

**BARSHAY SANDERS, PLLC**  
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*Attorneys for Plaintiff*  
Our File No.: 115706

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
EASTERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK**

Cassandra Gracius, individually and on behalf of all  
others similarly situated,

Plaintiff,

vs.

Alpha Recovery Corp and Bureaus Investment  
Group Portfolio No. 15, LLC,

Defendants.

Docket No:

**COMPLAINT**

**JURY TRIAL DEMANDED**

BARSHAY | SANDERS<sup>PLLC</sup>  
100 GARDEN CITY PLAZA, SUITE 500  
GARDEN CITY, NEW YORK 11530

Cassandra Gracius, individually and on behalf of all others similarly situated (hereinafter referred to as “*Plaintiff*”), by and through the undersigned counsel, complains, states and alleges against Alpha Recovery Corp and Bureaus Investment Group Portfolio No. 15, LLC(hereinafter referred to collectively as “*Defendants*”), as follows:

**INTRODUCTION**

1. This action seeks to recover for violations of the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, 15 U.S.C. § 1692, *et seq.*, (“FDCPA”).

**JURISDICTION AND VENUE**

2. This Court has federal subject matter jurisdiction pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §1331 and 15 U.S.C. § 1692k(d).

3. Venue is proper under 28 U.S.C. §1391(b) because a substantial part of the events or omissions giving rise to the claim occurred in this Judicial District.

4. At all relevant times, Defendants conducted business within the State of New York.

**PARTIES**

5. Plaintiff Cassandra Gracius is an individual who is a citizen of the State of New York residing in Kings County, New York.

6. Plaintiff is a “consumer” as defined by 15 U.S.C. § 1692a(3).

7. On information and belief, Defendant Alpha Recovery Corp, is a Colorado Corporation with a principal place of business in Arapahoe County, Colorado.

8. On information and belief, Defendant Bureaus Investment Group Portfolio No. 15, LLC, is an Illinois Limited Liability Company with a principal place of business in Cook County, Illinois.

9. Defendants are regularly engaged, for profit, in the collection of debts allegedly owed by consumers.

10. Defendants are “debt collectors” as defined by 15 U.S.C. § 1692a(6).

**ALLEGATIONS**

11. Defendants allege Plaintiff owes a debt (“the Debt”).

12. The Debt was primarily for personal, family or household purposes and is therefore a “debt” as defined by 15 U.S.C. § 1692a(5).

13. Sometime after the incurrence of the Debt Plaintiff fell behind on payments owed.

14. Thereafter, at an exact time known only to Defendants, the debt was assigned or otherwise transferred to Defendants for collection.

15. In their efforts to collect the debt, Defendants contacted Plaintiff by letter (“the Letter”) dated April 30, 2018. (“**Exhibit 1.**”)

16. The letter was the initial communication Plaintiff received from Defendants.

17. The letter is a “communication” as defined by 15 U.S.C. § 1692a(2).

**FIRST COUNT**  
**Violation of 15 U.S.C. § 1692e**

18. Plaintiff repeats and realleges the foregoing paragraphs as if fully restated herein.

19. The Debt was incurred on a credit card, underwritten by Capital One, N.A. (“Capital One”).

20. The Letter sets forth a “Current Balance Claimed Due” of \$1,359.59.

21. Pursuant to the terms and conditions of the credit card, Capital One charged Plaintiff interest on any balance carried on the account.

22. Pursuant to the terms and conditions of the credit card, Capital One charged Plaintiff late fees on any payments due but not timely made by Plaintiff.

23. Pursuant to the terms and conditions of the credit card, Capital One charged Plaintiff other fees on the account.

24. The right to collect from Plaintiff interest on any balance carried on the account was not waived by Capital One.

25. The right to collect from Plaintiff late fees on any payments due but not timely made by Plaintiff was not waived by Capital One.

26. The right to collect from Plaintiff other fees on the account was not waived by Capital One.

27. The right to collect from Plaintiff interest on any balance carried on the account was not waived by any assignee or successor-in-interest.

28. The right to collect from Plaintiff late fees on any payments due but not timely made by Plaintiff was not waived by any assignee or successor-in-interest.

29. The right to collect from Plaintiff other fees on the account was not waived by any assignee or successor-in-interest.

