# UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT EASTERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

AHARON HOLLENDER on behalf of himself and all other similarly situated consumers

Plaintiff,

-against-

CAPITAL MANAGEMENT SERVICES, L.P.

Defendant.

# CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT

# Introduction

 Plaintiff, Aharon Hollender, brings this action against Capital Management Services, L.P. 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.
- Upon information and belief, Defendant's principal place of business is located in Buffalo, New York.
- 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

- 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 Aharon Hollender**

- 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 December 18, 2016, Defendant sent the Plaintiff a collection letter.
- 11. The December 18, 2016 letter stated:

"As of the date of this letter, you owe \$11680.04. Because of interest, late charges and other charges that may vary from day to day, the amount due on the day you pay may be greater."

- 12. 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.
- 13. One such requirement is that the debt collector provide "the amount of the debt." 15U.S.C. § 1692g(a)(1).
- 14. A debt collector has the obligation not just to convey the amount of the debt, but to convey such clearly.
- 15. 15 U.S.C. § 1692e prohibits a debt collector from using any false, deceptive, or misleading representation or means in connection with the collection of any debt.
- 16. The question of whether a collection letter is deceptive is determined from the perspective of the "least sophisticated consumer."

- 17. While § 1692e specifically prohibits certain practices, the list is non-exhaustive, and does not preclude a claim of falsity or deception based on any non-enumerated practice.
- 18. 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.
- 19. 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.
- 20. The letter fails to inform Plaintiff whether the amount listed is the actual amount of the debt due.
- 21. More importantly, the letter fails to inform Plaintiff whether the account balance listed already includes "interest."
- 22. The December 18, 2016 letter also fails to inform Plaintiff whether the account balance listed already includes "late charges and other charges."
- 23. The December 18, 2016 letter fails to advise Plaintiff what portion of the account balance listed is principal.
- 24. The December 18, 2016 letter fails to inform Plaintiff whether the account balance listed will increase.
- 25. The December 18, 2016 letter fails to inform Plaintiff what "late charges and other charges" might apply.
- 26. The December 18, 2016 letter fails to inform Plaintiff if "late charges and other charges" are applied, when such "late charges and other charges" will be applied.
- 27. The December 18, 2016 letter fails to inform Plaintiff if "late charges and other charges" are applied, what the amount of those "late charges and other charges" will be.
- 28. The December 18, 2016 letter fails to inform Plaintiff of the nature of the "late charges

and other charges."

- 29. The December 18, 2016 letter fails to inform Plaintiff if there is "interest," what the amount of any accruing interest will be.
- 30. An unsophisticated consumer could reasonably believe that the account balance listed was accurate only on the date of the letter.
- 31. If interest is continuing to accrue, the least sophisticated consumer would not know the amount of the debt because the letter fails to indicate the applicable interest rate.
- 32. If interest is continuing to accrue, the least sophisticated consumer would not know the amount of the debt because the letter fails to indicate what the amount of any accruing interest will be.
- 33. If interest is continuing to accrue, the least sophisticated consumer would not know the amount of the debt because the letter fails to indicate when such interest will be applied.
- 34. If interest is continuing to accrue, the least sophisticated consumer would not know the amount of the debt because the letter fails to indicate the amount of money the amount listed will increase at any measurable period.
- 35. If "late charges and other charges" are continuing to accrue, the least sophisticated consumer would not know the amount of the debt because the letter fails to indicate the nature of the "late charges and other charges."<sup>1</sup>
- 36. In order to induce payments from consumers that would not otherwise be made if the consumer knew the true amount due, Defendant does not inform the consumer what "late

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Carlin v. Davidson Fink LLP, 852 F.3d 207 (2d Cir. 2017); Balke v. All. One Receivables Mgmt., No. 16-cv-5624(ADS)(AKT), 2017 U.S. <u>Dist. LEXIS 94021, at \*14 (E.D.N.Y. June 19, 2017)</u> ("[T]he Collection Letter in this case refers with vagueness to "accrued interest or other charges," without providing any information regarding the rate of interest; the nature of the "other charges"; how any such charges would be calculated; and what portion of the balance due, if any, reflects already-accrued interest and other charges. By failing to provide even the most basic level of specificity in this regard, the Court "cannot say whether those amounts are properly part of the amount of the debt," for purposes of section 1692g.Carlin, 852 F.3d at 216. Further, as set forth in Carlin, without any clarifying details, the Collection Letter states only that these unspecified assessments may be added to the balance due, which the Court finds to be insufficient to "accurately inform[] the [Plaintiff] that the amount of the debt stated in the letter will increase over time.")

charges and other charges" might or will be applied.

