UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

ROBIN GAVRIALOV on behalf of himself and all other similarly situated consumers

Plaintiff,

Case No.

-against-

#### ENHANCED RECOVERY COMPANY

Defendant.

\_\_\_\_\_

#### CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT

#### Introduction

1. Plaintiff, Robin Gavrialov, brings this action against Enhanced Recovery Company for violations of the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, 15 U.S.C. § 1692, et *seq*. ("FDCPA"). The FDCPA prohibits debt collectors from engaging in abusive, deceptive and unfair collection practices while attempting to collect on debts.

#### **Parties**

- 2. Plaintiff is a citizen of the State of New York who resides within this District.
- 3. Plaintiff is a consumer as that term is defined by Section 1692(a)(3) of the FDCPA, in that the alleged debt that Defendant sought to collect from Plaintiff a consumer debt.
- 4. Upon information and belief, Defendant's principal place of business is located in Jacksonville, Florida.
- 5. Defendant is regularly engaged, for profit, in the collection of debts allegedly owed by consumers.
- 6. Defendant is a "debt collector" as that term is defined by the FDCPA, 15 U.S.C. § 1692(a)(6).

#### **Jurisdiction and Venue**

- 7. This Court has federal question jurisdiction under 15 U.S.C. § 1692k(d) and 28 U.S.C. § 1331.
- 8. Venue is proper in this district pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1391(b), as the acts and transactions that give rise to this action occurred, in substantial part, in this district.

# **Allegations Particular to Robin Gavrialov**

- 9. Upon information and belief, on a date better known by Defendant, Defendant began to attempt to collect an alleged consumer debt from the Plaintiff.
- 10. On or about January 16<sup>th</sup>, 2017 Defendant sent the Plaintiff a collection letter.
- 11. The said letter was an effort to collect on a defaulted consumer debt.
- 12. Such a collection letter, like the said January 16<sup>th</sup>, 2017 collection letter, is open to one of multiple interpretations and would likely be misunderstood by an unsophisticated consumer.
- 13. § 1692e requires debt collectors, when informing debtors of their account balance, to disclose whether the balance may increase due to interest and fees. Avila v. Riexinger Associates, LLC, 817 F.3d 72, 76 (2d Cir. 2016).
- Defendant's collection letter fails to include the safe harbor language set out in <u>Avila v.</u>
   <u>Riexinger Associates, LLC, 817 F.3d 72, 76 (2d Cir. 2016)</u>.
- 15. An unsophisticated consumer would be left uncertain by the said letter as to whether the said account was accruing interest or not.
- 16. Pursuant to section 5001 of New York Civil Practice Law and Rules, a creditor shall recover prejudgment interest "upon a sum awarded because of a breach of performance of a contract." N.Y. C.P.L.R. § 5001(a); see also Rhodes v. Davis, 628 Fed. Appx. 787, 794 (2d Cir. 2015) (Under New York Law, "[i]nterest is generally mandatory "upon a

- sum awarded because of a breach of performance of a contract . . . ." (citing Id. § 5001(a))).
- 17. Section 5004 sets the rate of prejudgment interest at nine percent. N.Y. C.P.L.R. § 5004. When calculating the interest due, it "shall be computed from the earliest ascertainable date the cause of action existed." Id. § 5001(b).
- "In New York, a breach of contract cause of action accrues at the time of the breach."
  Ely-Cruikshank Co. v. Bank of Montreal, 81 N.Y.2d 399, 402, 615 N.E.2d 985, 599
  N.Y.S.2d 501 (1993) (citations omitted).
- 19. Prejudgment interest on defaulted debt obligations "shall be computed from the earliest ascertainable date the cause of action existed," which is when the debtor fails to make the monthly payment. N.Y. C.P.L.R. § 5001(b).
- 20. "New York law provides that "[i]nterest shall be recovered upon a sum awarded because of a breach of performance of a contract," N.Y. C.P.L.R. § 5001(a), and that interest is to be computed "from the earliest date the cause of action existed," N.Y. C.P.L.R. § 5001(b), at the rate of nine percent per annum, N.Y. C.P.L.R. § 5004. Accordingly, Plaintiffs are entitled to prejudgment interest on the installments that were not timely paid." Kasperek v. City Wire Works, Inc., No. 03 CV 3986 (RML), 2009 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 19803, at \*8 (E.D.N.Y. Mar. 12, 2009).
- 21. The "Amount of Debt" in the case at hand was for an amount that included original principal, fees, and contractual interest.
- 22. The said January 16<sup>th</sup>, 2017 letter failed to correctly state the in full the amount of the debt allegedly owed.
- 23. Though the January 16<sup>th</sup>, 2017 letter listed an "Amount of Debt" and demanded payment in full, the letter did not state on which date the "Amount of Debt" was calculated, did

not state by which date payment had to be received for the debt to be satisfied in full and did not explain that contractual or statutory interest and/or legal fees would continue to accrue on the unpaid principal; thus, the Plaintiff's total balance might be greater on the date he makes a payment.