30. Plaintiff was never informed by anyone that the terms and conditions of the credit card were changed.

31. Pursuant to the terms and conditions of the credit card, interest continued to accrue on any balance unpaid.

32. Pursuant to the terms and conditions of the credit card, late fees continued to accrue on any payments due but not timely made by Plaintiff.

33. Pursuant to the terms and conditions of the credit card, other fees continued to accrue on the account.

34. Pursuant to the terms and conditions of the credit card, Capital One and any assignee or successor-in-interest had the legal right to collect from Plaintiff interest on any

BARSHAY | SANDERS<sup>PLLC</sup>  
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balance carried on the account.

35. Pursuant to the terms and conditions of the credit card, Capital One and any assignee or successor-in-interest had the legal right to collect from Plaintiff late fees on any payments due but not timely made by Plaintiff.

36. Pursuant to the terms and conditions of the credit card, Capital One and any assignee or successor-in-interest had the legal right to collect from Plaintiff other fees on the account.

37. Pursuant to the terms and conditions of the credit card, the legal right of Capital One and any assignee or successor-in-interest to collect from Plaintiff interest on any balance carried on the account is not waived by Capital One or any assignee or successor-in-interest as a result of a failure by either Capital One or any assignee or successor-in-interest at any point in time to attempt to collect from Plaintiff the aforementioned interest.

38. Pursuant to the terms and conditions of the credit card, the legal right of Capital One and any assignee or successor-in-interest to collect from Plaintiff late fees on any payments due but not timely made by Plaintiff is not waived by Capital One or any assignee or successor-in-interest as a result of a failure by either Capital One or any assignee or successor-in-interest at any point in time to attempt to collect from Plaintiff the aforementioned late fees.

39. Pursuant to the terms and conditions of the credit card, the legal right of Capital One and any assignee or successor-in-interest to collect from Plaintiff other fees on the account is not waived by Capital One or any assignee or successor-in-interest as a result of a failure by either Capital One or any assignee or successor-in-interest at any point in time to attempt to collect from Plaintiff the aforementioned other fees.

40. 15 U.S.C. § 1692e requires debt collectors, when they notify consumers of their account balance, to disclose that the balance may increase due to interest and fees.

41. The Letter failed to disclose that the balance stated may increase due to interest.

42. The Letter failed to disclose that the balance stated may increase due to late fees.

43. The Letter failed to disclose that the balance stated may increase due to other fees.

44. The Letter, because of the aforementioned failures, violates 15 U.S.C. § 1692e.

**SECOND COUNT**  
**Violation of 15 U.S.C. § 1692g**

45. Plaintiff repeats and realleges the foregoing paragraphs as if fully restated herein.

46. 15 U.S.C. § 1692g provides that within five days after the initial communication with a consumer in connection with the collection of any debt, a debt collector shall, unless the information is contained in the initial communication or the consumer has paid the debt, send the consumer a written notice containing certain enumerated information.

47. 15 U.S.C. § 1692g(a)(1) requires the written notice provide “the amount of the debt.”

48. The written notice, to comply with 15 U.S.C. § 1692g(a)(1), must convey the amount of the debt clearly from the perspective of the least sophisticated consumer.

49. The written notice, to comply with 15 U.S.C. § 1692g(a)(1), must convey the amount of the debt accurately from the perspective of the least sophisticated consumer.

50. The written notice, to comply with 15 U.S.C. § 1692g(a)(1), must convey the amount of the debt without ambiguity from the perspective of the least sophisticated consumer.

51. The written notice, to comply with 15 U.S.C. § 1692g(a)(1), must state whether interest, late fees and/or other fees are accruing.

52. The written notice, to comply with 15 U.S.C. § 1692g(a)(1), must allow the least sophisticated consumer to determine the minimum amount he or she owes at the time of the notice.

53. The written notice, to comply with 15 U.S.C. § 1692g(a)(1), must allow the least sophisticated consumer to determine what he or she will need to pay to resolve the debt at any given moment in the future.

54. The written notice, to comply with 15 U.S.C. § 1692g(a)(1), must contain an explanation, understandable by the least sophisticated consumer, of any fees or interest that may cause the balance to increase at any time in the future.

