafter, AFF debited Mr. Facio's bank account \$92.28.
- 39. About four days after purchasing the wheels and tires, Mr. Facio logged into his bank account to set-up electronic payments to the Roseville Wheels & Tires and was surprised and alarmed to see that an automatic payment was setup by American First Finance, a company he was not familiar with. He researched AFF's phone number, called AFF's customer service, and was surprised to be told that his electronic signature at the time he purchased the wheels and tires from Roseville Wheels & Tires authorized AFF to access to his bank account for payments on the amount financed. During that conversation, Mr. Facio requested that AFF withdraw sufficient funds to pay off the balance owed within the 100 days to avoid any interest charges, which the AFF employee assured him they would do.
- 40. Roseville Wheels & Tires' conduct in failing to disclose AFF as the lender for any discussion of billing/payments/collection/administration of the loans was uniform with respect to the Class.
- 41. Shortly after the 100 days following his purchase from Roseville Wheels & Tires, Mr. Facio logged onto his bank account and was upset to see that AFF did not withdraw sufficient funds to collect the balance on the purchase, but was only withdrawing the bi-monthly payments subjecting him to interest charges. Thereafter, Mr. Facio communicated with AFF in an attempt to resolve his complaints without success.

1	42. On about June 25, 2018, after making several prior unsuccessful demands of AFF		
2	to provide him with a copy of the loan agreement, Facio again called AFF to request a copy,		
3	which AFF finally provided to him by email. Mr. Facio was shocked to learn that the finance rate		
4	for the wheels and tires loan was 144.59% and that he would end up paying more than twice what		
5	they were sold for. He replied to AFF that he was not given a copy of the agreement or the		
6	"extensive payback schedule, a distinct violation of the terms and agreements." On June 29, 2018,		
7	American First Finance acknowledged receipt of Mr. Facio's complaint and again on April 9,		
8	2019, American First Finance stated that it had "received your complaint." Plaintiff did not		
9	discover or have reason to discover the existence of potential claims against Defendant until June		
10	24, 2018, at the earliest.		
11	43. Mr. Facio then stopped all AFF withdrawals from his bank and refused to pay any		
12	additional money to AFF. A true and correct copy of the Security Agreement that AFF provided to		
13	Mr. Facio is attached hereto as Exhibit "B."		
14	44. On about June 26, 2018, Mr. Facio filed a complaint with the Better Business		
15	Bureau against AFF, including claims that AFF failed to disclose the terms of financing and		
16	the 144.59% interest rate.		
17	45. On about June 28, 2018, Mr. Facio filed a complaint with the Consumer Financial		
18	Protection Bureau against AFF, including claims that AFF failed to disclose the terms of financing		
19	and 144.59% interest rate.		
20	46. Beginning about September of 2018, AFF began a campaign to collect the loan		
21	balance from Mr. Facio, including an offer to resolve the AFF account by paying only 50% of the		
22	balance in a single payment or 60% of the balance in two payments. Believing that he was a		
23	victim of unscrupulous business practices, Mr. Facio refused to make any further payment to AFF.		
24	In about October of 2018, Mr. Facio began receiving notices from a debt collection company		
25	regarding the AFF loan.		
26	47. Mr. Facio was not presented with the loan agreement or loan terms at any time		
27	prior to receiving the Security Agreement from AFF in June of 2018, and would not have		

purchased the goods if he had known of the true terms of the loan. Mr. Facio was never sent a

## Case 3:21-cv-08184 Document 1 Filed 10/20/21 Page 11 of 21

statement from AFF	or notified by AFF in any way that it made the loan or what the loan terms
were until he learned	of AFF's existence by checking his bank account and thereafter contacted
AFF via telephone. I	Mr. Facio attempted to resolve his concerns with AFF to no avail.
48. Pursu	ant to California law, AFF's involvement with Roseville Wheels & Tires in
the transactions with	Mr. Facio and the other members of the class goes beyond that necessary to
effectuate the purcha	ase of credit sales from Roseville Wheels & Tires, in that:
a.	AFF recruited Roseville Wheels & Tires with the claims that AFF loans
would increase sales	and AFF would make its decisions to finance loans on the spot;
b.	AFF entered into a Merchant Agreement with Roseville Wheels & Tires.
c.	Prior to offering financing to Mr. Facio on September 28, 2017, Roseville
Wheels & Tires was	required by AFF to create an online account with AFF;
d.	Through "Dealer Portal" on its website, AFF provided electronic versions
of the credit applicat	ions and "Security Agreement" forms that Roseville Wheels & Tires is and
was required to use t	For the transactions with Mr. Facio on September 28, 2017, and with other
class members;	
e.	AFF provided and continues to make available online and in-person
training to Roseville	Wheels & Tires on how to prepare and upload AFF forms and customer
information through	AFF'ss website;
f.	AFF's "Security Agreement" is a non-negotiable, clickthrough agreement,
the terms of which a	re dictated by AFF, non-modifiable by the Roseville Wheels & Tires, and
non-negotiable by co	onsumers;
g.	Roseville Wheels & Tires did not and does not fully disclose either the role
of AFF or the compl	ete terms of the transaction to Mr. Facio and the other class members;
h.	AFF made the sole determination of Mr. Facio's credit worthiness on
September 28, 2017	or dates prior, and of the other class members' credit worthiness throughout
the class period;	
i.	AFF required Mr. Facio and each class member to apply to AFF for the

funds at the time of the retail sale transaction(s);

1	j. Aff dictated all financing decisions with regard to Mr. Facio and each class
2	member; and
3	k. AFF handled all administration of consumer loans for Mr. Facio's and each
4	class members purchase from AFF's member-merchants' sales of consumer goods and services.
5	49. AFF made the loan to Mr. Facio on September 28, 2017, and the loans to the other
6	Class Members during the Class Period in willful violation of California Finance Lenders Law.
7	50. AFF has continued to collect on the illegal loan over time. As recently as April 30,
8	2020, AFF stated to Mr. Facio that he continued to owe \$1,591.47 on his account and that he
9	should contact AFF's Special Resolution department to arrange payments.
10	E. CLASS ALLEGATIONS
11	51. Plaintiffs seek to certify a statewide class comprising:
12	All California residents who purchased consumer
13	goods or services from AFF affiliated retail businesses
14	and who AFF claims are or were bound to the terms
15	of it's Security Agreement during the Class Period.
16	52. The Class period begins on November 11, 2014, four years prior to the date of
17	filing of the initial complaint in Andrade v. American First Finance, Inc., Case No. 18-cv-6743-
18	SK, and runs through the date of class certification ("Class Period").
19	53. This action has been brought and may properly be maintained as a class action,
20	pursuant to the provisions of FRCP 23.
21	a) <b>Numerosity:</b> The Plaintiff Class is so numerous that the individual joinder of
22	all members is impracticable under the circumstances of this case. The number of class members
23	is estimated to be over 120,000 California consumers. AFF has sold and continues to sell to class
24	members hundreds of Financed Products daily in California and throughout the United States.
25	Thus the class is so numerous as to make joinder impracticable, if not impossible.
26	b) Common Questions Predominate: AFF has acted (by selling Financed
27	Products) and refused to act, on grounds generally applicable to the class. These common issues
28	of fact and law predominate over any arguable individualized issues.

1	Common issues incl	ude:
2	i)	Whether AFF lacked a license to provide consumer loans in California at
3		the time it made the consumer loans to the Class;
4	ii)	Whether AFF's representations regarding the terms of sale of financed
5		products were false and misleading, and unlawfully, unfairly, fraudulently,
6		or unconscionably deceived class members into believing that their
7		purchase agreements were with the individual merchant, when they were
8		not;
9	iii)	Whether AFF's Security Agreements with the Class are void for the reason
10		that AFF does not have a California lender's license;
11	iv)	Whether AFF's scheme of marketing financial products indirectly to
12		consumers without their knowledge is unfair, fraudulent, and
13		unconscionable;
14	v)	Whether AFF's scheme of marketing financial products indirectly to
15		consumers witthout their knowledge violates the California Consumers
16		Legal Remedies Act, Civ.Code §1750 et seq.;
17	vi)	Whether AFF's scheme of marketing financial products indirectly to
18		consumers witthout their knowledge violates the Truth in Lending Act, 15
19		USC 1601 et seq.;
20	vii)	Whether the terms of the loans made by AFF are unconscionable; and,
21		Whether the class has been harmed or damaged and, if so, the appropriate
22		measure of damages, including the nature of the equitable relief to which
23		the class is entitled.
24	c) <b>Ty</b>	vpicality Plaintiff's claims are typical of the claims of the other members of
25	the class because Pla	aintiff's and all of the class members' damages arise from and were caused by
26	purchasing consume	r goods financed by AFF. As a result, the facts and the law regarding AFF's
27	alleged wrongful cor	nduct are identical for Plaintiff and all of the class members.
28	/////	

d) Adequacy: Plaintiff will fairly and adequately protect the interests of the
members of the class, and Plaintiff has no interests that are contrary to or in conflict with those of
the class he seeks to represent. Plaintiff has retained competent counsel experienced in class action
litigation to prosecute this action vigorously.
e) Superiority: A class action is superior to other available means for the fair and
efficient adjudication of this controversy since individual joinder of all members of the class is
impractible. The disposition of Plaintiff's claims in a class action will benefit both the parties and
the Court, because Plaintiff's claims are identical to those of the proposed class and claims and
defenses by the representative party are identical. Class action treatment will permit a large
number of similarly situated persons to prosecute relatively small common claims in a single
forum simultaneously without duplication of expending personal and Court resources in individual
actions. Furthermore, the harm and damage suffered by each individual member of the class may
be relatively small, the burden of individual litigation make it difficult or impossible for individual
members of the class to redress the wrongs done to them. Additionally, important public interest
will be served by addressing the matter as a class action, while individualized litigation would
present the potential for inconsistent or contradictory judgments, which would establish
incompatible standards of conduct for the party opposing the class and would lead to repetitious
trials of the numerous common questions of facts and law.
54. A class action is superior to other available methods for the fair and efficient
adjudication of this controversy. Proper and sufficient notice of this action may be provided to the
class members using AFF's electronic database of customer information and any other customer
contact information in AFF's possession or control.
55. Plaintiffs have suffered irreparable harm and damages as a result of AFF's
wrongful conduct as alleged herein. Absent a representative action, Plaintiffs will continue to
suffer losses, thereby allowing these violations of law to proceed without remedy.
/////