- 24. A reasonable consumer could read the notice and be misled into believing that he or she could pay her debt in full by paying the amount listed on the notice.
- 25. However, since contractual or statutory interest is automatically accruing daily, and since there are undisclosed legal fees that will accrue, a consumer who pays the "Amount of Debt" stated on the notice will be unaware as to whether or not the debt has been paid in full.
- 26. The debt collector could still seek the automatically accrued contractual or statutory interest that accumulated after the notice was sent but before the balance was paid, or sell the consumer's debt to a third party, which itself could seek the interest and fees from the consumer.
- 27. A letter that states "Amount of Debt" without notice as to the date balance was calculated or as to the date when payment had to be received in order to satisfy the debt in full, combined with the fact that that the amount of debt is already increasing due to automatically accruing contractual or statutory interest or other charges, would mislead the unsophisticated consumer into believing that payment of the amount stated will clear his or her account.
- 28. The FDCPA requires debt collectors, when notifying consumers of their account balance, to disclose that the balance may increase due to interest and fees; failure to include such disclosures would harm consumers such as the Plaintiff who may hold the reasonable but mistaken belief, that timely payment will satisfy their debts and it would

- abrogate the Congressional purpose of full and fair disclosure to consumers that is embodied in Section 1692e.
- 29. Pursuant to New York state law, statutory interest starts to accrue on the debt from the date of the breach of contract at the rate of 9% per annum.
- 30. The amount of the contractual or statutory interest, automatically increases each day that the defaulted debt remains unpaid due to the automatically contractual or statutory accrued interest.
- 31. Collection notices that state only the "Amount Due" but fail to disclose that the balance might increase due to interest and fees, are "misleading" within the meaning of Section 1692e.
- 32. To the extent that the Creditor or the Defendant intended to waive the automatically accrued and accruing interest, it was required to disclose that in the most conspicuous of terms.
- 33. Enhanced Recovery Company was required to include a disclosure that the automatically accrued interest was accruing, or in the alternative, Enhanced Recovery Company was required to disclose that the creditor has made an intentional decision to waive the automatically accruing interest; yet the Defendant failed to make any such disclosures, violating Section 1692e of the FDCPA.
- 34. Failure to disclose such a waiver of the automatically accruing interest is in of itself deceptive and "misleading" within the meaning of Section 1692e of the FDCPA.
- 35. Enhanced Recovery Company knew that the balance would increase due to interest, fees and/or disbursements.
- 36. The Second Circuit adopted a safe harbor disclaimer stating "that requiring such disclosure best achieves the Congressional purpose of full and fair disclosure to

consumers that is embodied in Section 1692e. It also protects consumers such as the Plaintiff, who may hold the reasonable but mistaken belief that timely payment will satisfy their debts." <u>Avila v. Riexinger & Assocs., LLC, 817 F.3d 72, 76 (2d Cir. 2016)</u>

- 37. Because the statement of the "Amount of Debt" that included original principal, fees, and contractual interest, without notice as to the date of the balance or by when payment had to be received, and without notice that the accruing interest was expressly waived can mislead the least sophisticated consumer into believing that payment of the amount stated will clear her account, the FDCPA requires debt collectors, when they notify consumers of their account balance, to expressly disclose that interest has stopped accruing.
- 38. Requiring such disclosure best achieves the Congressional purpose of full and fair disclosure to consumers that is embodied in Section 1692e. It also protects consumers such as the Plaintiff, who may hold the reasonable, but mistaken belief that timely payment will satisfy their debts and it protects them from other debt collectors seeking further interest on this debt in the future.
- 39. According to the Second Circuit's finding that the "Amount Due" must contain a full and fair disclosure, if a credit card account was being charged interest, pursuant to a contract and the interest was intended to be waived, disclosure of such a waiver is necessary or the consumer would not know what the balance is. "[i]n fact, however, if interest is accruing daily, [or was not expressly waived] a consumer who pays the 'current balance' stated on the notice will not know whether the debt has been paid in full. The debt collector could still seek the [accruing or un-waived] interest and fees that accumulated after the notice was sent but before the balance was paid, or sell the consumer's debt to a third party, which itself could seek the interest and fees from the

- consumer." Avila v. Riexinger & Assocs., *LLC*, 817 F.3d 72, 76 (2d Cir. 2016)
- 40. The 8th Circuit in <u>Haney v. Portfolio Recovery Assocs.</u>, No. 15-1932, 2016 U.S. App. <u>LEXIS 17287 (8th Cir. Sep. 21, 2016)</u> clearly explains that merely not including interest in post charge off statements is not express waiver of interest, and the debt collector or creditor can seek the interest in the future.
- 41. In fact, in this case the Plaintiff is still not sure whether there was any intent to waive the interest. There was definitely no express waiver and disclosure of waiver is mandatory if interest was originally accruing per the contract. The consumer could not know what the real balance is.
- 42. The intent to waive a contractual right must be unmistakably manifested and may not be inferred from doubtful or equivocal acts. Navillus Tile, Inc. v. Turner Const. Co., 2