55. The failure to include the foregoing information renders an otherwise accurate statement of the “amount of the debt” violative of 15 U.S.C. § 1692g(a)(1).

56. The Letter fails to indicate the minimum amount Plaintiff owed at the time of the Letter.

57. The Letter fails to provide information that would allow the least sophisticated consumer to determine the minimum amount he or she owes at the time of the Letter.

58. The Letter fails to provide information that would allow Plaintiff to determine

what Plaintiff will need to pay to resolve the debt at any given moment in the future.

59. The Letter fails to provide information that would allow the least sophisticated consumer to determine what he or she will need to pay to resolve the debt at any given moment in the future.

60. The Letter fails to provide information that would allow the least sophisticated consumer to determine the amount of interest owed.

61. For instance, the Letter fails to indicate the applicable interest rate.

62. For instance, the Letter fails to indicate the date of accrual of interest.

63. For instance, the Letter fails to indicate the amount of interest during any measurable period.

64. The Letter fails to provide information that would allow the least sophisticated consumer to determine the amount of late fees owed.

65. For instance, the Letter fails to indicate the amount of late fees.

66. For instance, the Letter fails to indicate the date such fees will be added.

67. For instance, the Letter fails to indicate the amount of late fees during any measurable period.

68. The Letter fails to contain an explanation, understandable by the least sophisticated consumer, of any fees and interest that may cause the amount stated to increase.

69. The Letter fails to state whether interest, late fees and/or other fees are accruing.

70. The Letter fails to state what part of the amount stated is attributable to principal.

71. The Letter fails to state what part of the amount stated is attributable to interest.

72. The Letter fails to state what part of the amount stated is attributable to late fees.

73. The Letter fails to state what part of the amount stated is attributable to other fees.

74. The Letter, because of the aforementioned failures, would render the least sophisticated consumer unable to determine the minimum amount owed at the time of the Letter.

75. The Letter, because of the aforementioned failures, would render the least sophisticated consumer unable to determine what she will need to pay to resolve the debt at any given moment in the future.

76. The Letter, because of the aforementioned failures, would render the least sophisticated consumer unable to determine the amount of his or her debt.

77. The Letter, because of the aforementioned failures, would render the least

sophisticated consumer unable to determine the amount of her debt because the consumer would not know whether interest and fees would continue to accrue, or whether the amount of the debt was static.

78. The Letter, because of the aforementioned failures, did not convey “the amount of the debt” clearly from the perspective of the least sophisticated consumer.

79. The Letter, because of the aforementioned failures, did not convey “the amount of the debt” accurately from the perspective of the least sophisticated consumer.

80. The Letter, because of the aforementioned failures, did not convey “the amount of the debt” without ambiguity from the perspective of the least sophisticated consumer.

81. The Letter, because of the aforementioned failures, renders the statement of the amount of the debt, even if otherwise accurate, violative of 15 U.S.C. § 1692g(a)(1).

82. The Letter, because of the aforementioned failures, did not adequately set forth “the amount of the debt” as required by 15 U.S.C. § 1692g.

83. The Letter, because of the aforementioned failures, violates 15 U.S.C. § 1692g.

**THIRD COUNT**  
**Violation of 15 U.S.C. § 1692e**

84. Plaintiff repeats and realleges the foregoing paragraphs as if fully restated herein.

85. As previously set forth, the Letter sets forth a “Current Balance Claimed Due.”

86. As previously set forth, Plaintiff was always charged interest on any balance carried on the account.

87. As previously set forth, Plaintiff was always charged late fees on any payments due but not timely made by Plaintiff.

88. As previously set forth, Plaintiff was never informed by anyone that the terms and conditions of the credit card were changed.

89. The Letter fails to disclose whether the amount stated may increase due to additional interest.

90. The Letter fails to disclose whether the amount stated may increase due to additional late fees.

91. The Letter fails to indicate whether the creditor will accept payment of the amount stated in full satisfaction of the debt if payment is made by a specified date.

92. A collection letter violates 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.

93. The Letter, because of the aforementioned failures, and because interest and late fees were always charged on the account and Plaintiff was never informed by anyone that interest and late fees would no longer be applied, and especially because of the use of the word “Current,” can reasonably be read by the least sophisticated consumer to mean that interest was still accruing.