- 37. Defendant's December 18, 2016 letter is in violation of 15 U.S.C. §§ 1692e, 1692e(2)(A), 1692e(10), and 1692g(a)(1) 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.
- 38. In addition, within the one year immediately preceding the filing of this complaint, the Defendant attempted to contact the Plaintiff on multiple occasions via telephone and left numerous messages in an attempt to collect the alleged obligation.
- 39. The following is an example of one such message that Plaintiff received on or about January 5, 2017 and February 6, 2017:

Calling from Capital Management Services, callback number is 8773356951.

- 40. At the time Plaintiff received the said messages, he did not know the identity of the callers.
- 41. At the time Plaintiff received the said messages, he did not know that the call concerned the collection of a debt.
- 42. Each of the messages is a "communication" as defined by 15 U.S.C. 1692a(2).<sup>2</sup>
- 43. Each of the above messages uniformly failed to identify the callers as debt collectors attempting to collect a debt.
- 44. The messages left by Defendant was deceptive and harassing per se in that it secreted the identity of the Defendant in violation of 15 U.S.C. § 1692d(6).
- 45. Upon information and belief, it is the regular practice of the Defendant to leave messages to be conveyed to 'consumers' which do not meaningfully identify themselves, and/or do

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Dauval v. MRS BPO, L.L.C., 2013 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 189109, 25 Fla. L. Weekly Fed. D 47 (M.D. Fla. June 27, 2013); Foti v. NCO Fin. Sys., 424 F.Supp.2d 643, 655–56 (S.D.N.Y.2006) (holding that a message with enough information to entice a return call being left with a third party or on a voice mail is a "communication" under the FDCPA).

not identify themselves as a debt collector.

- 46. The only way for Plaintiff and/or any least sophisticated consumer to obtain the identity of the caller leaving the messages, and to ascertain the purpose underlying the messages, was to place a return call to the telephone number provided in the messages and speak with a debt collector employed by Capital Management Services, L.P., and to provide the debt collector with personal information.
- 47. The Defendant intended that the messages have the effect of causing Plaintiff, and other least sophisticated consumers, to place return calls to the telephone number provided in the messages and to speak with their debt collectors, and then provide those debt collectors with their personal information, as the sole means of obtaining the identity of the caller leaving the messages, and to ascertain the purpose underlying the messages.
- 48. Scores of federal court decisions including the 2nd Circuit Court of Appeals and all the District Courts that have considered the issue within the State of New York (17 decisions to date) uniformly hold that the FDCPA requires debt collectors to provide meaningful identification of itself in messages left for consumers, such as the said messages, by accurately stating the name of the debt collection company and stating the nature and/or purpose of the call.<sup>3</sup>
- 49. At all times relevant to this action, Capital Management Services, L.P. was aware of the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Leyse v. Corporate Collection Servs., (2006 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 67719 (S.D.N.Y. Sept. 18, 2006)) (The court followed *Foti*, 424 F. Supp. 2d at 655-56 and *West v. Nationwide Credit*, 998 F. Supp. 642, 644 (W.D.N.C. 1998) in finding that a phone call to a debtor's neighbor that the defendant had a "very important" matter to address was "regarding a debt" because the content of the phone call was "with respect to" the Defendant's efforts to collect on plaintiff's alleged arrearage and since a phone message that "advised the debtor that the matter required immediate attention, and provided a specific number to call to discuss the matter" was a communication under the FDCPA "given that the obvious purpose of the message was to provide the debtor with enough information to entice a return call. The court noted "Were this Court to determine that [the debt collectors] Messages did not constitute communications "regarding [Plaintiff's] debt", the Court would be creating an exception to swallow the rule. Under such an exception, debt collectors would be able to abuse and harass consumers with phone calls and other forms of correspondence so long as there is no express mention of the consumers' debts. The court also found: "A message left by a debt collector which does not state that it pertains to a financial matter could reasonably pertain to a host of issues - including family or medical matters - which may be viewed by a consumer as much more pressing, than a debt owed. The apparent purpose of these messages is to be vague enough to provoke the recipient to return the calls in haste. Leaving a message that deceptively entices a consumer to communicate with a debt collector when he is caught off guard is precisely the kind of abuse the FDCPA intended to prevent.") (emphasis added)