  A.D.3d 209, 770 N.Y.S.2d 3 (1st Dep't 2003). A waiver of a contract right does not occur by negligence, oversight or thoughtlessness and cannot be inferred from mere silence. Acumen Re Management Corp. v. General Sec. Nat. Ins. Co., 2012 WL 3890128, at \*6 (S.D. N.Y. 2012), reconsideration denied, motion to certify appeal granted, 2012 WL 6053936 (S.D. N.Y. 2012).
- 43. The 8th Circuit Court of Appeals found that the fact that the debt was charged off and that the creditor or debt buyer did not charge statutory or prejudgment interest in its statements post charge off does not constitute an express waiver and statutory or prejudgment interest is still continuing to accrue and may be charged at a future time.
- 44. According to the Second Circuit in *Avila*, any such a debt would need full and complete disclosure. See <u>Haney v. Portfolio Recovery Assocs.</u>, No. 15-1932, 2016 U.S. App. <u>LEXIS 17287 (8th Cir. Sep. 21, 2016)</u> ("Nothing inherent in the process of charging off a debt precludes a claim for statutory interest, and [the states] prejudgment interest

statute does not expressly preclude statutory prejudgment interest following a waiver of contractual interest...[The debtor] received monthly periodic statements from the original creditors prior to charge-off, and at least as to the *Wal-Mart* account, the charge-off statement itself is attached to the pleadings. [The debtor] received a demand for payment of his accounts when due. We conclude any demand requirement that exists as a precondition to the accrual of statutory prejudgment interest was satisfied by the original creditors' demands upon [the debtor].")

- 45. Failure to disclose such a waiver of the automatically accruing interest is in of itself deceptive and "misleading" within the meaning of Section 1692e. The Defendant knew that the balance would increase due to interest, fees and/or disbursements.
- 46. Since the "Amount Due" is for an amount that includes original principal, fees, and contractual interest, the collection notice must accurately inform the consumer that interest is accruing daily or that interest has stopped accruing. "Applying these principles, we hold that Plaintiffs have stated a claim that the collection notices at issue here are misleading within the meaning of Section 1692e... a consumer who pays the "current balance" stated on the notice will not know whether the debt has been paid in full." Avila v. Riexinger & Assocs., LLC, Nos. 15-1584(L), 15-1597(Con), 2016 U.S. App. LEXIS 5327, at \*10-11 (2d Cir. Mar. 22, 2016)
- 47. Although the January 16<sup>th</sup>, 2017 letter stated a "Amount of Debt" and demanded payment in full, the letter also failed to disclose to the Plaintiff that the Defendant may attempt to collect the additional accruing interest at a later date.
- 48. "The Court therefore finds that [the debt collectors] letters to [the debtor] are subject to two different interpretations as to the accumulation of interest, rendering them deceptive under § 1692e(10) ... The logic [applies] to stated outstanding debt and the need for

consumers to be aware that this debt may be dynamic or static. They are concerned with a consumer's inability to discern whether an amount owed may grow with time, regardless of whether offers to settle are on the table or not. As [plaintiff] states, this information is relevant in a consumer's payment calculus, especially when some debts must be paid at the expense of others. And, of course, the existence of settlement offers would be entirely irrelevant to these considerations for the many consumers who are unable to take advantage of them...Plaintiff's claim is not that the stated balance was not itemized, but that it was unclear whether it was subject to future interest" Michalek v. ARS Nat'l Sys., No. 3:11-CV-1374, 2011 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 142976, at \*16-17 (M.D. Pa. Dec. 13, 2011)

- 49. Absent a disclosure by the holder of the debt that the automatic interest is waived, even if the debtor pays the "Amount Due" the Defendant or the creditor **could** still seek the automatic interest that accumulated after the breach of contract, or sell the consumer's debt to a third party, which itself could seek the automatic interest and from the consumer. *Avila*, at \*10-11.
- 50. A waiver of interest, even when made explicitly, has not prevented debt collection agencies from continuing to illegally charge the waived interest. At the bare minimum a debt collection agency must clearly convey, even to the unsophisticated consumer that it intends to waive the automatically accruing interest, or that the debt has stopped accruing interest.
- 51. Upon receiving the January 16<sup>th</sup>, 2017 letter, the Plaintiff was uncertain whether the "Amount of Debt" was accruing interest as there was no disclosure or admonition indicating otherwise.
- 52. A debtor who pays the "Amount of Debt" stated in the collection letter will be left