94. The Letter, because of the aforementioned failures, and because interest and late fees were always charged on the account and Plaintiff was never informed by anyone that interest and late fees would no longer be applied, and especially because of the use of the word “Current,” can reasonably be read by the least sophisticated consumer to mean that late fees were still accruing.

95. The Letter could also reasonably be read by the least sophisticated consumer to mean that interest was no longer accruing.

96. The Letter could also reasonably be read by the least sophisticated consumer to mean that late fees were no longer accruing.

97. The Letter could reasonably be read by the least sophisticated consumer to mean that the debt could be satisfied in full by payment of the amount stated.

98. The Letter could reasonably be read by the least sophisticated consumer to mean that the debt could be satisfied in full by payment of the amount stated at any time after receipt of the Letter.

99. The Letter could also reasonably be read by the least sophisticated consumer to mean that the amount stated was accurate only on the date of the Letter because of the continued accumulation of interest and/or late fees.

100. Because the Letter can reasonably be read by the least sophisticated consumer to have two or more meanings, one of which is inaccurate, as described, it is deceptive under 15 U.S.C. § 1692e.

101. For these reasons, Defendants violated 15 U.S.C. § 1692e

**FOURTH COUNT**  
**Violation of 15 U.S.C. § 1692g**  
**Validation of Debts**



102. Plaintiff repeats and realleges the foregoing paragraphs as if fully restated herein.

103. 15 U.S.C. § 1692g provides that within five days after the initial communication with a consumer in connection with the collection of any debt, a debt collector shall, unless the information is contained in the initial communication or the consumer has paid the debt, send the consumer a written notice containing certain enumerated information.

104. The written notice must contain the amount of the debt.

105. The written notice must contain the name of the creditor to whom the debt is owed.

106. The written notice must contain a statement that unless the consumer, within thirty days after receipt of the notice, disputes the validity of the debt, or any portion thereof, the debt will be assumed to be valid by the debt collector.

107. The written notice must contain a statement that if the consumer notifies the debt collector in writing within the thirty-day period that the debt, or any portion thereof, is disputed, the debt collector will obtain verification of the debt or a copy of a judgment against the consumer and a copy of such verification or judgment will be mailed to the consumer by the debt collector.

108. The written notice must contain a statement that, upon the consumer's written request within the thirty-day period, the debt collector will provide the consumer with the name and address of the original creditor, if different from the current creditor.

109. A debt collector has the obligation, not just to convey the required information, but also to convey such clearly.

110. Even if a debt collector conveys the required information accurately, the debt collector nonetheless violates the FDCPA if that information is overshadowed or contradicted by other language in the communication.

111. Even if a debt collector conveys the required information accurately, the debt collector nonetheless violates the FDCPA if that information is overshadowed by other collection activities during the 30-day validation period following the communication.

112. A collection activity or communication overshadows or contradicts the validation notice if it would make the "least sophisticated consumer" uncertain or confused as to her rights.

113. A collection letter overshadows the validation notice if it is formatted in a manner such that the validation notice is visibly inconspicuous.

114. The Letter sets forth certain language in bold.

115. The Letter sets forth certain language in type-face bigger than the rest of the writing on the Letter.

116. The bottom of the Letter states “\*\*\*See reverse side for state specific laws and other important information\*\*\*”.

117. The reverse side of the letter does not include Plaintiff’s Section 1692g rights.

118. Instead, the Section 1692g rights are set forth inconspicuously in the body of letter.

119. The Section 1692g rights, relative to the other language in the Letter, is visually inconspicuous.

120. The Section 1692g rights cannot be readily discerned from the rest of the non-boldfaced body of the Letter.

121. The Section 1692g rights cannot be readily discerned from the rest of the deemphasized writing of the Letter.

122. The Letter contains no visually conspicuous transitional language, such as “See Important Notice Below,” directing Plaintiffs’ attention to the Section 1692g rights.

123. The Letter does not otherwise direct the consumer’s attention to the Section 1692g rights in any way.

124. The manner in which the Letter is formatted would likely make the least sophisticated consumer uncertain as to her rights.

125. The manner in which the Letter is formatted would likely make the least sophisticated consumer confused as to her rights.