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substantial weight of legal authority requiring it to provide meaningful identification of itself in messages left for consumers, such as the said messages, by accurately stating the nature and/or purpose of the call.<sup>4</sup>

- 50. At all times relevant to this action, Capital Management Services, L.P. willfully, deliberately, and intentionally chose not to provide meaningful identification of itself in the messages it left for consumers, such as the said messages, by accurately stating the nature and/or purpose of the call.
- 51. The Defendant's act of leaving the said messages for Plaintiff is conduct the natural consequences of which is to harass, oppress, or abuse a person in connection with the collection of a debt and is in violation of the FDCPA.
- 52. The Defendant's act of leaving the said messages for Plaintiff constitutes the use of a false, deceptive, or misleading representation or means in connection with the collection of a debt and is in violation of the FDCPA.
- 53. The FDCPA secures a consumer's right to have a debt collector cease further communications with the consumer. By failing to meaningfully identify itself, disclose the purpose of its call and state that Capital Management Services, L.P. is a debt collector in a manner understandable to the least sophisticated consumer, the Defendant has engaged in conduct designed to deprive consumers of their right to have a debt collector cease further communications.
- 54. It is Defendant's policy and practice to leave messages for consumers with third parties, such as the above said messages, that violate the FDCPA by, inter alia:

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> <u>Clark v. Capital Credit & Collection Servs.</u>, 460 F.3d 1162, 1171 (9th Cir. 2006) ("[B]ecause the FDCPA is a remedial statute aimed at curbing what Congress considered to be an industry-wide pattern of and propensity towards abusing debtors, it is logical for debt collectors repeat players likely to be acquainted with the legal standards governing their industry to bear the brunt of the risk."); <u>Russell v. Equifax A.R.S.</u>, 74 F.3d 30, 35 (2d Cir. 1996) ("As the Supreme Court has held in the general context of consumer protection—of which the [FDCPA] is a part—'it does not seem unfair to require that one who deliberately goes perilously close to an area of proscribed conduct shall take the risk that he may cross the line."') (quoting *FTC v. Colgate-Palmolive Co.*, 380 U.S. 374, 393, 85 S. Ct. 1035, 13 L. Ed. 2d 904 (1965)).

- (a) Failing to provide meaningful disclosure of Capital Management Services,
   L.P.'s identity;
- (b) Failing to disclose that the call is from a debt collector; and
- (c) Failing to disclose the purpose or nature of the communication, i.e. an attempt to collect a debt.
- 55. Upon information and belief, such messages, as alleged in this complaint, number at least in the hundreds.
- 56. Upon information and belief, the purpose of these messages is to be vague enough to provoke the recipient to return the calls in haste. A message left by a debt collector which does not state that it pertains to collection of a debt could reasonably pertain to a host of issues including family or medical matters which may be viewed by a consumer as much more pressing, than a debt owed. Leaving a message that deceptively entices a consumer to communicate with a debt collector when he is caught off guard is precisely the kind of abuse the FDCPA intended to prevent.
- 57. A message leaving any information concerning a debt is a "communication." 15 U.S.C. §
  1692a(2). "Any information" is construed broadly in favor of consumers and includes a callback number or a reference number.<sup>5</sup>
- 58. It is a communication whether it is from a conversation directly between a consumer and a debt collector or indirectly, such as by a message left on a telephone answering device, or with a third party.<sup>6</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Edwards v. Niagara Credit Solutions, Inc., 586 F. Supp. 2d 1346 (N.D. Ga. 2008) aff'd by Edwards v. Niagara Credit Solutions, Inc., 584 F.3d 1350, 2009 U.S. App. LEXIS 22500, 22 Fla. L. Weekly Fed. C 179 (11th Cir. Ga. 2009); Stinson v. Asset Acceptance, LLC, 2006 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 42266, \*7 (E.D. Va. June 12, 2006).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> West v. Nationwide Credit, Inc., 998 F. Supp. 642, 643 (W.D. N.C. 1998); Foti v. NCO Financial Systems, Inc., 424 F.Supp.2d 643 (S.D.N.Y. 2006) (infra); Wideman v. Monterey Fin. Srvs., Inc., 2009 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 38824 (W.D.Pa May 7, 2009); Belin v. Litton Loan Servicing, LP, 2006 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 47953, 2006 WL 1992410, 5 (M.D.Fla., 2006).