- unsure as to whether or not the debt has been paid in full, as the Defendant could still attempt to collect on any interest and fees that accumulated after the letter was sent but before the balance was paid.
- 53. The January 16<sup>th</sup>, 2017 letter would cause the unsophisticated consumer uncertainty and force him to guess for what period of time is this offer open, by when does he have to pay in order to satisfy the debt in full, how much money would accrue daily on his alleged debt if he did not pay, how much additional money he would owe if he paid the amount demanded in the January 16<sup>th</sup>, 2017 letter, and if or when the Defendant's collection efforts would actually discontinue if he remitted "Amount of Debt" that the Defendant demanded.
- 54. Section 1692e of the FDCPA prohibits a debt collector from using any false, or any deceptive or misleading representation or means in connection with the collection of a debt, including the false representation of the character, amount or legal status of any debt, see, 15 U.S.C. § 1692e(2)(A) and § 1692e(10).
- 55. Upon information and belief, such actions are part of a scheme or business of the Defendant when attempting to collect alleged debts from consumers in the State of New York.
- 56. Upon information and belief, the Defendant's collection letters, such as the said January 16<sup>th</sup>, 2017 collection letter, number in at least the hundreds.
- 57. Defendant's January 16<sup>th</sup>, 2017 letter is in violation of 15 U.S.C. §§ 1692e, 1692e(2)(A) and 1692e(10) of the FDCPA for the use of any false representation to collect or attempt to collect any debt and for misrepresenting the amount of the debt owed by the Plaintiff.
- 58. § 1692e(2)(B) prohibits the false representation of any services rendered or compensation that may be lawfully received by any debt collector for the collection of a

debt.

- 59. 15 U.S.C. § 1692e(5) specifically prohibits threatening "to take any action that cannot legally be taken or that is not intended to be taken."
- 60. 15 U.S.C. § 1692e(10) specifically prohibits the "use of any false representation or deceptive means to collect or attempt to collect any debt."
- 61. 15 U.S.C. § 1692f provides a debt collector may not use unfair or unconscionable means to collect or attempt to collect any debt.
- 62. §1692f(1) limits prohibits the collection of any amount, including any interest, fee, charge, or expense incidental to the debt, unless such amount is expressly authorized by the agreement creating the debt or permitted by law.
- 63. The letter states "Non-interest Charges & Fees"
- 64. The "Non-interest Charges & Fees" as listed as "\$0.00"
- 65. A collection letter is deceptive under 15 U.S.C. § 1692e if it can reasonably be read by the least sophisticated consumer to have two or more meanings, one of which is inaccurate.
- 66. A collection letter is also deceptive under 15 U.S.C. § 1692e if it is reasonably susceptible to an inaccurate reading by the least sophisticated consumer.
- 67. Although the "Non-interest Charges & Fees" are listed as "\$0.00" the letter could reasonably be read by the least sophisticated consumer to mean that there could be "Non-interest Charges & Fees" added to the debt in the future.
- 68. The letter falsely implies that Defendant has the right to add "Non-interest Charges & Fees" to the debt.
- 69. Defendant has no legal basis to add "Non-interest Charges & Fees" to the debt.
- 70. The letter could reasonably be read by the least sophisticated consumer to threaten to

collect a fee.

- 71. The letter falsely implies that Defendant has the right to add a fee to the debt.
- 72. Defendant has no legal basis to add a fee to the debt.
- 73. Defendant's conduct, as described, violates § 1692e and § 1692f.
- 74. Plaintiff suffered injury in fact by being subjected to unfair and abusive practices of the Defendant.
- 75. Plaintiff suffered actual harm by being the target of the Defendant's misleading debt collection communications.
- 76. Defendant violated the Plaintiff's right not to be the target of misleading debt collection communications.
- 77. Defendant violated the Plaintiff's right to a truthful and fair debt collection process.
- 78. Defendant used materially false, deceptive, misleading representations and means in its attempted collection of Plaintiff's alleged debt.
- 79. Defendant's communications were designed to cause the debtor to suffer a harmful disadvantage in charting a course of action in response to the Defendant's collection efforts.
- 80. The FDCPA ensures that consumers are fully and truthfully apprised of the facts and of their rights, the act enables them to understand, make informed decisions about, and participate fully and meaningfully in the debt collection process. The purpose of the FDCPA is to provide information that helps consumers to choose intelligently. The Defendant's false representations misled the Plaintiff in a manner that deprived him of his right to enjoy these benefits, these materially misleading statements trigger liability under section 1692e of the Act.
- 81. These deceptive communications additionally violated the FDCPA since they frustrate

- the consumer's ability to intelligently choose his or her response.
- 82. Plaintiff seeks to end these violations of the FDCPA. Plaintiff has suffered damages including but not limited to, fear, stress, mental anguish, emotional stress and acute embarrassment. Plaintiff and putative class members are entitled to preliminary and permanent injunctive relief, including, declaratory relief, and damages.