126. The manner in which the Letter is formatted would likely make the least sophisticated consumer overlook her rights.

127. The letter is structured in such a way that it makes Plaintiff’s validation rights difficult to read and easy to overlook.

128. The letter is structured in such a way that it makes Plaintiff’s validation rights appear as boilerplate language.

129. The letter is structured in such a way that it makes Plaintiff’s validation rights appear unimportant.

130. The letter is structured in such a way that it discourages Plaintiff from reading her

validation rights.

131. Defendant violated § 1692g as Defendant overshadowed the information required to be provided by that Section.

### **CLASS ALLEGATIONS**

132. Plaintiff brings this action individually and as a class action on behalf of all persons similarly situated in the State of New York from whom Defendants attempted to collect a consumer debt using a collection letter substantially similar to the Letter herein, from one year before the date of this Complaint to the present.

133. This action seeks a finding that Defendants' conduct violates the FDCPA, and asks that the Court award damages as authorized by 15 U.S.C. § 1692k.

134. Defendants regularly engage in debt collection.

135. The Class consists of more than 35 persons from whom Defendants attempted to collect delinquent consumer debts using a collection letter substantially similar to the Letter herein.

136. Plaintiff's claims are typical of the claims of the Class. Common questions of law or fact raised by this class action complaint affect all members of the Class and predominate over any individual issues. Common relief is therefore sought on behalf of all members of the Class. This class action is superior to other available methods for the fair and efficient adjudication of this controversy.

137. The prosecution of separate actions by individual members of the Class would create a risk of inconsistent or varying adjudications with respect to the individual members of the Class, and a risk that any adjudications with respect to individual members of the Class would, as a practical matter, either be dispositive of the interests of other members of the Class not party to the adjudication, or substantially impair or impede their ability to protect their interests. Defendants have acted in a manner applicable to the Class as a whole such that declaratory relief is warranted.

138. Plaintiff will fairly and adequately protect and represent the interests of the Class. The management of the class action proposed is not extraordinarily difficult, and the factual and legal issues raised by this class action complaint will not require extended contact with the members of the Class, because Defendants' conduct was perpetrated on all members of the Class and will be established by common proof. Moreover, Plaintiff has retained counsel experienced

in actions brought under consumer protection laws.

**JURY DEMAND**

139. Plaintiff hereby demands a trial of this action by jury.

**PRAYER FOR RELIEF**

**WHEREFORE**, Plaintiff respectfully requests judgment as follows:

- a. Certify this action as a class action; and
- b. Appoint Plaintiff as Class Representative of the Class, and Plaintiff's attorneys as Class Counsel; and
- c. Find that Defendants' actions violate the FDCPA; and
- d. Grant damages against Defendants pursuant to 15 U.S.C. § 1692k; and
- e. Grant Plaintiff's attorneys' fees pursuant to 15 U.S.C. § 1692k; and
- f. Grant Plaintiff's costs; together with
- g. Such other relief that the Court determines is just and proper.

DATED: August 2, 2018

**BARSHAY SANDERS, PLLC**

By:  /s/ Craig B. Sanders  
Craig B. Sanders, Esq.  
100 Garden City Plaza, Suite 500  
Garden City, New York 11530  
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csanders@barshaysanders.com  
*Attorneys for Plaintiff*  
Our File No.: 115706

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GARDEN CITY, NEW YORK 11530

PO Box 1259  
Dept. # 136480  
Oaks, PA 19456



If you wish to pay by credit card, fill in the information below

Card Number	Card Exp
Card Holder Name	CVV
Signature	Amount Paid
Account Number 0088	Balance Due \$1,359.59

If you would like to make your payment through our website, please visit [www.alpharecoverycorp.com](http://www.alpharecoverycorp.com)



CASSANDRA GRACIUS  
555 E 26TH ST APT 2  
BROOKLYN NY 11210-1329

Alpha Recovery Corp.  
6912 S. Quentin St. Unit 10  
Centennial CO. 80112



000278

\*\*\*Please Detach This Portion And Return With Payment\*\*\*

Alpha Recovery Corp. Toll Free: 1-877-359-8714



6912 S. Quentin St. Unit 10  
Centennial CO. 80112

Toll Free: 877-359-8714

04/30/2018

Creditor: BUREAUS INVESTMENT GROUP PORTFOLIO NO 15 LLC  
Account Number: 0088

Original Creditor: CAPITAL ONE, N.A.  
Original Creditor Account Number: \*\*\*\*\*1603