1	
1	

#### FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION

2	

## (Violation of the Consumers Legal Remedies Act,

### 3

### California Civil Code § 1750 et seq.)

- 4
- 56. Plaintiffs incorporate by reference the foregoing allegations.
- 5

6

- Plaintiffs are "consumers" as defined by Civil Code §1760(d).
- 7
- 8 9
- 10
- 11
- 12 13
- 14
- 15
- 16
- 17
- 18
- 19
- 20
- 21 22
- 23
- 24
- 25
- 27
- 26

- 57.
- AFF is a "person" providing "goods" and "services" (services means work, labor, 58. and services for other than a commercial or business use, including services furnished in connection with the sale or repair of goods) to "consumers" as part of a "transaction" as defined in Civil Code § 1761(a), (b), (c), (d) and (e).
- 59. The Consumers Legal Remedies Act applies to AFF's conduct because it covers transactions that are intended to result or that actually resulted in the sale or lease of goods and services to consumers. This district is the proper venue for this action as AFF is doing business within the Northern District of California.
- 60. Defendant has a duty to disclose the terms of sale but refused and failed to do so. Defendant misrepresented the terms of sale, and concealed and failed to disclose the true terms of sale. As the originator of the sales contracts, AFF's practices allowed it to charge exorbitant interest that remained undisclosed to the Plaintiff and class members unless and until they directly contacted AFF of which they had no knowledge at the time of sale. As the Plaintiff and class members were ignorant of the role of AFF in their purchases, they remained ignorant of the terms of those purchases.
- 61. By engaging in the misrepresentations, concealments, and false statements alleged above, Defendant violated Civil Code § 1770(a)(2), (3), (5), (7), (9), (13), (14), (16) and (19).
- 62. Defendant engaged in the acts and practices herein alleged as part of a pattern, plan, and scheme directed at Plaintiff and similarly-situated members of the public, with the intent to deceive and induce the purchase of consumer goods and services at undisclosed and unconscionable interest rates and other loan terms, and increase the cost of those goods and services to the benefit of Defendant, and to the monetary detriment of Plaintiff and the public.

1	63. Plaintiff Facio complied with all obligations required under Civil Code § 1750, et		
2	seq., including requesting that Defendant cure or correct the violations 30 or more days prior to the		
3	filing of this action. Plaintiff Facio is within the class identified in his formal notice. As of the		
4	time of filing, Defendant failed or refused to correct or cure the violations alleged herein.		
5	64. Plaintiff Facio also notified Defendant of the particular alleged violations of §		
6	1770, et seq., and demanded that it correct or cure the violations set for herein. The notice was		
7	given in writing and sent by certified mail, return receipt requested, to the place where the		
8	transaction occurred or to the Defendant's principal place of business. Defendant failed to correct		
9	or cure the violations asserted by Plaintiff within thirty days.		
10	65. As a result of said violations, Plaintiff and class members have suffered and		
11	continue to suffer actual damage, incidental and consequential damages, and request damages,		
12	restitution, injunctive relief, and attorney's fees and costs according to proof pursuant to California		
13	Civil Code § 1780.		
14	66. Defendant committed the above acts willfully, fraudulently, oppressively,		
15	maliciously, and with intent to injure and damage Plaintiff and class members, thus allowing		
16	punitive damages, according to proof.		
17	SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION		
18	(Violation of the Unfair Competition Law,		
19	California Business and Professions Code § 17200 et seq.)		
20	67. Plaintiffs incorporate by reference the foregoing allegations.		
21	68. Under the Unfair Competition Law ("UCL"), unfair competition includes any		
22	"unlawful," "unfair," or "fraudulent" business act or practice.		
23	69. The UCL authorizes equitable relief for violations, under Bus. & Prof. Code		
24	§ 17203.		
25	70. Beginning in November 2014 Defendant committed acts of unfair competition, as		
26	defined by, and in violation of Bus. and Prof. Code § 17200 by:		
27	a. providing loans to California consumers without a valid license to do so;		
28	b. failing to disclose finance terms at the time of sale;		

I		c.	concealing exorbitant and unconscionable interest rates and other loan
2	terms;		
3		d.	refusing and failing to provide consumers with a copy of the Security
4	Agreement;		
5		e.	failing to notify consumers where to obtain loan and financing information;
6		f.	misleading consumers as to the existence of financing by AFF;
7		g.	willfully charging, contracting for, or receiving amounts not authorized by
8	the California	Lender	Finance Law, Cal. Fin. Code §22000 et seq.
9		h.	failing to correct its violations of the California Lender Finance Law within
10	the statutorily	prescril	bed period; and,
11		i.	failing to provide meaningful disclosure of financing provisions in violation
12	of the Truth is	n Lendir	ng Act, ("TILA"), 15 USC 1601 et seq., including improper disclosure of the
13	amount finan	ced, fina	ance charge, payment schedule, total of payments, annual percentage rate,
14	and security i	nterest d	lisclosures.
15	71.	Defend	dant's policies and practices are unlawful, unfair, and fraudulent, and likely
16	to mislead the	e general	public and, consequently, constitute an unlawful, deceptive, and fraudulent
17	business act of	or praction	ce within the meaning of Bus. and Prof. Code § 17200.
18	72.	The ab	ove acts and practices violate Business & Professions Code § 17200, et seq.
19	in that they as	e unlaw	ful, unfair, and fraudulent.
20	73.	As a d	irect result of the aforementioned acts, Defendant received and continues to
21	hold ill-gotter	n gains b	belonging to Plaintiff and members of the class Plaintiff and members of the
22	class seek to	enjoin D	efendant from engaging in said practices which will continue to injure and
23	harm the men	nbers of	the public who unwittingly purchase consumer goods without disclosure of
24	AFF's finance	ing unle	ss and until enjoined from doing so by this Court. Plaintiffs also seek
25	restitution of	all mone	ey and property unlawfully obtained by Defendant from Plaintiffs together
26	with attorney	s' fees a	nd costs according to proof.
27	/////		
28	/////		

Case 3:21-cv-08184 Document 1 Filed 10/20/21 Page 18 of 21 1 THIRD CAUSE OF ACTION 2 **Pled In The Alternative** 3 (Violation of the Unruh Act, Civil Code § 1801, et seq. on behalf of the Class) 4 74. Plaintiffs incorporate by reference the foregoing allegations. 5 75. Plaintiffs plead this cause of action for violation of the Unruh Act in the alternative 6 should there be a determination in this action that Defendant AFF does not provide consumer 7 loans that require licensure in California as described throughout this Complaint. 8 76. Plaintiffs and the Plaintiff Class are "retail buyers" of "goods" under a "retail 9 installment contract" as those terms are defined by Civil Code §§ 1802.4, 1802.1, 1802.6. 77. 10 AFF is a "person" and "retail seller" in the business of selling goods or furnishing 11 services to retail buyers as defined in Civil Code §§ 1802.15 and 1802.3. 12 78. AFF is a "holder" who acquired the retail installment contract or installment 13 account executed, incurred or entered into by a retail buyer, and/or the financing agency or other 14 assignee of the installment contract or account, as defined in Civil Code § 1802.13. 15 79. Defendant has a duty to disclose the terms of sale in a single document that 16 contains the entire agreement of the parties with respect to the cost and terms of payment for the 17 goods and services and other evidences of indebtedness between the parties relating to the transaction. Defendant only provided a bill of sale on the date of purchase and refused and/or 18 19 failed to provide the associated retail installment contract until many months later. (Civ. Code 20 §1803.2.) 21 80. Defendant has a duty to disclose the true terms of sale but refused and failed to do 22 so, including: 23 failing and/or refusing to provide the terms of sale on the bill of sale and a. 24 misrepresenting the terms of sale on the retail installment contract (Civ.Code §1803.3.);

- b. failing and/or refusing to include a description of the goods or services sufficient to identify them on the retail installment contract (Civ.Code §1803.3(a));
- failing and/or refusing to deliver to the buyer at the time of the buyer's c. signature a legible copy of the contract (Civ.Code §1803.7);

25

26

27

1	d. failing and/or refusing to disclose to the buyer before the first transaction is
2	made on a retail installment contract mandatory disclosures in a single written statement
3	(Civ.Code §1810.1); and
4	e. failing and/or refusing to deliver to the buyer for each billing cycle a
5	statement setting forth mandatory disclosures regarding the account balances, finance terms and
6	charges, and payments applied (Civ.Code §1810.3).
7	81. As the originator of the sales contracts, AFF's practices allowed it to charge and
8	collect exorbitant interest that remained undisclosed to the Plaintiffs and the class unless and until
9	class members directly contacted AFF of which they had no knowledge at the time of sale. As the
10	Plaintiff and class members were ignorant of the role of AFF in their purchases, Plaintiff and class
11	members remained ignorant of the terms of those purchases and rights under the contract.
12	82. Defendant engaged in the acts and practices herein alleged as part of a pattern, plan
13	and scheme directed at Plaintiff and similarly-situated members of the public, with intent to
14	deceive and induce the purchase of consumer goods and services at undisclosed and
15	unconscionable interest rates, and increase the cost of those goods to the benefit of Defendant, and
16	to the monetary detriment of Plaintiff and the public.
17	83. Plaintiff requested that Defendant cure or correct the violations 30 or more days
18	prior to the filing of this action, which Defendant failed or refused to do.
19	84. Because Plaintiff and class members were not shown and did not receive a copy of
20	the retail installment contract, they were not aware of nor did they consent to terms under the
21	contract, including the pre-dispute resolution procedure and arbitration provision.
22	85. As a result of said violations, Plaintiffs have suffered and continue to suffer actual
23	damage, incidental and consequential damages, and request restitution, recovery of finance
24	charges and any delinquency, collection or other allowable fees imposed under the contract
25	(Civ.Code §1812.7), plus attorney's fees and costs according to proof. (Civ.Code §1811.1 and
26	Code Civ. Pro. §1021.5.)
27	86. Defendant committed the above acts willfully, fraudulently, oppressively,

maliciously, and with intent to injure and damage Plaintiff and class members, thus allowing the