#### **CLASS ALLEGATIONS**

- 83. This action is brought as a class action. Plaintiff brings this action on behalf of himself and on behalf of all other persons similarly situated pursuant to Rule 23 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure.
- 84. The identities of all class members are readily ascertainable from the records of Enhanced Recovery Company and those business and governmental entities on whose behalf it attempts to collect debts.
- 85. Excluded from the Plaintiff's Class is the Defendant and all officers, members, partners, managers, directors, and employees of Enhanced Recovery Company, and all of their respective immediate families, and legal counsel for all parties to this action and all members of their immediate families.
- 86. There are questions of law and fact common to the Plaintiff's Class, which common issues predominate over any issues involving only individual class members. The principal issues are whether the Defendant's communications with the Plaintiff, such as the above stated claims, violate provisions of the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act.
- 87. The Plaintiff's claims are typical of the class members, as all are based upon the same facts and legal theories.
- 88. The Plaintiff will fairly and adequately protect the interests of the Plaintiff's Class defined in this complaint. The Plaintiff has retained counsel with experience in handling

consumer lawsuits, complex legal issues, and class actions, and neither the Plaintiff nor his attorneys have any interests, which might cause them not to vigorously pursue this action.

- 89. This action has been brought, and may properly be maintained, as a class action pursuant to the provisions of Rule 23 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure because there is a well-defined community interest in the litigation:
  - (a) <u>Numerosity:</u> The Plaintiff is informed and believes, and on that basis alleges, that the Plaintiff's Class defined above is so numerous that joinder of all members would be impractical.
  - (b) <u>Common Questions Predominate:</u> Common questions of law and fact exist as to all members of the Plaintiff's Class and those questions predominate over any questions or issues involving only individual class members. The principal issues are whether the Defendant's communications with the Plaintiff, such as the above stated claims, violate provisions of the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act.
  - (c) <u>Typicality:</u> The Plaintiff's claims are typical of the claims of the class members. Plaintiff and all members of the Plaintiff's Class defined in this complaint have claims arising out of the Defendant's common uniform course of conduct complained of herein.
  - (d) Adequacy: The Plaintiff will fairly and adequately protect the interests of the class members insofar as Plaintiff has no interests that are adverse to the absent class members. The Plaintiff is committed to vigorously litigating this matter. Plaintiff has also retained counsel experienced in handling consumer lawsuits, complex legal issues, and class actions.

- Neither the Plaintiff nor his counsel have any interests, which might cause them not to vigorously pursue the instant class action lawsuit.
- (e) <u>Superiority:</u> A class action is superior to the other available means for the fair and efficient adjudication of this controversy because individual joinder of all members would be impracticable. Class action treatment will permit a large number of similarly situated persons to prosecute their common claims in a single forum efficiently and without unnecessary duplication of effort and expense that individual actions would engender. Certification of a class under Rule 23(b)(l)(A) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure is appropriate because adjudications with respect to individual members create a risk of inconsistent or varying adjudications which could establish incompatible standards of conduct for Defendant who, on information and belief, collects debts throughout the United States of America.
- 90. Certification of a class under Rule 23(b)(2) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure is also appropriate in that a determination that the above stated claims, violate provisions of the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, and is tantamount to declaratory relief and any monetary relief under the FDCPA would be merely incidental to that determination.
- 91. Certification of a class under Rule 23(b)(3) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure is also appropriate in that the questions of law and fact common to members of the Plaintiff's Class predominate over any questions affecting an individual member, and a class action is superior to other available methods for the fair and efficient adjudication of the controversy.

- 92. Further, Defendant has acted, or failed to act, on grounds generally applicable to the Rule (b)(l)(A) and (b)(2) Class, thereby making appropriate final injunctive relief with respect to the Class as a whole.
- 93. Depending on the outcome of further investigation and discovery, Plaintiff may, at the time of class certification motion, seek to certify one or more classes only as to particular issues pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 23(c)(4).

#### AS FOR A FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION

Violations of the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act brought by Plaintiff on behalf of himself and the members of a class, as against the Defendant.

- 94. Plaintiff repeats, reiterates, and incorporates the allegations contained in paragraphs numbered one (1) through ninety three (93) herein with the same force and effect is if the same were set forth at length herein.
- 95. This cause of action is brought on behalf of Plaintiff and the members of a class.
- of New York and who were sent a collection letter in substantially the same form letter as the letter sent to the Plaintiff on or about January 16<sup>th</sup>, 2017; and (a) the collection letter was sent to a consumer seeking payment of a personal debt; and (b) the collection letter was not returned by the postal service as undelivered; and (c) the Plaintiff asserts that the letter contained violations of 15 U.S.C. §§ 1692e, 1692e(2)(A) and 1692e(10) of the FDCPA for the use of any false representation or deceptive means to collect or attempt to collect any debt and for misrepresenting the amount of the debt owed by the Plaintiff.

#### AS FOR A SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION

Violations of the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act brought by Plaintiff on behalf of himself and the members of a class, as against the Defendant.