Debt Due as of Charge-Off: \$1,359.59  
Interest Accrued since Charge-Off: \$0.00  
Non-Interest Charges or Fees Accrued since Charge-Off: \$0.00  
Payments Made on Debt since the Charge-Off: \$0.00  
Current Balance Claimed Due: \$1,359.59

Dear CASSANDRA GRACIUS,

We would like to take this opportunity to inform you that BUREAUS INVESTMENT GROUP PORTFOLIO NO 15 LLC has purchased your account from CAPITAL ONE, N.A.

Please be advised that your outstanding balance, in the amount of \$1,359.59 for this account has been placed with our office. Please remit your payment in full payable to Alpha Recovery Corp. We trust your intention is to address this matter. Please do not hesitate to contact Chris Della Ratta at 720-509-2125, Monday and Tuesday from 10:00am - 7:00pm MST, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday from 7:30am-4:30pm MST. Please refer to the account number listed above.

Unless you notify this office within 30 days after receiving this notice that you dispute the validity of this debt or any portion thereof, this office will assume this debt is valid. If you notify this office in writing within 30 days after receiving this notice that you dispute the validity of this debt or any portion thereof, this office will obtain verification of the debt or obtain a copy of a judgment and mail you a copy of such judgment or verification. If you request of this office in writing within 30 days after receiving this notice, this office will provide you with the name and address of original creditor, if different from the current creditor.

Alpha Recovery Corp.

Your account with the above referenced original creditor has been purchased and is now owned by our client, BUREAUS INVESTMENT GROUP PORTFOLIO NO 15 LLC

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:

- 1. Supplemental security income, (SSI);
- 2. Social security;
- 3. Public assistance (welfare);
- 4. Spousal support, maintenance (alimony) or child support;
- 5. Unemployment benefits;
- 6. Disability benefits;
- 7. 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.

This is a communication from a debt collector. This is an attempt to collect a debt.  
Any information obtained will be used for that purpose.

\*\*\*See reverse side for state specific laws and other important information\*\*\*



Change of Address Information

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

Work Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

We are required under state law to notify consumers of the following rights. This list does not contain a complete list of the rights consumers have under state and federal law.

Notice to California Residents: The State Rosenthal Fair Debt Collection Practices Act and The Federal Fair Debt Collection Practices Act require that, except under unusual circumstances, collector may not contact you before 8 a.m. or after 9 p.m. They may not harass you by using threats of violence or arrest or by using obscene language. Collectors may not use false or misleading statements or call you at work if they know or have reason to know that you may not receive personal calls at work. For the most part, collectors may not tell another person, other than your attorney or spouse, about your debt Collectors may contact another person to confirm your location or enforce a judgment. For more information about debt collections activities, you may contact the Federal Trade Commission at 1-877-FTC-HELP or [WWW.FTC.GOV](http://WWW.FTC.GOV). As required by California law, you are hereby notified that a negative credit report reflecting on your credit may be submitted to a credit-reporting agency if you fail to fulfill the terms of your credit obligations.

For Colorado residents: FOR INFORMATION ABOUT THE COLORADO FAIR DEBT COLLECTION PRACTICES ACT, SEE [www.coag.gov/car](http://www.coag.gov/car) A consumer has the right to request in writing that a debt collector or collection agency cease further communication with the consumer. A written request to cease communication will not prohibit the debt collector or collection agency from taking any other action authorized by law to collect the debt.

Notice to Maine Residents: Alpha Recovery Corporation OPERATING HOURS IS Monday and Tuesday 10:00am - 7 pm MST, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday 7:30am - 4:30pm MST

NOTICE TO MASSACHUSETTS RESIDENTS: NOTICE OF IMPORTANT RIGHTS. YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO MAKE A WRITTEN OR ORAL REQUEST THAT TELEPHONE CALLS REGARDING YOUR DEBT WILL NOT BE MADE TO YOU AT YOUR PLACE OF EMPLOYMENT. ANY SUCH ORAL REQUEST WILL BE VALID FOR ONLY TEN DAYS UNLESS YOU PROVIDE WRITTEN CONFIRMATION OF THE REQUEST POSTMARKED OR DELIVERED WITHIN SEVEN DAYS OF SUCH REQUEST. YOU MAY TERMINATE THIS REQUEST BY WRITING TO THE COLLECTION AGENCY. YOU MAY CONTACT OUR OFFICE AT 877-359-8714 BETWEEN THE HOURS OF 10:00am - 7pm MST Monday and Tuesday & 7:30am - 4:30pm MST Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday.