- 59. Defendant Capital Management Services, L.P., failed to provide Plaintiff with the notices required by 15 U.S.C. § 1692e(11), namely, by failing to advise Plaintiff that the communication was from a debt collector or that the Defendant was attempting to collect a debt.<sup>7</sup>
- 60. Defendant has engaged in a pattern of leaving messages without disclosing that the communication is from a debt collector.
- 61. The said telephone messages are in violation of 15 U.S.C. §§ 1692d, 1692d(6), 1692e(10) and 1692e(11) for failing to indicate that the messages were from a debt collector which constitutes a deceptive practice.
- 62. Plaintiff suffered injury in fact by being subjected to unfair and abusive practices of the Defendant.
- 63. Plaintiff suffered actual harm by being the target of the Defendant's misleading debt collection communications.
- 64. Defendant violated the Plaintiff's right not to be the target of misleading debt collection communications.
- 65. Defendant violated the Plaintiff's right to a truthful and fair debt collection process.
- 66. Defendant used materially false, deceptive, misleading representations and means in its attempted collection of Plaintiff's alleged debt.
- 67. Defendant's communications were designed to cause the debtor to suffer a harmful disadvantage in charting a course of action in response to Defendant's collection efforts.
- 68. 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

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Sclafani v. BC Servs., Inc., No. 10-61360-CIV, 2010 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 115330, 2010 WL 4116471, at \*3 (S.D. Fla. Oct. 18, 2010) ("If [the defendant] could not leave voice messages that simultaneously complied with the multiple applicable provisions of FDCPA, it should not have left the offending voice messages.")

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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.

- 69. These deceptive communications additionally violated the FDCPA since they frustrate the consumer's ability to intelligently choose his or her response.
- 70. 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**

- 71. 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.
- 72. The identities of all class members are readily ascertainable from the records of Capital Management Services, L.P. and those business and governmental entities on whose behalf it attempts to collect debts.
- 73. Excluded from the Plaintiff's Class is the Defendant and all officers, members, partners, managers, directors, and employees of Capital Management Services, L.P., and all of their respective immediate families, and legal counsel for all parties to this action and all members of their immediate families.
- 74. 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

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principal issues are whether Defendant's communications with the Plaintiff, such as the above stated claims, violate provisions of the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act.

- 75. The Plaintiff's claims are typical of the class members, as all are based upon the same facts and legal theories.
- 76. 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.
- 77. 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) <u>Adequacy:</u> 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) Superiority: 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.
- 78. 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.

- 79. 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.
- 80. 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.
- 81. 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).

#### 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.

- 82. Plaintiff repeats, reiterates, and incorporates the allegations contained in paragraphs numbered one (1) through one hundred and eighty one (81) herein with the same force and effect is if the same were set forth at length herein.
- 83. This cause of action is brought on behalf of Plaintiff and the members of two classes.
- 84. The first 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 December 18, 2016; 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

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asserts that the letter contained violations of 15 U.S.C. §§ 1692e and 1692g(a)(1) for the use of any false representation or deceptive means to collect or attempt to collect any debt, for misrepresenting the amount of the debt owed by Plaintiff, for failing to accurately state the amount of the debt in the initial communication, 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.

85. The second class consists of all persons whom Defendant's records reflect resided in New York who received telephonic messages from Defendant within one year prior to the date of the within complaint up to the date of the filing of the complaint; and (a) the telephone call was placed to a the consumer's home or similar party seeking payment of a consumer debt by leaving a message for the Plaintiff; and (b) the Plaintiff asserts that the telephone message was in violation 15 U.S.C. §§ 1692d, 1692e, 1692e(10), 1692e(11), and 1692f.