- 97. Plaintiff repeats, reiterates, and incorporates the allegations contained in paragraphs numbered one (1) through ninety six (96) herein with the same force and effect is if the same were set forth at length herein.
- 98. This cause of action is brought on behalf of Plaintiff and the members of a class.
- 99. The class involves all individuals whom Defendant's records reflect resided in the State of New York and who were sent a collection letter in substantially the same form letter as the letter sent to the Plaintiff on or about January 16<sup>th</sup>, 2017; and (a) the collection letter was sent to a consumer seeking payment of a personal debt; and (b) the collection letter was not returned by the postal service as undelivered; and (c) the Plaintiff asserts that the letter contained violations of 15 U.S.C. §§ § 1692e and § 1692f of the FDCPA for the use of any false representation or deceptive means to collect or attempt to collect any debt.

#### **Violations of the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act**

- 100. The Defendant's actions as set forth above in the within complaint violates the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act.
- 101. Because the Defendant violated the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, the Plaintiff and the members of the class are entitled to damages in accordance with the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff, respectfully requests preliminary and permanent injunctive relief, and that this Court enter judgment in Plaintiff's favor and against the Defendant and award damages as follows:

- (a) Statutory damages provided under the FDCPA, 15 U.S.C. § 1692(k);
- (b) Attorney fees, litigation expenses and costs incurred in bringing this action; and

(c) Any other relief that this Court deems appropriate and just under the circumstances.

Dated: Brooklyn, New York February 7<sup>th</sup>, 2017

/s/ Igor Litvak\_\_\_\_\_

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Plaintiff requests trial by jury on all issues so triable.

/s/ Igor Litvak Igor Litvak, Esq. Creditor: Product:

Barclays Bank Delaware JetBlue Rewards Card Account Number: XXXXXXXXXXXX1727

Amount of Debt: Reference Number:

\$4,906.24 8160 January 16, 2017

Original Creditor: JetBlue Rewards Card

Original Balance: \$4,906.24 Interest Accrued: \$0.00

Non-interest Charges & Fees: \$0.00

Payments: -\$0.00

#### **COLLECTION NOTICE**

#### **ROBIN GAVRIALOV**

Our records indicate that your balance with Barclays Bank Delaware remains unpaid: therefore your account has been placed with ERC for collection efforts.

Upon receipt of your payment and clearance of funds in the amount of \$4,906.24, your account will be considered paid in full and collection efforts will cease.

Unless you dispute the validity of the debt, or any portion thereof, within thirty (30) days after your receipt of this notice, the debt will be assumed to be valid by us.

View statements, pay your balance, and manage your account online at www.payerc.com

Telephone: (800) 631-6702 Toll Free. All calls are recorded and may be monitored for training purposes.

Send correspondence to: ERC, P.O. Box 57610, Jacksonville, FL 32241

Office Hours (Eastern Time): Mon-Thurs: 8:00 am-11:00pm. Fri: 8:00 am-10:00 pm. Sat: 8:00 am-8:00 pm



This communication is from a debt collector and is an attempt to collect a debt.

Any information obtained will be used for that purpose.

#### NOTICE - SEE REVERSE SIDE FOR IMPORTANT NOTICES AND CONSUMER RIGHTS

Please do not send correspondence to this address

P.O. BOX 1259, Dept 98696 Oaks, PA 19456

January 16, 2017

Reference Number 8160

Amount of Debt \$4,906.24

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**ROBIN GAVRIALOV** 14107 82ND DR JAMAICA NY 11435-1101 120704 - 264

**ERC** P.O. Box 23870 Jacksonville, FL 32241-3870 Influence to the Influence of the Influe







### Federal Validation Notice:

Pursuant to 15 U.S.C./1692g (a), take notice that:

- 1. The amount of the claimed debt is the amount stated in the letter on the reverse side of this notice.
- 2. The name of the creditor to whom the debt is owed is in the letter on the reverse side of this notice.
- 3. Unless you dispute the validity of the debt, or any portion thereof, within thirty (30) days after your receipt of this notice, the debt will be assumed to be valid by us.
- 4. If you notify our office below in writing within (30) days of your receipt of this notice that the debt, or any portion thereof is disputed, we will obtain verification of the debt or a copy of any judgment that may be of record against you. We will mail the verification or copy of the judgment to you.
- 5. Upon your written request to this office within thirty (30) days of your receipt of this notice, we will provide you with the name and address of the original creditor, if different from the current creditor listed in the letter on the reverse side of this notice.

Federal Notice:

This is a debt collector attempting to collect a debt. Any information obtained will be used for that purpose.

New York City Residents:

New York City Department of Consumer Affairs License Number: 1394588.

New York State Residents:

Debt collectors, in accordance with the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, 15 U.S.C./1692 et seq., are prohibited from engaging in abusive, deceptive, and unfair debt collection efforts, including but not limited to:

a) the use or threat of violence

b) the use of obscene or profane language; and
 c) repeated phone calls made with the intent to annoy, abuse, or harass.