1	buyer to recover an amount equal to three times the total of the finance charges and any
2	delinquency, collection, extension, deferral or refinance charges imposed, contracted for or
3	received, according to proof. (Civ. Code §1812.9.)
4	FOURTH CAUSE OF ACTION
5	(Money Had and Received)
6	87. Plaintiffs incorporate by reference the foregoing allegations.
7	88. AFF received money belonging to Plaintiff and class members when it
8	electronically transferred Plaintiff's and class members' money from their bank accounts. AFF
9	benefited from the receipt of Plaintiff's and class members' money and retained it. AFF is
10	obligated to make restitution to Plaintiff and class members for their purchases of financed
11	products.
12	PRAYER FOR RELIEF
13	THEREFORE, Plaintiff prays that the Court:
14	1. Certify this matter as a class action with the class defined as set forth above,
15	appoint Plaintiff Larry Facio as representative of the Class, and appoint his attorneys as Class
16	Counsel;
17	2. Declare that AFF's Security Agreements are loans subject to the California Finance
18	Lenders Law;
19	3. Declare that AFF did not have the licensing required by the California Finance
20	Lenders Law necessary to offer, make and fund loans in California;
21	4. Declare that AFF's Security Agreements are void and that no person has any right
22	to collect or receive any principal, charges, or recompense in connection with the transaction; and
23	all payments received to date are to be refunded;
24	5. Preliminarily and permanently enjoin AFF from engaging in the practices
25	delineated in the Complaint which continue to injure and harm the members of the public who
26	unwittingly purchase consumer goods subject to AFF loans made in violation of federal and state
27	consumer protection statutes;
28	/////

1	6.	6. Enter an order for restitution to the Class for all principal, interest, charges, or				
2	recompense i	compense in connection with the transaction paid to AFF during the class period and				
3	disgorgement of all profits;					
4	7.	Award monetary damages, in	ncludin	g incidental and consequential damages,		
5	according to	proof;				
6	8.	Award all statutory, treble, o	or puniti	ve damages available under the law;		
7	9.	Award Plaintiffs and those s	imilarly	situated, reasonable attorneys' fees and costs		
8	of suit; and,					
9	10.	Award Plaintiff and those sin	milarly	situated such other and further relief as the		
10	Court may de	eem appropriate, just, and prop	er.			
11	DATED: Oct	ober 20, 2021	GRE	EN & NOBLIN, P.C.		
12			By: _	/s/ Robert S. Green		
13				ROBERT S. GREEN		
14				Robert Noblin		
15			2200	n M. Sumer Larkspur Landing Circle, Suite 101		
16				pur, CA 94939 hone: (415) 477-6700		
17			Facsir	mile: (415) 477-6710 : gnecf@classcounsel.com		
18						
19				L. Hinton OFFICE OF A.L. HINTON		
20				W. Shaw Avenue, Suite B7 o, CA 93711		
21			Telepl	hone: (559) 691-6900 nile: (559) 421-0373		
22				: <u>alicia@alhintonlaw.com</u>		
23			James	C. Sturdevant		
24				STURDEVANT LAW FIRM, APC Civic Center Drive, Suite 200		
25			San R	afaelo, CA 94903		
26			Facsir	hone: (415) 477-2410 nile: (4154) 492-2810		
27				: jsturdevant@sturdevantlaw.com		
28				neys for Plaintiff, RY FACIO		

### Case 3:21-cv-08184 Document 1-1 Filed 10/20/21 Page 2 of 2

LIFTING-LOWERING-OFF RUM

### **California Wheels & Tires**

2615 Fulton Ave Sacramento, CA 95821 916-486-1500 ADR00283021

Customer Copy
Workorder #223

Printed: 4:45:37 PM 9/28/2017 Ordered on Thursday, September 28, 2017 CALIFORNIA WHEELS & 2615 FULTON AVE PO# **TERMS** PHONE **CSH** SACRAMENTO, CA 95821 916-717-7680 DEEJAY DJ Cash http://www.CaliforniaWheels.com PRD DATE **ENGINE SIZE** TRANSMISSION NOITS Thank you for your business **PARTS** LABOR DISC TOTAL Code QTY FET 7018 TOYO OPEN OT 500.00 \$2,000.00 DJ Transaction 002444 **PKTI** \$800.00 MB 15.00 \$60.00 DJ \$800.00 NTF 1.75 \$7.00 DJ DEBIT CARD SALE Total 28-Sep-2017 4:45:28P ON TIRES \*\*\* \$800.00 | Method: EMV AL 70.00 \$70.00 DJ LARRY A FACIO JR Ref #: 727100522410 Auth #: 325494 MID: \*\*\*\*\*\*7888 AID: A0000000980840 AthNtwkNm: VISA SIGNATURE VERIFIED RtInd: CREDIT LIFTING-LOWERING-OFF ROAD

Welcome, We appreciate your business. \$2,000.00 **Parts** \$2,000.00 Taxable **\*LARRY FACIO** \$137.00 Labor \$130.00 Non-Taxable Dep: \$0.00 \$155.00 Freight Local Tax VISA-M/C \$800.00 Other \$7.00 FET \$0.00 \$2,292.00 **Estimate** \$0.00 Supplies **Balance** \$1,492.00

Parts and Labor warranties 100% for 90 days or 4000 miles, whichever comes first. This warranty limited to the work on this form only. Vehicle must be returned to our shop at customer's expense, to honor warranty. I hereby authorize the repair work to be done along with the necessary materials. You and your employees may operate vehicle for purposes of testing, inspection or delivery at my risk. An express Mechanic?s lien is acknowledged on vehicle to secure the amount of repairs thereto. You will not be held responsible for loss or damage to vehicle or articles left in vehicle in case of fire, theft, accident or any other cause beyond your control. Because of the extent of the teardown and inspection, the vehicle may not perform as well as before. No refunds on installed Tires and or Wheels, Special Orders or discontinued items. All returns are subject to 15% handling charge. Any deposits are subject to forfeit if cancelled.

Print Name	Signature	Date	



то	AMERICAN FIRST FINANCE
SCAN EMAIL	documents@americanfirstfinance.com

Account Number	1-253421-1
Buyer Name	LARRY ANTHONY FACIO
Co-Buyer Name	
Store Location Name	Roseville Tires & Wheels LLC
Application Date	09/23/2017
Delivery Date	09/28/2017

#### Check List:

- Y Make sure application is signed
- Y Check for Warranty Signature (if applicable)
- Y Check for Customer signature
- Y Check for Dealer signature

#### Documents needed for before delivery:

- Y Signed Application
- Y Signed Agreement (All pages)
- Y Copy of Government issued Photo ID
- Y Copy of Merchandise Ticket or Bill of Sale (Sale Receipt)

### INCLUDE THIS COVERSHEET WITH ALL CONTRACT DOCUMENTS

If you do not have a scanner, you can fax this cover page and all required documents to 972-885-5193.

Roseville Tires & Wheels LLC

### **SECURITY AGREEMENT**

Agreement Date: 09/28/2017 Finance Charge Start Date: 09/28/2017 Account Number: 1-253421-1

Buyer: LARRY ANTHONY FACIO	SEC
Address: 2656 18th Street	A(
Sacramento, CA 95818-0000	Finance Ch
	A
Buyer:	Seller: Roseville Tires & Wheels LLC
Address:	2615 Fulton Ave
	Sacramento, CA 95821-0000
	916-486-1500

**Description of Goods and/or Services Being Purchased on Credit:** The "Goods" subject to this Security Agreement are those Goods being sold described in the Bill of Sale provided at time of signing, herein incorporated by reference. The "Services" are those Services being sold described in the Bill of Sale, provided at the time of signing, herein incorporated by reference. **The Bill of Sale is fully integrated into this Security Agreement.** 

ANNUAL PERCENTAGE RATE The cost of your credit as a yearly rate.			FINANCE CHARGE the dollar amount the redit will cost you.	Amount Financed The amount of credit provided to you or on your behalf.	Total of Payments The amount you will have paid after you have made all payments as scheduled.	Total Sale Price The total cost of your purchase on credit, including your down payment of \$800.00 \$4,398.77
144.59	%		\$2,106.77	\$1,492.00	\$3,598.77	ψ+,000.77
			Number of Payments	Amount of Payments	When Payr	nents are Due
Your Payment Sche	edule Will B	le:	38	\$92.28	Every two weeks starting	on 10/06/2017
			1	\$92.13	03/22/2019	
Security Interest:			are giving a security inte	□any Motor V ☑the ACH De	you are purchasing, /ehicle the Goods are attached t bit Authorization below.	
Late Charge:		lf yo nav		nt in full within 10 days after _ whichever is less.	it is due, you will be charged a la	ite fee equal to 5.00% of the
Prepayment:  If you pay off early, you  ☐may ☑ will not have to pay a penalty. A prepayment penalty/charge may not be imposed for paying all or part of the principal balance before the date on which the principal is due.  ☑may ☐ will not be entitled to a refund of part of the finance charge						
See the terms and conditions below for information about nonpayment, default, and any required repayment in full before the scheduled date and prepayment penalties.						