Notice to Tennessee Residents: This collection agency is licensed by the collection service board of The Department of Commerce and Insurance, License ID Number 00001173.

Notice to Minnesota Residents: This collection agency is licensed by The Minnesota Department of Commerce.

Notice to North Carolina Residents: Alpha Recovery Corporation PERMIT# 104670.

Notice to New York City Residents: Alpha Recovery Corporation License # 1379591.

AO 440 (Rev. 06/12) Summons in a Civil Action

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT**  
for the  
**EASTERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK**

Cassandra Gracius, individually and on behalf of all  
others similarly situated

*Plaintiff(s)*

v.

Alpha Recovery Corp and Bureaus Investment  
Group Portfolio No. 15, LLC

*Defendant(s)*

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Civil Action No.

**SUMMONS IN A CIVIL ACTION**

To: *(Defendant's name and address)*

Alpha Recovery Corp  
C/O NATIONAL REGISTERED AGENTS, INC.  
111 EIGHTH AVENUE  
NEW YORK, NEW YORK, 10011

A lawsuit has been filed against you.

Within 21 days after service of this summons on you (not counting the day you received it) – or 60 days if you are the United States, or a United States agency, or an officer or employee of the United States described in Fed. R. Civ. P. 12 (a)(2) or (3) – you must serve on the plaintiff an answer to the attached complaint or a motion under Rule 12 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure. The answer or motion must be served on the plaintiff or plaintiff’s attorney, whose name and address are:

BARSHAY SANDERS PLLC  
100 GARDEN CITY PLAZA, SUITE 500  
GARDEN CITY, NY 11530

If you fail to respond, judgment by default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the complaint. You also must file your answer or motion with the court.

*CLERK OF COURT*

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Signature of Clerk or Deputy Clerk*

AO 440 (Rev. 06/12) Summons in a Civil Action

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT**  
for the  
**EASTERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK**

Cassandra Gracius, individually and on behalf of all  
others similarly situated  
\_\_\_\_\_  
*Plaintiff(s)*

v.

Alpha Recovery Corp and Bureaus Investment  
Group Portfolio No. 15, LLC  
\_\_\_\_\_  
*Defendant(s)*

Civil Action No.

**SUMMONS IN A CIVIL ACTION**

To: *(Defendant's name and address)*  
Bureaus Investment Group Portfolio No. 15, LLC  
650 Dundee Road , Suite 370  
Northbrook, Illinois 60062

A lawsuit has been filed against you.

Within 21 days after service of this summons on you (not counting the day you received it) – or 60 days if you are the United States, or a United States agency, or an officer or employee of the United States described in Fed. R. Civ. P. 12 (a)(2) or (3) – you must serve on the plaintiff an answer to the attached complaint or a motion under Rule 12 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure. The answer or motion must be served on the plaintiff or plaintiff’s attorney, whose name and address are:

BARSHAY SANDERS PLLC  
100 GARDEN CITY PLAZA, SUITE 500  
GARDEN CITY, NY 11530

If you fail to respond, judgment by default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the complaint. You also must file your answer or motion with the court.

*CLERK OF COURT*

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Signature of Clerk or Deputy Clerk*



CIVIL COVER SHEET

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

I. (a) PLAINTIFFS: CASSANDRA GRACIUS; DEFENDANTS: ALPHA RECOVERY CORP. (b) County of Residence of First Listed Plaintiff: KINGS; County of Residence of First Listed Defendant: ARAPAHOE. (c) Attorneys: BARSHAY SANDERS, PLLC, 100 Garden City Plaza, Ste 500, Garden City, NY 11530, (516) 203-7600.

II. BASIS OF JURISDICTION: U.S. Government Plaintiff; Federal Question; Diversity. III. CITIZENSHIP OF PRINCIPAL PARTIES: Plaintiff is Citizen of This State; Defendant is Citizen of Another State.