If a creditor or debt collector receives a money judgment against you in court, state and federal laws may prevent the following types of income from being taken to pay the debt:

- Supplemental security income, (SSI);
- 2) Social security:
- Public assistance (welfare);
- Spousal support, maintenance (alimony) or child support;
- Unemployment benefits;
- Disability benefits;
- Workers' compensation benefits;
- 8) Public or private pensions;
- 9) Veterans' benefits;
- 10) Federal student loans, federal student grants, and federal work study funds; and
- 11) Ninety percent of your wages or salary earned in the last sixty days.

**Our Corporate Address is:** 

ERC, 8014 Bayberry Road, Jacksonville, FL 32256

	TED STATES DISTRICT COURT ΓERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK			
_	IN GAVRIALOV on behalf of himself and her similarly situated consumers	Case No.		
	Plaintiff,			
	-against-			
ENH	ANCED RECOVERY COMPANY			
	Defendant.			
	SUMMONS IN A	CIVIL ACTION		
TO:	ENHANCED RECOVERY COMPANY 8014 BAYBERRY ROAD JACKSONVILLE, FL 32256  YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and erve upon PLAINTIFF'S ATTORNEY:  IGOR B. LITVAK, ESQ. THE LITVAK LAW FIRM, PLLC 1701 AVENUE P BROOKLYN, NEW YORK 11229	d required to file with the Clerk of this Court		
sumn	<u>-</u>	ved upon you, with <b>21</b> days after service of this ce. If you fail to do so, judgment by default will be complaint.		
CLEI	RK	DATE		
 ВҮ Г	DEPUTY CLERK			

# Case 1:17-cv-00712 Document 2-3 Villed 02/07/17 Page 1 of 2 PageID #: 22

I. (a) PLAINTIFFS			DEFENDANTS		
Robin Gavrialov			Enhanced Recove		
(b) County of Residence of First Listed Plaintiff Queens (EXCEPT IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES)			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.		
(c) Attorneys (Firm Name, IGOR B. LITVAK, ESQ. 1701 AVENUE P BROOKLYN, NEW YOR	THE LITVAK PHONE / FA	LAW FIRM, PLLC X: (718) 989-2908	Attorneys (If Known)		
II. BASIS OF JURISDI	ICTION (Place an "X" in O	ne Box Only)	I. CITIZENSHIP OF P	RINCIPAL PARTIES	(Place an "X" in One Box for Plaintif
☐ 1 U.S. Government Plaintiff	1 U.S. Government 3 Federal Question			TF DEF  1 □ 1 Incorporated or Pr  of Business In T	
☐ 2 U.S. Government Defendant	☐ 4 Diversity (Indicate Citizenshi)	ip of Parties in Item III)	Citizen of Another State	2	
			Citizen or Subject of a  Foreign Country	3 G 3 Foreign Nation	□ 6 □ 6
IV. NATURE OF SUIT			EODERWINE/DENALTW	D A NIZDYIDTCIV	OTHER CTATUTES
CONTRACT		RTS	FORFEITURE/PENALTY	BANKRUPTCY	OTHER STATUTES
□ 110 Insurance □ 120 Marine □ 130 Miller Act □ 140 Negotiable Instrument □ 150 Recovery of Overpayment & Enforcement of Judgment □ 151 Medicare Act □ 152 Recovery of Defaulted Student Loans (Excludes Veterans) □ 153 Recovery of Overpayment of Veteran's Benefits □ 160 Stockholders' Suits □ 190 Other Contract □ 195 Contract Product Liability □ 196 Franchise    REAL PROPERTY   □ 210 Land Condemnation □ 220 Foreclosure □ 230 Rent Lease & Ejectment □ 240 Torts to Land □ 245 Tort Product Liability □ 290 All Other Real Property	□ 330 Federal Employers' Liability □ 340 Marine □ 345 Marine Product Liability □ 350 Motor Vehicle □ 355 Motor Vehicle □ 700 Other Personal Injury □ 362 Personal Injury - Medical Malpractice  CIVIL RIGHTS □ 440 Other Civil Rights □ 441 Voting □ 442 Employment □ 443 Housing/ Accommodations □ 445 Amer. w/Disabilities - Employment □ 446 Amer. w/Disabilities - Other □ 448 Education	PERSONAL INJURY  □ 365 Personal Injury - Product Liability  □ 367 Health Care/ Pharmaceutical Personal Injury Product Liability  □ 368 Asbestos Personal Injury Product Liability  PERSONAL PROPERTY  □ 370 Other Fraud □ 371 Truth in Lending □ 380 Other Personal Property Damage Product 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 □ 550 Civil Rights □ 560 Civil Detainee - Conditions of Confinement	□ 625 Drug Related Seizure of Property 21 USC 881 □ 690 Other □ 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 □ MMIGRATION □ 462 Naturalization Application □ 465 Other Immigration Actions	□ 422 Appeal 28 USC 158 □ 423 Withdrawal 28 USC 157  PROPERTY RIGHTS □ 820 Copyrights □ 830 Patent □ 840 Trademark  SOCIAL SECURITY □ 861 HIA (1395ff) □ 862 Black Lung (923) □ 863 DIWC/DIWW (405(g)) □ 864 SSID Title XVI □ 865 RSI (405(g))  FEDERAL TAX SUITS □ 870 Taxes (U.S. Plaintiff or Defendant) □ 871 IRS—Third Party 26 USC 7609	□ 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 and Corrupt Organizations
X 1 Original □ 2 Re	moved from 3 ate Court  Cite the U.S. Civil Sta 15 U.S.C. SECT Brief description of ca	Appellate Court  tute under which you are fi ION 1692 FAIR DEE	Reinstated or Reopened 5 Transfr Reopened 5 Transfr Anothe (specify) Iling (Do not cite jurisdictional state BT COLLECTION BUSINES	er District Litigation ) Transfer  tutes unless diversity):  FICES ACT (FDCPA)	
VII. REQUESTED IN COMPLAINT:	CHECK IF THIS UNDER RULE 2	IS A <b>CLASS ACTION</b> 3, F.R.Cv.P.	DEMAND \$	CHECK YES only JURY DEMAND:	if demanded in complaint:  X Yes  No
VIII. RELATED CASI IF ANY	E(S) (See instructions):	JUDGE		DOCKET NUMBER	
DATE 02/07/2017	SIGNATURE OF ATTORNEY OF RECORD /S/ IGOR B. LITVAK, ESQ.				
FOR OFFICE USE ONLY  RECEIPT # A1	MOUNT	APPLYING IFP	JUDGE	MAG. JUI	DGE