Itemization of Amount Financed	
(1) The Cash Price of Goods and/or Services before sales tax	\$2,137.00
(2) Sales Tax	\$155.00
(3) Cash Price after Sales Tax (1+2)	\$2,292.00
(4) Cash Down Payment	\$800.00
(5) Amount Financed (3 minus 4)	\$1,492.00

#### Terms and Conditions

**Definitions.** Certain words used in this Agreement have special meanings. The word "Agreement" means this Security Agreement. The words "you" and "your" mean each buyer who has signed this Agreement, jointly and individually. The words "we," "us," and "our" mean the seller identified on the first page of this Agreement, its successors and assigns. The word "Goods" means the Goods referenced in the Description of Goods and Services. The word "Services" means the services referenced in the Description of Goods and Services via this credit transaction.

Purchase and Use of Goods. You agree that the Goods purchased are for your own personal use and will not be re-sold before the termination of this Agreement. Further, you agree that the Goods will be kept in good, working condition throughout the term of this Agreement. Any damages or loss of the Goods will be your responsibility.

Warranty. Any warranty information is provided to you separately, in writing.

Promise to pay. In return for the property sold to you, you promise to pay us a time price differential calculated on the outstanding principal balance at the rate that yields the annual percentage rate above. Your payments are set forth above in consecutive payments in the amounts and on the dates stated above. You agree to pay in cash or as otherwise authorized under this Agreement on or before the close of business on the payment due date. You also agree to pay any additional amounts according to the terms and conditions of this Agreement. We begin to earn the finance charge on <a href="mailto:operate">op/28/2017</a> ("Finance Charge Start Date"). We do not intend to charge or collect, and you do not agree to pay, any finance charge or fee, that is more than the maximum amount permitted for this sale by state or federal law. If you pay a finance charge or fee that is contrary to this provision, we will, instead, apply it first to reduce the principal balance, and when the principal has been paid in full, refund it to you.

Prepayment. If you prepay in full or in part, you will not incur a penalty. You may prepay this Agreement in full or in part at any time. Any partial prepayment will not excuse any later scheduled payments until you pay in full. You will have satisfied your obligations under this Agreement if within 90 Days from the agreement date you are not in default under this Agreement and you pay to us the then current principal balance, less all amounts of accrued interest paid by you. Early payments may decrease the amount of charges that accrue, and late payments may increase the amount of charges that accrue.

Application of Payments. Payments will be applied in the following order: (i) uncollected fees, (ii) default fees, (iii) accrued interest, then (iv) principal.

Late Payment and NSF Fee (if any). If you fail to pay any payment in full within 10 days after it is due, you will be charged a late fee equal to of the payment due or \$10.00 \_\_\_\_\_, whichever is less. If you make payment of any sum due under this Agreement by means of a check, order or draft drawn on a financial institution and such institution refuses payment thereof because you do not have sufficient funds in or credit with such institution, you agree to pay us an insufficient check charge of \$15.00 \_\_\_\_\_. To the extent permitted by law, we may charge all costs and expenses incurred in connection with the collection of the amount of the payment or draft, including reasonable attorney's fees.

Security Agreement. To secure this obligation, you grant the seller a purchase money security interest in the Goods and all proceeds from it. You grant us a security interest in any motor vehicle the Goods have been attached to. By giving us a security interest in the Goods and any motor vehicle the Goods are attached to, you represent and agree to the following during the term of this Agreement:

- 1. You will defend our interests in the Goods against claims made by anyone else. You will do whatever is necessary to keep our claim to the Goods ahead of the claim of anyone else.
- 2. The security interest you are giving us in the Goods comes ahead of the claim of any other of your general or secured creditors. You agree to sign any additional documents or provide us with any additional information we may require to keep our claim to the Goods ahead of the claim of anyone else. You will not do anything to change our interest in the Goods.
- 3. You will keep the Goods in your possession in good condition and repair. You will use the Goods for their intended and lawful purposes. Unless otherwise agreed in writing, the Goods will be located at your address listed in this Agreement. You agree that you are purchasing the Goods for your personal use and that during the terms of this Agreement you will make no modifications for any other use.
- 4. You will not attempt to sell the Goods or otherwise transfer any rights in the Goods to anyone else, without our prior written consent.
- 5. You will notify us of any loss or damage to the Goods. You will provide us reasonable access to the Goods for the purpose of inspection. Our entry and inspection must be accomplished lawfully, and without breaching the peace.

Scheduled Payment Amounts. The Payment Schedule above assumes all of your payments will be made on time. If you are late making a payment, the amount of your last payment may be greater than disclosed in the Payment Schedule. Likewise, if you are late making a payment, the charges that accrue and owe may be greater than disclosed above. Our charges continue to accrue on the delinquent portion of any scheduled payment at the rate provided in this Agreement until the payment is made in full, and regardless of whether you have been charged a late fee because of the delinquent payment.

### Optional Authorization to Initiate Recurring Electronic Fund Transfers (ACH Debits)

Debit Authorization. By choosing to sign "yes," you authorize us to make the debit entries authorized, on the bank account number that you provided to us. You authorize us to electronically debit funds from your bank account using your bank routing numbers or Card information in the amount of each payment provided in the payment schedule above, on or after the dates in the payment schedule above. This authorization extends to any Visa, Master Card, Discover or American Express card (Card) that you have provided us. If there is any missing or erroneous information regarding Your Bank Account, or Card, then you authorize us to verify and correct such information. You have given us certain information from Your Bank Account and Card so that we can verify the account number and routing number. You acknowledge that Your Bank Account(s) and Card(s) provide access to a legitimate, open, and active account.

Re-Initiation and Varying Amounts. If your bank returns a debit entry for insufficient funds, that we submitted using your bank routing number, then we are limited to two additional debits using that bank routing number. You further authorize your bank to debit Your Bank Account for the amount of the EFT entry. You have the right to receive notice if the recurring transfers authorized herein will vary in amount, outside of the range disclosed in this paragraph. You acknowledge that we elected to offer you a specified range of amounts for electronic debit(s) (in lieu of providing the notice of transfers varying in amount). The amount of any recurring ACH debit will range from (i) \$1 based on your prepayment history, to (ii) the amount of a scheduled payment combined with the amount past due, as provided in this Agreement. For any recurring electronic debit outside this specified range, we will send you notice. Therefore, by agreeing to the terms of this Authorization you choose to only receive notice when a recurring electronic debit amount exceeds the range

Compliance and Effective Date. You acknowledge that the origination of EFT transactions to Your Bank Account must comply with the provisions of U.S. law. The effective date of the transaction is date Agreement Date above.

Optional Authorization and Revocation of Authorization. You do not have to authorize recurring ACH or electronic debits and can opt out by NOT signing below. If you do not opt out below you may revoke your recurring automated clearinghouse debit and Card authorization in the future by providing your bank or us notice of your termination of such authorization(s) in such time and manner as to afford your bank or us a reasonable opportunity to act on your instructions. You may revoke this ACH Credit and Debit Authorization by mailing us a written revocation to American First Finance P. O. Box 565848 Dallas, TX 75356-0000 that we receive at least three (3) days before the proposed effective date of the revocation.

You are not required to agree to this Optional Authorization to Initiate Recurring Electronic Fund Transfers to obtain this credit. If you do not wish to give

uthorization for EFT, uncheck the	"Yes" box.	
X YES to Recurring Debts	Signature CARRY ANTHOM FULLO	Date: 9/28/2017
YES to Recurring Debts	Signature:	Date:

Events of Default. Except as prohibited by law, you will be in default if (1) you fail to make a payment as required by this Agreement, including the return of any ACH debit entry authorized by you, or (2) the prospect of payment, performance, or realization of the Goods is significantly impaired. If you are in default, you may be entitled to receive notice of the default and you may have the right to cure the default.

Our Rights Upon Default. If you are in default after any applicable notice and beyond any applicable cure period, you agree that we may take any of the following actions to the extent allowed by applicable law (1) we may accelerate the maturity of any amounts due to us and demand immediate payment of the same; (2) we may continue to charge you charges on any unpaid amounts, at the rates provided in this Agreement; (3) we may require you to make the Goods available to us at a place we designate that is reasonably convenient to you and us, (4) we may immediately take possession of the Goods and any vehicle the goods are attached to by legal process or lawful self-help, (5) upon taking possession of the Goods and any vehicle the goods are attached to, we may sell the Goods and any vehicle the goods are attached to and apply what we receive as provided by law to our reasonable expenses and then toward your obligations; (6) except as prohibited by law, we may sue you including for additional amounts if the proceeds of a sale do not pay all of the amounts you owe us; (7) we may exercise any of our rights described in the paragraph below entitled "Debit Authorization to Initiate Electronic Fund Transfer Upon Default;" and (8) we may exercise any other rights or remedies allowed by this Agreement or at law. You agree that if notice is required to be given to you of an intended sale or transfer of the Goods and any vehicle the goods are attached to, notice is reasonable if given at least 10 days before the date of the intended sale or transfer or such other period as may be required by law. If an event of default occurs as to any one of you, we may exercise our remedies against any or all of you. Except as provided in the provisions titled "Agreements for Resolving Disputes," if you default, you agree to pay our costs for collecting amounts owing, including, to the extent allowed by law, court costs, reasonable attorneys' fees when referred to an attorney who is not a salaried employee of ours, and fees for repossession, repair, storage and sale of the Goods and any vehicle the goods are attached to securing this Agreement.