IV. NATURE OF SUIT: CONTRACT (Insurance, Medicare, etc.); TORTS (Personal Injury, Assault, etc.); FORFEITURE/PENALTY (Drug Related Seizure, etc.); LABOR (Fair Labor Standards, etc.); IMMIGRATION (Naturalization Application, etc.); REAL PROPERTY (Land Condemnation, etc.); CIVIL RIGHTS (Voting, etc.); PRISONER PETITIONS (Habeas Corpus, etc.); BANKRUPTCY (Appeal, Withdrawal, etc.); SOCIAL SECURITY (HIA, Black Lung, etc.); FEDERAL TAX SUITS (Taxes, etc.); OTHER STATUTES (False Claims Act, etc.).

V. ORIGIN: 1 Original Proceeding; 2 Removed from State Court; 3 Remanded from Appellate Court; 4 Reinstated or Reopened; 5 Transferred from Another District (specify); 6 Multidistrict Litigation - Transfer; 8 Multidistrict Litigation - Direct File.

VI. CAUSE OF ACTION: Cite the U.S. Civil Statute under which you are filing: 15 USC §1692. Brief description of cause: 15 USC §1692 Fair Debt Collection Practices Act Violation.

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

VIII. RELATED CASE(S) IF ANY: (See Instructions) JUDGE: DOCKET NUMBER:

DATE: August 7, 2018; SIGNATURE OF ATTORNEY OF RECORD: /s Craig B. Sanders

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY: RECEIPT #, AMOUNT, APPLYING IFF, JUDGE, MAG. JUDGE.

CERTIFICATION OF ARBITRATION ELIGIBILITY

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

I, Craig B. Sanders, counsel for Plaintiff, do hereby certify that the above captioned civil action is ineligible for compulsory arbitration for the following reason(s):

- monetary damages sought are in excess of \$150,000, exclusive of interest and costs,
the complaint seeks injunctive relief,
the matter is otherwise ineligible for the following reason

DISCLOSURE STATEMENT - FEDERAL RULES CIVIL PROCEDURE 7.1

Identify any parent corporation and any publicly held corporation that owns 10% or more of its stocks:

RELATED CASE STATEMENT (Section VIII on the Front of this Form)

Please list all cases that are arguably related pursuant to Division of Business Rule 50.3.1 in Section VIII on the front of this form. Rule 50.3.1 (a) provides that "A civil case is "related" to another civil case for purposes of this guideline when, because of the similarity of facts and legal issues or because the cases arise from the same transactions or events, a substantial saving of judicial resources is likely to result from assigning both cases to the same judge and magistrate judge." Rule 50.3.1 (b) provides that " A civil case shall not be deemed "related" to another civil case merely because the civil case: (A) involves identical legal issues, or (B) involves the same parties." Rule 50.3.1 (c) further provides that "Presumptively, and subject to the power of a judge to determine otherwise pursuant to paragraph (d), civil cases shall not be deemed to be "related" unless both cases are still pending before the court."

NY-E DIVISION OF BUSINESS RULE 50.1(d)(2)

- 1. Is the civil action being filed in the Eastern District removed from a New York State Court located in Nassau or Suffolk County: NO
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
c) If this is a Fair Debt Collection Practice Act case, specific the County in which the offending communication was received: KINGS

If your answer to question 2 (b) is "No," does the defendant (or a majority of the defendants, if there is more than one) reside in Nassau or Suffolk County, or, in an interpleader action, does the claimant (or a majority of the claimants, if there is more than one) reside in Nassau or Suffolk County? Yes No

(Note: A corporation shall be considered a resident of the County in which it has the most significant contacts).

BAR ADMISSION

I am currently admitted in the Eastern District of New York and currently a member in good standing of the bar of this court. Yes No

Are you currently the subject of any disciplinary action (s) in this or any other state or federal court? Yes (If yes, please explain) No

I certify the accuracy of all information provided above.

Signature: /s Craig B. Sanders

# ClassAction.org

This complaint is part of ClassAction.org's searchable class action lawsuit database and can be found in this post: [Alpha Recovery Group, Bureaus Investment Group Portfolio Failed to Provide Enough Debt Info, Suit Alleges](#)

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