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

- 86. The Defendant's actions as set forth above in the within complaint violates the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act.
- 87. 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

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

Dated: Brooklyn, New York November 22, 2017

/s/ Maxim Maximov Maxim Maximov, Esq. Attorneys for the Plaintiff Maxim Maximov, LLP 1701 Avenue P Brooklyn, New York 11229 Office: (718) 395-3459 Facsimile: (718) 408-9570 E-mail: m@maximovlaw.com

Plaintiff requests trial by jury on all issues so triable.

/s/ Maxim Maximov Maxim Maximov, Esq.

# JS 44 (Rev. 1/2013) Case 1:17-cv-06872 Document Cover Street 7 Page 1 of 2 PageID #: 16

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

I. (a) PLAINTIFFS			DEFENDANTS		
AHARON HOLLENDER			CAPITAL MANAGEMENT SERVICES, L.P.		
(b) County of Residence of First Listed Plaintiff KINGS (EXCEPT IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES)			County of Residence of First Listed Defendant		
			<i>(IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES ONLY)</i> NOTE: IN LAND CONDEMNATION CASES, USE THE LOCATION OF		
				OF LAND INVOLVED.	
(c)Attorneys (Firm Name, Address, and Telephone Number)MAXIM MAXIMOV, LLPOFFICE: (718) 395-34591701 AVENUE PFAX: (718) 408-9570BROOKLYN, NEW YORK 11229E-MAIL: M@MAXIMOVLAW			Attorneys (If Known)		
II. BASIS OF JURISDI			III. CITIZENSHIP OF P	RINCIPAL PARTIES	
□ 1 U.S. Government Plaintiff	<ul><li>✗ 3 Federal Question (U.S. Government Not a Party)</li></ul>		(For Diversity Cases Only) PT Citizen of This State		
2 U.S. Government Defendant	☐ 4 Diversity (Indicate Citizensh	ip of Parties in Item III)	Citizen of Another State	2 🗖 2 Incorporated and P of Business In A	
			Citizen or Subject of a Foreign Country	3 🗖 3 Foreign Nation	
IV. NATURE OF SUIT				DANIZDIDTOX	OTHED OT A TUPEC
CONTRACT      110 Insurance     120 Marine     130 Miller Act     140 Negotiable Instrument     151 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	PERSONAL INJURY ☐ 310 Airplane ☐ 315 Airplane Product Liability ☐ 320 Assault, Libel &	PRTS PERSONAL INJURY □ 365 Personal Injury - Product Liability □ 367 Health Care/ Pharmaceutical Personal Injury Product Liability □ 368 Asbestos Personal Injury Product Liability PERSONAL PROPER □ 370 Other Fraud □ 371 Truth in Lending □ 380 Other Personal Property Damage Product Liability PRISONER PETITION Habeas Corpus: □ 463 Alien Detainee □ 510 Motions to Vacate Sentence □ 530 General □ 535 Death Penalty Other: □ 540 Mandamus & Othe □ 555 Prison Condition	of Property 21 USC 881 ☐ 690 Other TY ☐ 710 Fair Labor Standards Act ☐ 720 Labor/Management Relations ☐ 740 Railway Labor Act ☐ 751 Family and Medical Leave Act ☐ 790 Other Labor Litigation \$\$\$	BANKRUPTCY           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	OTHER STATUTES         375 False Claims Act         400 State Reapportionment         410 Antitrust         430 Banks and Banking         430 Commerce         460 Deportation         470 Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations         480 Consumer Credit         490 Cable/Sat TV         850 Securities/Commodities/ Exchange         890 Other Statutory Actions         891 Agricultural Acts         893 Environmental Matters         896 Arbitration         896 Arbitration         999 Administrative Procedure Act/Review or Appeal of Agency Decision         950 Constitutionality of State Statutes
		560 Civil Detainee - Conditions of Confinement			
V. ORIGIN (Place an "X" in $X$ 1 Original $\Box$ 2 Res		Remanded from	□ 4 Reinstated or □ 5 Transfe	rred from 🗖 6 Multidistr	ict
		Appellate Court		r District Litigation	
VI. CAUSE OF ACTION	<b>DN</b> 15 U.S.C. SECT Brief description of ca	ION 1692 FÁIR D ause:	re filing (Do not cite jurisdictional stat DEBT COLLECTION PRACT BT COLLECTION BUSINES	ICES ACT (FDCPA)	
VII. REQUESTED IN COMPLAINT:		IS A CLASS ACTION			if demanded in complaint: X Yes □ No
VIII. RELATED CASI IF ANY	E(S) (See instructions):	JUDGE		DOCKET NUMBER	
DATE 11/22/2017	SIGNATURE OF ATTORNEY OF RECORD /S/ MAXIM MAXIMOV, ESQ.				
FOR OFFICE USE ONLY       RECEIPT #	MOUNT	APPLYING IFP	JUDGE	MAG. JUI	DGE