Debit Authorization to Initiate Electronic Fund Transfer Upon Default. On or after the date in which you default, and subject to any cure rights you may have, you authorize us to electronically debit your bank account or Card using bank routing numbers or card numbers provided to us. You authorize such debit in the amount of the outstanding past due balance. This authorization extends to any bank routing number you provided, or to the Visa, Master Card, Discover or American Express card (Card) numbers that you have provided us. If any payment is late, you also authorize us to debit funds from your Bank Account(s) and/or Card to make a separate one-time electronic fund transfer from your account to collect the late fee described above. If your bank returns a debit entry for insufficient funds, that we submitted using your bank routing number, then we are limited to two additional debits using that bank routing number. You further authorize your bank to debit Your Bank Account for the amount of the EFT entry. You acknowledge that the origination of EFT transactions to Your Bank Account must comply with the provisions of U.S. law. If there is any missing or erroneous information regarding Your Bank Account or depository or Card, then you authorize us to verify and correct such information. You have given us certain information from Your Bank Account and Card so that we can verify the account number and routing number and you acknowledge that Your Bank Account(s) and Card(s) provide access to a

DocuSign Envelope ID: 0

### Case 3:21-cv-08184 Document 1-2 Filed 10/20/21 Page 6 of 12

legitimate, open, and active account. You may revoke your automated clearinghouse debit and Card authorization by providing your bank or us notice of your termination of such authorization(s) in such time and manner as to afford your bank or us a reasonable opportunity to act on your instructions. You may revoke this ACH Credit and Debit Authorization by mailing us a written revocation to American First Finance

P. O. Box 565848 Dallas, TX 75356-0000 that we receive at least three (3) days before the proposed effective date of the revocation.

The effective date of the transaction is date Agreement Date above. The authorization provided in this paragraph applies, even if you do not elect to provide a recurring debit authorization below.

Security. Under the Federal Reserve Board's Official Staff Commentary to Regulation Z §12 CFR 1026, we disclosed our interest in the ACH Authorization as a security interest. We provide this disclosure for federal Truth-in-Lending purposes only. Federal and this state's law do not clearly address whether our interest in the ACH Authorization is a "security interest."

Independent Obligations. Each person who signs this Agreement agrees to pay this Agreement according to its terms. The means (1) you must pay this Agreement even is someone else has also signed it; (2) we may release a co-buyer or guarantor and you will still be obligated to this Agreement; (3) we may release any security and you will still be obligated to pay this Agreement; (4) if we give up any of our rights, it will not affect your duty to pay this Agreement; or (5) if we renew or extend this Agreement, you will still have a duty to pay this Agreement.

Telephone Calls – Monitoring. You agree that if you are past due or in default, you will accept calls from us or a third party we have contracted with regarding the collection of your Account, unless prohibited by law. If wireless or cellular telephone numbers are associated with your Account, you agree that we may place calls to those numbers which may result in charges from your wireless or cellular carrier. You understand these calls could be automatically dialed and a recorded message may be played. You agree such calls will not be unsolicited calls for purposes of state and federal law. You also agree that, from time to time, we may monitor telephone conversations between you and us to assure the quality of our customer service.

Email and SMS/Text Messaging. You consent that we or in the event that your account is turned over to a third party for collections, our agents may contact you via email to any email address associated with your account, unless prohibited by law. In addition, you consent that we may transmit SMS/text messages to any wireless telephone number provided to us in the history of servicing this security agreement to communicate about the transaction, unless prohibited by law. You understand these contacts could be automatically generated and a standard message may be transmitted. You agree such contact is not an unsolicited contact for purposes of state and federal law. You agree that we may transmit SMS/Text messages to wireless telephone numbers associated with your account which may result in charges from your wireless carrier. If you wish to opt-out from either email or SMS/text messages, please contact us at American First Finance P. O. Box 565848 Dallas, TX 75356-0000 or 855-721-1188

Bankruptcy. You represent that you are not currently a debtor in any bankruptcy proceeding and that you have no intention of filing bankruptcy under any chapter of the US Bankruptcy code during the term of this transaction or within 90 days following the completion of this transaction. Any notice(s) of any future bankruptcy petition and all subsequent filings, motions, orders or correspondence shall be mailed or sent by express courier to: American First Finance

P. O. Box 565848 Dallas, TX 75356-0000

You agree any written or oral communication concerning a bankruptcy with our local office.

identified above, is null and void and of no effect.

**Credit Reporting.** You agree that we may make inquiries concerning your credit history and standing, and we may report information concerning your performance under this Agreement to credit reporting agencies. Late payments, missed payments or other defaults may be reflected in your credit report.

Credit Report Notice. As required by law, you are hereby notified that a negative credit report reflecting on your credit record may be submitted to a credit reporting agency if you fail to fulfill the terms of your credit obligations.

**Notices**. We meet all requirements for sending you a notice of any kind if we send it to you by means of United States mail at your most recent address as reflected in our records.

Notices of Disputed Debts. You must send notices of disputed debts, including an instrument attempted to be tendered in full satisfaction of a debt, by writing to the following: American First Finance P. O. Box 565848 Dallas, TX 75356-0000\_\_\_\_\_\_.

**Assignment.** This Agreement will be binding upon you, your heirs and assigns; however, you may not assign your obligations under this Agreement without our prior written consent.

Waivers. Neither our failure to exercise any of our rights under this Agreement, nor our delay in enforcing or exercising any of our rights, will waive those rights. Furthermore, if we waive any right under this Agreement on one occasion, that waiver will not operate as a waiver as to any other occasion. We may accept late or partial payments, even if marked "paid in full," "full satisfaction," or similar terms attempting to affect an accord and satisfaction without losing any rights under this Agreement.

Limitation on Damages. In the event of any dispute, claim or other controversy relating to this Agreement or any party's actions or inactions relating in any respect to this Agreement, and whether the underlying dispute, claim or controversy is based on contract law, tort law or any other law or theory of liability, you and we agree that, to the maximum extent permitted by law, neither you nor we shall be entitled to recover punitive damages. The laws of some states prohibit the exclusion or limitation of certain implied warranties and remedies for their breach. This provision may not apply to you to the extent prohibited by applicable law.

Governing Law. California law will govern this agreement, except that the Federal Arbitration Act will govern the "Agreements for Resolving Disputes."

Severability. If any part of this Agreement is found to be unenforceable, that part will be deemed severed from the Agreement and the remaining provisions will be enforced to the fullest extent allowed by law.

NOTICE: ANY HOLDER OF THIS CONSUMER CREDIT CONTRACT IS SUBJECT TO ALL CLAIMS AND DEFENSES WHICH THE DEBTOR COULD ASSERT AGAINST THE SELLER OF GOODS OR SERVICES OBTAINED PURSUANT HERETO OR WITH THE PROCEEDS HEREOF. RECOVERY HEREUNDER BY THE DEBTOR SHALL NOT EXCEED AMOUNTS PAID BY THE DEBTOR HEREUNDER.

### Case 3:21-cv-08184 Document 1-2 Filed 10/20/21 Page 7 of 12

#### AGREEMENTS FOR RESOLVING DISPUTES; CERTAIN DEFINITIONS

The Pre-Dispute Resolution Procedure, Arbitration Provision and Jury Trial Waiver set forth below govern "Claims" you assert against us or any "related party" of ours and "Claims" we or any related party assert against you. For purposes of this Agreement, our "related parties" include all parent companies, subsidiaries and affiliates of ours and our and their employees, directors, officers, shareholders, governors, managers and members. The term "Claim" means any claim, dispute or controversy between you and us (or our related parties) that arises from or relates in any way to this Agreement or any services you request or we provide under this Agreement ("Services"); any of our marketing, advertising, solicitations and conduct relating to your request for Services; our collection of any amounts you owe; or our disclosure of or failure to protect any information about you. "Claim" is to be given the broadest possible meaning and includes claims of every kind and nature, including but not limited to, initial claims, counterclaims, cross-claims and third-party claims, and claims based on any constitution, statute, regulation, ordinance, common law rule (including rules relating to contracts, negligence, fraud or other intentional wrongs) and equity. It includes disputes that seek relief of any type, including damages and/or injunctive, declaratory or other equitable relief. Notwithstanding the foregoing, "Claim" does not include any individual action brought by you in small claims court or your state's equivalent court, unless such action is transferred, removed, or appealed to a different court. In addition, except as set forth in the immediately following sentence, "Claim" does not include disputes about the validity, enforceability, coverage or scope of the Arbitration Provision or any part thereof (including, without limitation, Sections 5(C), (D) and/or (E) of the Arbitration Provision (the "Class Action and Multi-Party Claim Waiver"), the clause in the second sentence of Section 10 of the Arbitration Provision beginning with the words "provided, however," and/or this sentence); all such disputes are for a court and not an arbitrator to decide. However, any dispute or argument that concerns the validity or enforceability of the Agreement as a whole is for the arbitrator, not a court, to decide. "Claim" also does not include any "self-help remedy" (that is, any steps taken to enforce rights without a determination by a court or arbitrator, for example, repossession and/or re-titling of a motor vehicle) or any individual action by you or us to prevent the other party from using any self-help remedy, so long as such self-help remedy or individual judicial action does not involve a request for monetary relief of any kind.

#### PRE-DISPUTE RESOLUTION PROCEDURE

Before either you, we or any related party commences RIGHT TO REJECT ARBITRATION. If you do not want this Arbitration Provision to apply, you may reject it within 30 days after the date of this Agreement by delivering to us at American First Finance, Attn: Legal Department, P. O. Box 565848 Dallas, TX 75356-0000 , a written rejection notice which: (a) provides your name and address and the date of this Agreement; and (b) states that you are rejecting the Arbitration Provision in the Agreement. If you want proof of the date of such a notice, you should send the rejection notice by "certified mail, return receipt requested." If you use such a method, we will reimburse you for the postage upon your request. Nobody else can reject arbitration for you (except an attorney at law you have personally retained); this is the only way you can reject arbitration. Your rejection of arbitration will not affect your right to Services or the terms of this Agreement (other than this Arbitration Provision).