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## CERTIFICATION OF ARBITRATION ELIGIBILITY

Local Arbitration Rule 83.10 provides that with certain exceptions, actions seeking money damages only in an amount not in excess of \$150,000, exclusive of interest and costs, are eligible for compulsory arbitration. The amount of damages is presumed to be below the threshold amount unless a certification to the contrary is filed.

Ĭ N/A		counsel for	do hereby certify that the above captioned civil action is		
ineligi	ble for o	compulsory arbitration for the following reason(s	, do hereby certify that the above captioned civil action is		
		monetary damages sought are in excess of \$15	0,000, exclusive of interest and costs,		
	☐ the complaint seeks injunctive relief,				
		the matter is otherwise ineligible for the follow	ving reason		
		DISCLOSURE STATEMENT - FEDE	RAL RULES CIVIL PROCEDURE 7.1		
N/A		Identify any parent corporation and any publicly he	eld corporation that owns 10% or more or its stocks:		
		RELATED CASE STATEMENT (Se	ection VIII on the Front of this Form)		
provide because same ju case: (A	s that "A the cases dge and r A) involve	A civil case is "related" to another civil case for purposes of the sarise from the same transactions or events, a substantial same magistrate judge." Rule 50.3.1 (b) provides that "A civil case residentical legal issues, or (B) involves the same parties." Rule 50.3.1 (b) provides the same parties.	s Rule 50.3.1 in Section VIII on the front of this form. Rule 50.3.1 (a) nis guideline when, because of the similarity of facts and legal issues or ving of judicial resources is likely to result from assigning both cases to the e shall not be deemed "related" to another civil case merely because the civil ule 50.3.1 (c) further provides that "Presumptively, and subject to the power not be deemed to be "related" unless both cases are still pending before the		
		NY-E DIVISION OF BU	SINESS RULE 50.1(d)(2)		
1.)	Is the civil action being filed in the Eastern District removed from a New York State Court located in Nassau or Suffolk County: No				
2.)	If you answered "no" above: a) Did the events or omissions giving rise to the claim or claims, or a substantial part thereof, occur in Nassau or Suffolk County? No				
	b) Did the events or omissions giving rise to the claim or claims, or a substantial part thereof, occur in the Eastern District? Yes				
Suffoll	c County folk Cou	y, or, in an interpleader action, does the claimant (or a runty?	ority of the defendants, if there is more than one) reside in Nassau or majority of the claimants, if there is more than one) reside in Nassau		
	(]	(Note: A corporation shall be considered a resident of the	he County in which it has the most significant contacts).		
		BAR AD	MISSION		
I am cı	arrently a	admitted in the Eastern District of New York and curre Yes	ently a member in good standing of the bar of this court.  No		
Are yo	u current	ntly the subject of any disciplinary action (s) in this or a  Yes (If yes, please explain)	nny other state or federal court? No		
I certif	y the acc	ecuracy of all information provided above.			

Signature: /S/ IGOR B. LITVAK, ESQ.

# **ClassAction.org**

This complaint is part of ClassAction.org's searchable class action lawsuit database and can be found in this post: Enhanced Recovery Company Hit with Debt Collection Class Action