### Case 1:17-cv-06BR21E100A/FIGM 10F AFABITUR A2PION FabGIB bf 21PY ageID #: 17

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,  $\underline{N/A}$ , counsel for \_\_\_\_\_, 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 or its stocks:

N/A

#### **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)

- Is the civil action being filed in the Eastern District removed from a New York State Court located in Nassau or Suffolk County: NO
- If you answered "no" above:
   a) Did the events or omissions giving rise to the claim or claims, or a substantial part thereof, occur in Nassau or Suffolk County?

b) Did the events of omissions giving rise to the claim or claims, or a substantial part thereof, occur in the Eastern District? YES

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

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

#### BAR ADMISSION

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

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

(If yes, please explain)

Yes

No No

I certify the accuracy of all information provided above.

Signature: /S/ MAXIM MAXIMOV, ESQ.

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698 1/2 SOUTH OGDEN STREET BUFFALO, NY 14206-2317

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Reference#

CAPITAL MANAGEMENT SERVICES, LP 698 1/2 South Ogden Street Buffalo, NY 14206-2317 Office Hours: M-F 8 am - 9 pm ET Sat 8 am - 1 pm ET Toll Free: 1-877-335-6949, Fax: 716-512-6046

Original Creditor: BARCLAYS BANK DELAWARE Current Creditor: BARCLAYS BANK DELAWARE Description: Miles and More (Lufthansa) Account #: AMOUNT ENCLOSED: Amount of Debt: \$11680.04

#### PLEASE DETACH AND RETURN TOP PORTION WITH PAYMENT TO ADDRESS LISTED BELOW

Dear Aharon Hollender:

Aharon Hollender

December 18, 2016

This company has been engaged by BARCLAYS BANK DELAWARE to resolve your delinquent debt. As of the date of this letter, you owe \$11680.04. Because of interest, late charges, and other charges that may vary from day to day, the amount due on the day you pay may be greater. Hence, if you pay the amount shown above, an adjustment may be necessary after we receive your check, in which event we will inform you before depositing the check for collection. For more information, write the undersigned or call 1-877-335-6949.

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

You may contact Capital Management Services, LP. at 698 1/2 South Ogden Street, Buffalo, NY 14206-2317 or call 1-877-335-6949 Mon. through Fri. 8 am to 9 pm ET, Sat. 8 am to 1 pm ET. Please submit your payment and make your check or money order payable to Capital Management Services, LP. at the address listed above. You may also make payments online at: www.cms-trans.com.

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

#### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FOR NEW YORK CITY RESIDENTS

This collection agency is licensed by the New York City Department of Consumer Affairs, License No. 1242722. Please contact Ronnie Learman at 1-866-900-9732 with any questions or concerns.

Please see additional page(s) for information regarding New York State Residents.



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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT EASTERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

AHARON HOLLENDER on behalf of himself and all other similarly situated consumers

Plaintiff,

-against-

CAPITAL MANAGEMENT SERVICES, L.P.

Defendant.

# SUMMONS IN A CIVIL ACTION

TO: CAPITAL MANAGEMENT SERVICES, L.P. 698 1/2 SOUTH OGDEN STREET BUFFALO, NEW YORK 14206

**YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED** and required to file with the Clerk of this Court and serve upon PLAINTIFF'S ATTORNEY:

MAXIM MAXIMOV, ESQ. MAXIM MAXIMOV, LLP 1701 AVENUE P BROOKLYN, NEW YORK 11229

an answer to the complaint which is herewith served upon you, with **21** days after service of this summons upon you, exclusive of the day of service. If you fail to do so, judgment by default will be taken against you for the relief demanded in the complaint.

CLERK

DATE

BY DEPUTY CLERK

# **ClassAction.org**

This complaint is part of ClassAction.org's searchable class action lawsuit database and can be found in this post: <u>Suit Claims Capital Management Services Failed to Disclose Required Debt Information</u>