- ARBITRATION ELECTION. A Proceeding may be commenced after the Complaining Party complies with the Pre-Dispute Resolution Procedure. The Complaining Party may commence the Proceeding either as a lawsuit or arbitration by following the appropriate filing procedures for the court or the arbitration administrator selected by the Complaining Party in accordance with this Section 2. If a lawsuit is filed, the Defending Party may elect to demand arbitration under this Arbitration Provision of some or all of the Claims asserted in the lawsuit. To avoid piece-meal Proceedings to the extent possible, the Complaining Party must assert in a single lawsuit or arbitration all of the Claims of which the Complaining Party is aware and the Defending Party must demand arbitration with respect to all or none of the Complaining Party's Claims. Also, if the Complaining Party initially asserts a Claim in a lawsuit on an individual basis but then seeks to assert the Claim on a class, representative or multi-party basis, the Defending Party may make such a demand. A demand to arbitrate a Claim may be given in papers or motions in a lawsuit. If you demand that we arbitrate a Claim initially brought against you in a lawsuit, your demand will constitute your consent to arbitrate the Claim with the administrator of our choice, even if the administrator we choose does not typically handle arbitration proceedings initiated against consumers. Any arbitration Proceeding shall be conducted pursuant to this Arbitration Provision and the applicable rules of the arbitration administrator in effect at the time the arbitration is commenced. The arbitration administrator will be the American Arbitration Association ("AAA"), 1633 Broadway, 10th Floor, New York, NY 10019, www.adr.org.; JAMS, 620 Eighth Avenue, 34th Floor, New York, NY 10018, www.jamsadr.org; or any other company selected by mutual agreement of the parties. If both AAA and JAMS cannot or will not serve and the parties are unable to select an arbitration administrator by mutual consent, the administrator will be selected by a court. Notwithstanding any language in this Arbitration Provision to the contrary, no arbitration may be administered, without the consent of all parties to the arbitration, by any arbitration administrator that has in place a formal or informal policy that is inconsistent with the Class Action and Multi- Party Claim Waiver. The arbitrator will be selected under the administrator's rules, except that the arbitrator must be a lawyer with at least ten years of experience or a retired judge unless the parties agree otherwise.
- NON-WAIVER. Even if all parties have elected to litigate a Claim in court, you or we may elect arbitration with respect to any Claim made by a new party or any new Claim asserted in that lawsuit (including a Claim initially asserted on an individual basis but modified to be asserted on a class, representative or multi-party basis), and nothing in that litigation shall constitute a waiver of any rights under this Arbitration Provision. This Arbitration Provision will apply to all Claims, even if the facts and circumstances giving rise to the Claims existed before the effective date of this Arbitration Provision.
- LOCATION AND COSTS. The arbitrator may decide that an in-person hearing is unnecessary and that he or she can resolve the Claim based on the papers submitted by the parties and/or through a telephone hearing. However, any arbitration hearing that you attend will take place in a location that is reasonably convenient for you. We will consider any good faith request you make for us to pay the administrator's or arbitrator's filing, administrative, hearing and/or other fees if you cannot obtain a waiver of such fees from the administrator and we will not seek or accept reimbursement of any such fees we agree to pay. We will also pay any fees or expenses we are required by law to pay or that we must pay in order for this Arbitration Provision to be enforced. We will pay the reasonable fees and costs you incur for your attorneys, experts and witnesses if you are the prevailing party or if we are required to pay such amounts by applicable law or by the administrator's rules. The arbitrator shall not limit the attorneys' fees and costs to which you are entitled because your Claim is for a small amount. Notwithstanding any language in this Arbitration Provision to the contrary, if the arbitrator finds that any Claim or defense is frivolous or asserted for an improper purpose (as measured by the standards set forth in Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 11(b)), then the arbitrator may award attorneys' and other fees related to such Claim or defense to the injured party so long as such power does not impair the enforceability of this Arbitration Provision.

- NO CLASS ACTIONS OR SIMILAR PROCEEDINGS: SPECIAL FEATURES OF ARBITRATION. IF YOU OR WE ELECT TO ARBITRATE A CLAIM. NEITHER YOU NOR WE WILL HAVE THE RIGHT TO: (A) HAVE A COURT OR A JURY DECIDE THE CLAIM; (B) OBTAIN INFORMATION PRIOR TO THE HEARING TO THE SAME EXTENT THAT YOU OR WE COULD IN COURT; (C) PARTICIPATE IN A CLASS ACTION IN COURT OR IN ARBITRATION, EITHER AS A CLASS REPRESENTATIVE, CLASS MEMBER OR CLASS OPPONENT; (D) ACT AS A PRIVATE ATTORNEY GENERAL IN COURT OR IN ARBITRATION; OR (E) JOIN OR CONSOLIDATE CLAIM(S) INVOLVING YOU WITH CLAIMS INVOLVING ANY OTHER PERSON. THE RIGHT TO APPEAL IS MORE LIMITED IN ARBITRATION THAN IN COURT. OTHER RIGHTS THAT YOU WOULD HAVE IF YOU WENT TO COURT MAY ALSO NOT BE AVAILABLE IN ARBITRATION.
- GETTING INFORMATION. In addition to the parties' rights under the administrator's rules to obtain information before the hearing, either party may ask the arbitrator for more information from the other party. The arbitrator will decide the issue in his or her sole discretion, after allowing the other party the opportunity to object.
- SPECIAL PAYMENT. If (a) you submit a Claim Notice on your own behalf (and not on behalf of any other party) and comply with all of the requirements (including timing and confidentiality requirements) of the Pre-Dispute Resolution Procedure; (b) we refuse to provide you with the money damages you request; and (c) an arbitrator issues you an award that is greater than the latest money damages you requested at least ten days before the date the arbitrator was selected, then we will:
  - pay you the amount of the award or \$10,000 ("the alternative payment"), whichever is greater; and
  - pay your attorney, if any, a premium in addition to the amount of attorneys' fees, and expenses (including expert witness fees and costs) that was awarded by the arbitrator in this arbitration in the amount equal to the lesser of \$2,500 or fifty percent of the arbitrator's attorneys' fees award ("the attorney premium").

The right to attorneys' fees and expenses discussed in this section supplements any right to attorneys' fees and expenses you may have under applicable law. Thus, if you would be entitled to a larger amount under the applicable law, this provision does not preclude the arbitrator from awarding you that amount. However, you may not recover duplicative or multiplier awards of attorneys' fees or costs.

- EFFECT OF ARBITRATION AWARD. Any court with jurisdiction may enter judgment upon the arbitrator's award. The arbitrator's award will be final and binding, except for: (1) any appeal right under the Federal Arbitration Act, 9 U.S.C. §1, et seg. (the "FAA"); and (2) Claims involving more than \$50,000 (including Claims that may reasonably require injunctive relief costing more than \$50,000). For Claims involving more than \$50,000, any party may appeal the award to a three-arbitrator panel appointed by the administrator, which will reconsider *de novo* any aspect of the initial award that is appealed. The panel's decision will be final and binding, except for any appeal right under the FAA. Costs in connection with any such appeal will be borne in accordance with Section 4 of this Arbitration Provision.
- GOVERNING LAW. This Arbitration Provision is made pursuant to a transaction involving interstate commerce and shall be governed by the FAA, and not Federal or state rules of civil procedure or evidence or any state laws that pertain specifically to arbitration. The arbitrator is bound by the terms of this Arbitration Provision. The arbitrator shall follow applicable substantive law to the extent consistent with the FAA, applicable statutes of limitation and applicable privilege rules, and shall be authorized to award all remedies available in an individual lawsuit under applicable substantive law, including, without limitation, compensatory, statutory and punitive damages (which shall be governed by the constitutional standards applicable in judicial proceedings), declaratory, injunctive and other equitable relief, and attorneys' fees and costs. The arbitrator shall issue a reasoned written decision sufficient to explain the essential findings and conclusions on which the award is based.
- SURVIVAL, SEVERABILITY, PRIMACY. This Arbitration Provision shall survive the full payment of any amounts due under this Agreement; any rescission or cancellation of this Agreement; any exercise of a self-help remedy; our sale or transfer of this Agreement or our rights under this Agreement; any legal proceeding by us to collect a debt owed by you; and your (or our) bankruptcy. If any part of this Arbitration Provision cannot be enforced, the rest of this Arbitration Provision will continue to apply; provided, however, that if Section 5(C), (D) and/or (E) is declared invalid in a proceeding between you and us, without in any way impairing the right to appeal such decision, this entire Arbitration Provision (other than this sentence) shall be null and void in such proceeding. In the event of any conflict or inconsistency between this Arbitration Provision and the administrator's rules or the rest of this Agreement, this Arbitration Provision will govern.
- JURY TRIAL WAIVER. YOU AND WE ACKNOWLEDGE THAT THE RIGHT TO TRIAL BY JURY IS A CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHT, BUT THAT IT MAY BE WAIVED UNDER CERTAIN CIRCUMSTANCES. TO THE EXTENT PERMITTED BY LAW, YOU AND WE, AFTER HAVING HAD THE OPPORTUNITY TO CONSULT WITH COUNSEL, KNOWINGLY AND VOLUNTARILY, AND FOR THE MUTUAL BENEFIT OF ALL PARTIES, WAIVE ANY RIGHT TO TRIAL BY JURY IN THE EVENT OF LITIGATION ARISING OUT OF OR RELATED TO THIS AGREEMENT.

#### Privacy Policy

We respect the privacy of our customers and are committed to treating customer information responsibly. Our complete privacy policy statement will be provided to you with this Agreement and is available from American First Finance P.O. Box 565848 Dallas, TX 75356-0000 acknowledge that you have received a copy of our Privacy Policy on this date or within the past twelve months. You may contact our offices at P. O. Box 565848 Dallas, TX 75356-0000 and request that a current copy of our Privacy Policy be mailed to you.

NOTICE TO BUYER. (1) DO NOT SIGN THIS AGREEMENT BEFORE YOU READ IT OR IF IT CONTAINS ANY BLANK SPACES TO BE FILLED IN. (2) YOU ARE ENTITLED TO A COMPLETELY FILLED IN COPY OF THIS AGREEMENT. (3) YOU CAN PREPAY THE FULL AMOUNT DUE UNDER THIS AGREEMENT AT ANY TIME. (4) IF YOU DESIRE TO PAY OFF IN ADVANCE THE FULL AMOUNT DUE, THE AMOUNT WHICH IS OUTSTANDING WILL BE FURNISHED UPON REQUEST.

DocuSign Envelope ID: 0 Case 3:21-cv-08184 Document 1-2 Filed 10/20/21 Page 9 of 12

BY SIGNING BELOW, YOU ACKNOWLEDGE THAT YOU HAVE RECEIVED A COMPLETED COPY OF THIS AGREEMENT.

	signed by: EU ANTHOM FALLO	9/28/2017	By Dee Jay Ashraf	9/28/2017
	D0078179491 iignature	Date	Seller Signature	Date
Buyer S	iignature	Date		
ou agree to a Agreement.	ıll terms of this Security Agree	ement including those und	er the "Agreements for Resol	ving Disputes" caption above, including the Arbitration
American First	Finance, P. O. Box 565848	Dallas, TX 75356-0000	, the Assignee, pho	ng without limitation, the right to receive payments, to ne number 855-721-1188. That assignment reement to Assignee at its address.
By De	DocuSigned by: L Jay Ashraf  E96633011C24F1		Date: 9/28/2017	

## REVIEW YOUR PAYMENT SCHEDULE

PAYMENT	DDINCIDAL	FINANCE	TOTAL PAYMENT	PAYMENT	DDINCIDAL	FINANCE	TOTAL PAYMENT
DATE	PRINCIPAL	CHARGE	AMOUNT	DATE	PRINCIPAL	CHARGE	AMOUNT
10/06/2017	44.87	47.41	92.28				
10/20/2017	11.80	80.48	92.28				
11/03/2017	12.46	79.82	92.28				
11/17/2017	13.15	79.13	92.28				
12/01/2017	13.88	78.40	92.28				
12/15/2017	14.65	77.63	92.28				
12/29/2017	15.47	76.81	92.28				
01/12/2018	16.33	75.95	92.28				
01/26/2018	17.24	75.04	92.28				
02/09/2018	18.20	74.08	92.28				
02/23/2018	19.21	73.07	92.28				
03/09/2018	20.28	72.00	92.28				
03/23/2018	21.40	70.88	92.28				
04/06/2018	22.59	69.69	92.28				
04/20/2018	23.85	68.43	92.28				
05/04/2018	25.18	67.10	92.28				
05/18/2018	26.58	65.70	92.28				
06/01/2018	28.06	64.22	92.28				
06/15/2018	29.62	62.66	92.28				
06/29/2018	31.26	61.02	92.28				
07/13/2018	33.00	59.28	92.28				
07/27/2018	34.84	57.44	92.28				
08/10/2018	36.78	55.50	92.28				
08/24/2018	38.82	53.46	92.28				
09/07/2018	40.98	51.30	92.28				
09/21/2018	43.26	49.02	92.28				
10/05/2018	45.67	46.61	92.28				
10/19/2018	48.21	44.07	92.28				
11/02/2018	50.89	41.39	92.28				
11/16/2018	53.72	38.56	92.28				
11/30/2018	56.70	35.58	92.28				
12/14/2018	59.86	32.42	92.28				
12/28/2018	63.19	29.09 25.58	92.28 92.28				
01/11/2019	66.70						
01/25/2019	70.41	21.87	92.28				
02/08/2019 02/22/2019	74.33 78.46	17.95 13.82	92.28 92.28				
03/08/2019	82.82	9.46	92.28				
03/22/2019	87.28	4.85	92.13				

ocuSign Envelope	Case 3:21-cv-08184 Docur	ment <mark>1-2 Filed 10/20/21 Page</mark>	e 11 of 12					
FACTS	Case 3:21-cv-08184 Document 1-2 Filed 10/20/21 Page 11 of 12  WHAT DOES AMERICAN FIRST FINANCE							
	DO WITH YOUR PERSONAL IN	DO WITH YOUR PERSONAL INFORMATION?						
Why?	consumers the right to limit some but	Financial companies choose how they share your personal information. Federal law gives consumers the right to limit some but not all sharing. Federal law also requires us to tell you how we collect, share, and protect your personal information. Please read this notice carefully to understand what we do.						
What?	■ Social Security number and income							
		■ Transaction history and credit history ■ Employment information and checking account information						
How?	section below, we list all the reasons	re customers' personal information to run financial companies can share their custo nooses to share; and whether you can limit	mers' personal information; the					
RE.	ASONS WE CAN SHARE YOUR PERSONAL INFORMATION	DOES AMERICAN FIRST FINANC SHARE?	E CAN YOU LIMIT THIS SHARING?					
such as to prod account(s), res	day business purposes – cess your transactions, maintain your pond to court orders and legal or report to credit bureaus.	YES	NO					
For our market to offer our prod	ting purposes- lucts and services to you	YES	NO					
For joint mark	eting with other financial companies	YES	NO					
	es' everyday business purposes- ut your transactions and experiences	YES	NO					
	es' everyday business purposes- ut your creditworthiness	YES	YES					
For our affiliate	es to market to you	YES	YES					
For our nonaff	iliates to market to you	YES	YES					
TO LIMIT OUR SHARING	Mail the form below Please Note: When you are no longer our customer, However, you can contact us at any time		n as described in this notice.					
QUESTIONS:	Call toll free 1-855-721-1188 or go to	www.americanfirstfinance.com						
×								
MAIL-IN FORM Mark Any/All v	ou want to limit:							
_		with your affiliates for their everyday h	usiness nurnoses					
<ul> <li>□ Do not share information about my creditworthiness with your affiliates for their everyday business purposes.</li> <li>□ Do not allow your affiliates to use my personal information to market me.</li> </ul>								
_	re my personal information with nonaffiliate		es to me.					
NAME		,						
ADDRESS			Mail to:					
			American First Finance, Inc.					
CITY, STATE, Z	ZIP		3515 N. Ridge Road Ste 200					
CUSTOMER#	CUSTOMER # Wichita, KS 67205							

Who is providing this notice?	merican First Finance, Inc. (also known as "American First Finance") collective eferred to herein as "AFF".		
WHAT WE DO			
How does AFF protect my personal information?	To protect your personal information from unauthorized access and use, we use security measures that comply with federal law. These measures include computer safeguards and secured files and buildings.		
How does AFF collect my	We collect your personal information, for example, when you		
personal information?	■ Apply for a loan ■ Give us your contact information		
	■ Provide employment information or provide account information		
	We also collect you personal information from others, such as credit bureaus, affiliates, or other companies.		
Why can't I limit all sharing?	Federal law gives you the right to limit only		
	<ul> <li>Sharing for affiliates' everyday business purposes – information about your creditworthiness</li> </ul>		
	■ Affiliates from using your information to market to you		
	■ Sharing for nonaffiliates to market to you		
	State laws and individual companies may give you additional rights to limit sharing.		
What happens when I limit sharing for an account I hold joint with someone else?	Your choices will apply to everyone on the account.		
DEFINITIONS			
Affiliates	Companies related by common ownership or control. They can be financial and nonfinancial companies.		
Nonaffiliated	Companies not related by common ownership or control. They can be financial and nonfinancial companies.		
	■ Nonaffiliates we share with can include lenders, collection agencies, consumer reporting agencies, retailers, database providers, and other finance service providers.		
Joint Marketing	A formal agreement between nonaffiliated financial companies that together market financial products or services to you.		
	■ Nonaffiliates we share with can include lenders, retailers and other finance service providers.		

## Case 3:21-cv-08184 Document 1-3 Filed 10/20/21 Page 1 of 2

The JS-CAND 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 in its original form by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required for the Clerk of Court to initiate the civil docket sheet. (SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON NEXT PAGE OF THIS FORM.)

#### I. (a) PLAINTIFFS

LARRY FACIO, individually and on behalf of those similarly situated

- (b) County of Residence of First Listed Plaintiff SACRAMENTO (EXCEPT IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES)
- (c) Attorneys (Firm Name, Address, and Telephone Number)

U.S. Government Defendant X 4

GREEN & NOBLIN, P.C., 2200 Larkspur Landing Circle, Suite 200, Larkspur, CA 94939 (415) 477-6700

Diversity

(Indicate Citizenship of Parties in Item III)

#### **DEFENDANTS**

AMERICAN FIRST FINANCE, INC.

County of Residence of First Listed Defendant (IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES ONLY)

NOTE: IN LAND CONDEMNATION CASES, USE THE LOCATION OF THE TRACT OF LAND INVOLVED.

of Business In Another State

Foreign Nation

6 6

Attorneys (If Known)

l <b>.</b>	BASIS OF JURISDICTION	<b>ON</b> (Place an "X" in One Box Only)	(For Diversity Cases Only)	PRINCI	PAL P.	<b>ARTIES</b> (Place an "X" in One B and One Box for Defen		aintiff
1	U.S. Government Plaintiff 3	Federal Question (U.S. Government Not a Party)	Citizen of This State	<b>PTF ×</b> 1	<b>DEF</b>	Incorporated <i>or</i> Principal Place of Business In This State	PTF 4	DEF 4
			Citizen of Another State	2	2	Incorporated and Principal Place	- 5	V 5

Citizen or Subject of a

Foreign Country

NATION OF CHAR

CONTRACT	TO	RTS	FORFEITURE/PENALTY	BANKRUPTCY	OTHER STATUTES
CONTRACT  110 Insurance 120 Marine 130 Miller Act 140 Negotiable Instrument 150 Recovery of Overpayment Of Veteran's Benefits 151 Medicare Act 152 Recovery of Defaulted Student Loans (Excludes Veterans) 153 Recovery of Overpayment of Veteran's Benefits	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	• •	625 Drug Related Seizure of Property 21 USC § 881 690 Other  LABOR 710 Fair Labor Standards Act 720 Labor/Management Relations 740 Railway Labor Act 751 Family and Medical Leave Act 790 Other Labor Litigation 791 Employee Retirement Income Security Act	BANKRUPTCY  422 Appeal 28 USC § 158  423 Withdrawal 28 USC § 157  PROPERTY RIGHTS  820 Copyrights 830 Patent 835 Patent—Abbreviated New Drug Application 840 Trademark 880 Defend Trade Secrets Act of 2016  SOCIAL SECURITY  861 HIA (1395ff)	OTHER STATUTES  375 False Claims Act  376 Qui Tam (31 USC § 3729(a))  400 State Reapportionment  410 Antitrust  430 Banks and Banking  450 Commerce  460 Deportation  470 Racketeer Influenced & Corrupt Organizations  480 Consumer Credit  485 Telephone Consumer Protection Act  490 Cable/Sat TV
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	Add Other Civil Rights  Contract Product Liability Franchise  EAL PROPERTY  And Condemnation Foreclosure Rent Lease & Ejectment Forts to Land  Cort Product Liability  Malpractice  CIVIL RIGHTS  440 Other Civil Rights 441 Voting 442 Employment 443 Housing/ Accommodations  445 Amer. w/Disabilities— Employment 446 Amer. w/Disabilities—Othe	Liability  PRISONER PETITIONS  HABEAS CORPUS  463 Alien Detainee  510 Motions to Vacate Sentence  530 General  535 Death Penalty  OTHER  540 Mandamus & Other  550 Civil Rights  555 Prison Condition  560 Civil Detainee— Conditions of Confinement	IMMIGRATION  462 Naturalization Application  465 Other Immigration Actions	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	490 Cable/Sat TV  850 Securities/Commodities/Exchange  890 Other Statutory Actions  891 Agricultural Acts  893 Environmental Matters  895 Freedom of Information Act  896 Arbitration  899 Administrative Procedure Act/Review or Appeal of Agency Decision  950 Constitutionality of State Statutes

X 1 Original 2 Removed from 3 Remanded from Proceeding State Court 3 Repealed Court 4 Reinstated or Reopened 5 Transferred from Appellate Court 6 Multidistrict 8 Multidistrict 8 Multidistrict 8 Multidistrict 8 Multidistrict 1 Reopened 1 Another District (specify) Litigation—Transfer Litigation—Direct File

VI. CAUSE OF ACTION Cite the U.S. Civil Statute under which you are filing (Do not cite jurisdictional statutes unless diversity):

28 U.S.C. Sections 1332(d), 1435 ("CAFA")

Brief description of cause:

Defendants financed sale of property to Plaintiffs and, as a pattern and practice, fail to disclose unconscionable interest rates.

VII. REQUESTED IN CHECK IF THIS IS A CLASS ACTION DEMAND \$ CHECK YES only if demanded in complaint: UNDER RULE 23, Fed. R. Civ. P. JURY DEMAND: X Yes No

VIII. RELATED CASE(S),
IF ANY (See instructions):

JUDGE Sallie Kim

DOCKET NUMBER 3:18-cv-06743-SK

IX. DIVISIONAL ASSIGNMENT (Civil Local Rule 3-2)

(Place an "X" in One Box Only) × SAN FRANCISCO/OAKLAND SAN JOSE EUREKA-MCKINLEYVILLE

#### INSTRUCTIONS FOR ATTORNEYS COMPLETING CIVIL COVER SHEET FORM JS-CAND 44

**Authority For Civil Cover Sheet.** The JS-CAND 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 in its original form by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required for the Clerk of Court to initiate 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 Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 8(a), 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.
  - (1) United States plaintiff. Jurisdiction based on 28 USC §§ 1345 and 1348. Suits by agencies and officers of the United States are included here.
  - (2) <u>United States defendant</u>. When the plaintiff is suing the United States, its officers or agencies, place an "X" in this box.
  - (3) <u>Federal question</u>. This refers to suits under 28 USC § 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.
  - (4) <u>Diversity of citizenship</u>. This refers to suits under 28 USC § 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; **NOTE: federal question actions take precedence over diversity cases.)**
- III. Residence (citizenship) of Principal Parties. This section of the JS-CAND 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 clerk(s) 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 six boxes.
  - (1) Original Proceedings. Cases originating in the United States district courts.
  - (2) Removed from State Court. Proceedings initiated in state courts may be removed to the district courts under Title 28 USC § 1441. When the petition for removal is granted, check this box.
  - (3) Remanded from Appellate Court. Check this box for cases remanded to the district court for further action. Use the date of remand as the filing
  - (4) Reinstated or Reopened. Check this box for cases reinstated or reopened in the district court. Use the reopening date as the filing date.
  - (5) <u>Transferred from Another District</u>. For cases transferred under Title 28 USC § 1404(a). Do not use this for within district transfers or multidistrict litigation transfers.
  - (6) <u>Multidistrict Litigation Transfer</u>. Check this box when a multidistrict case is transferred into the district under authority of Title 28 USC § 1407. When this box is checked, do not check (5) above.
  - (8) Multidistrict Litigation Direct File. Check this box when a multidistrict litigation case is filed in the same district as the Master MDL docket.
  - Please note that there is no Origin Code 7. Origin Code 7 was used for historical records and is no longer relevant due to changes in statute.
- 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 Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 23.
  - Demand. In this space enter the actual dollar amount 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-CAND 44 is used to identify related pending cases, if any. If there are related pending cases, insert the docket numbers and the corresponding judge names for such cases.
- IX. Divisional Assignment. If the Nature of Suit is under Property Rights or Prisoner Petitions or the matter is a Securities Class Action, leave this section blank. For all other cases, identify the divisional venue according to Civil Local Rule 3-2: "the county in which a substantial part of the events or omissions which give rise to the claim occurred or in which a substantial part of the property that is the subject of the action is situated."

Date and Attorney Signature. Date and sign the civil cover sheet.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12	ROBERT S. GREEN (SBN 136183) JAMES ROBERT NOBLIN (SBN 114442) EVAN M. SUMER (SBN 329181) GREEN & NOBLIN, P.C. 2200 Larkspur Landing Circle, Suite 101 Larkspur, CA 94939 gnecf@classcounsel.com Tel: (415) 477-6700 Fax: (415) 477-6710  ALICIA L. HINTON (SBN 292849) LAW OFFICE OF A.L. HINTON 1616 W. Shaw Avenue, Suite B7 Fresno, CA 93711 alicia@alhintonlaw.com Tel: (559) 691-6900 Fax: (559) 421-0373  Attorneys for Plaintiff LARRY FACIO	JAMES C. STURDEVANT (SBN 94551) THE STURDEVANT LAW FIRM, APC 4040 Civic Center Drive, Suite 200 San Rafael, CA 94903 jsturdevant@sturdevantlaw.com Tel: (415) 477-2410 Fax: (415) 492-2810				
14	UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT					
15	NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA					
10		del of california				
	I ARRY FACIO individually and on					
16	LARRY FACIO, individually and on behalf of those similarly situated,	Case No.				
16 17	behalf of those similarly situated,					
16 17 18	LARRY FACIO, individually and on behalf of those similarly situated,  Plaintiffs,	Case No.				
16 17 18 19	behalf of those similarly situated,	Case No.				
16 17 18 19 20	behalf of those similarly situated,  Plaintiffs,  vs.	Case No.				
16 17 18 19 20 21	behalf of those similarly situated,  Plaintiffs,	Case No.				
116 117 118 119 220 221 222	behalf of those similarly situated,  Plaintiffs,  vs.	Case No.				
116 117 118 119 220 221 222 223	behalf of those similarly situated,  Plaintiffs,  vs.  AMERICAN FIRST FINANCE, INC.	Case No.				
116 117 118 119 220 221 222 233 224	behalf of those similarly situated,  Plaintiffs,  vs.  AMERICAN FIRST FINANCE, INC.	Case No.				
116 117 118 119 220 221 222 233 224 225	behalf of those similarly situated,  Plaintiffs,  vs.  AMERICAN FIRST FINANCE, INC.	Case No.				
116 117 118 119 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27	behalf of those similarly situated,  Plaintiffs,  vs.  AMERICAN FIRST FINANCE, INC.	Case No.				

1	I, ROBERT S. GREEN, hereby declare that I am an attorney representing the Plaintiff,
2	Larry Facio, in the above-captioned matter and submit this declaration in support of the Class
3	Action Complaint, which is based in part on violations of the Consumers Legal Remedies Act,
4	California Civil Code §1750, et seq.
5	1. The Class Action Complaint has been filed in the proper place for trial of this
6	action.
7	2. Venue is proper in this District pursuant to California Civil Code §1789(d) because
8	Defendant American First Finance, Inc. is doing business in the counties included in the Northern
9	District of California.
10	I declare under penalty of perjury, under the laws of the State of California, that the
11	foregoing is true and correct.
12	Executed this 20th day of October, 2021 at Larkspur, California.
13	
14	<u>s/Robert S. Green</u> ROBERT S. GREEN
15	
16	
17	
18	
19	
20	
21	
22	
23	
24	
25	
26	
27	
28	

# **ClassAction.org**

This complaint is part of ClassAction.org's searchable class action lawsuit database and can be found in this post: <u>Class Action Claims American First Finance Installment Payment Agreements Amount to Unlawful Loans</u>