#### **UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT** FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF WISCONSIN **MILWAUKEE DIVISION**

ENEIDA JOHNSON, Individually and on Behalf ) Case No.: 18-cv-281 of All Others Similarly Situated, Plaintiff, VS. CENTRAL COLLECTION CORPORATION, Defendant.

**CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT** 

**Jury Trial Demanded** 

#### **INTRODUCTION**

1. This class action seeks redress for collection practices that violate the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, 15 U.S.C. § 1692 et seq. (the "FDCPA") and the Wisconsin Consumer Act, Chs. 421-427, Wis. Stats.

#### JURISDICTION AND VENUE

2. The court has jurisdiction to grant the relief sought by the Plaintiff pursuant to 15 U.S.C. § 1692k and 28 U.S.C. §§ 1331, 1337, and 1367. Venue in this District is proper in that Defendant directed its collection efforts into the District.

#### PARTIES

3. Plaintiff Eneida Johnson is an individual who resides in the Eastern District of Wisconsin (Milwaukee County).

4. Plaintiff is a "consumer" as defined in the FDCPA, 15 U.S.C. § 1692a(3), in that Defendant sought to collect from Plaintiff debts allegedly incurred for personal, family or household purposes, namely medical debts.

5. Plaintiff is also a "customer" as defined in the WCA, Wis. Stat. § 421.301(17), in that the alleged debt allegedly arose from a consumer transaction that included agreements to defer payment.

6. Defendant Central Collection Corporation ("CCC") is a debt collection agency with its principal offices at 3055 North Brookfield Road Suite 31, Brookfield, Wisconsin 53045.

7. CCC is engaged in the business of a collection agency, using the mails and telephone to collect consumer debts originally owed to others.

8. CCC is engaged in the business of collecting debts owed to others and incurred for personal, family or household purposes.

9. CCC is licensed as a "Collection Agency" pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 218.04 and Wis. Admin. Code Ch. DFI-Bkg 74.

10. CCC is a debt collector as defined in 15 U.S.C. § 1692a and Wis. Stat. § 427.103(3).

#### **FACTS**

11. Plaintiff obtained medical services from Bell Ambulance, Inc. ("Bell Ambulance") on or about December 24, 2015.

12. The alleged debt incurred as a result of these services was a medical debt and, thus, incurred for personal, household, and family purposes.

13. Plaintiff was not required to pay for the medical services at the time services were rendered. Instead, the creditor, or a billing agent, mailed a bill several days or weeks after the dates of service. Thus, payment was deferred by agreement. *See Tylke v. Advanced Pain Mgmt., S.C.*, Case No. 14cv5354 (Milwaukee Co. Cir. Ct., Dec. 11, 2014) ("Any time a merchant sends a bill for goods or services after a consumer transaction has taken place, there is an 'agreement to defer payment."); *see also, e.g., Kelly v. Montgomery Lynch & Assocs.*, 2008 U.S. Dist. LEXIS

30917, at \* 9-10 (N.D. Ohio Apr. 15, 2008) ("The debt at issue in this case involves financial expenses incurred . . . in exchange for medical services . . . . Pursuant to this debt, the Plaintiff was offered the right to receive medical services and to defer payment on those financial obligations. This is a classic transaction out of which debts arise under the FDCPA.").

14. On or about April 17, 2017, CCC mailed a debt collection letter to Plaintiff regarding an alleged debt, allegedly owed to "Bell Ambulance Inc." A copy of this letter is attached to this complaint as <u>Exhibit A</u>.

15. Upon information and belief, <u>Exhibit A</u> is a form letter, generated by computer, and with the information specific to Plaintiff inserted by computer.

16. Upon information and belief, <u>Exhibit A</u> is a form debt collection letter used by CCC to attempt to collect alleged debts.

17. <u>Exhibit A</u> contains the following:

ACCOUNT/DEBTOR #		CLIENT		TOTAL
5122	Bell	Ambulance	Inc	887.37

#### Exhibit A.

18. <u>Exhibit A</u> also contains the following:

Account Number:See Account List on Reverse SideClient Name:See Account List on Reverse SideTotal Due:\$887.37

#### Exhibit A.

19. Although <u>Exhibit A</u> states that \$887.37 is the "Total Due," the debt referenced in <u>Exhibit A</u> is accruing interest daily at the simple interest rate of 5% annually.

20. Because interest is accruing daily, by the time the consumer received <u>Exhibit A</u>, notwithstanding CCC's representation that the amount stated is the "Total Due," payment of the amount stated in <u>Exhibit A</u> would not actually pay the debt in full.

21. On or about February 5, 2016, Bell Ambulance had mailed a letter to Plaintiff regarding the same alleged debt. A copy of this letter is attached to this complaint as <u>Exhibit B</u>.

22. <u>Exhibit B</u> contains the following:

Service Date: **12/24/2015** Amount Due: **\$ 878.60** Billing Date: **02/05/2016** 

Exhibit B.

23. <u>Exhibit B</u> states that, as of February 5, 2016, the balance of Plaintiff's alleged Bell Ambulance account was \$878.60 but <u>Exhibit A</u> states that, as of April 17, 2017, the balance of Plaintiff's alleged Bell Ambulance account was \$887.37.

24. <u>Exhibits A and B</u> refer to the same medical services. The different "Total Due" on each letter is due to the addition of interest, and not a consequence of any additional services that Bell Ambulance may have provided.

25. <u>Exhibit A</u> does not include any explanation of why the "Total Due" is increasing.

26. When the amount of the debt varies day to day, the debt collector should avoid confusion by including explanatory language in the letter. *See Miller v. McCalla, Raymer, Padrick, Cobb, Nichols, & Clark, L.L.C.*, 214 F.3d 872, 876 (7th Cir. 2000) ("As of the date of this letter, you owe \$ [the exact amount due]. 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 further information, write the undersigned or call 1-800-[phone number]."); *see also Chuway v. Nat'l* 

Action Fin. Servs., 362 F.3d 944, 949 (7th Cir. 2004); Fields v. Wilber Law Firm, P.C., 383 F.3d 562, 565-66 (7th Cir. 2004).

27. No such explanatory language was used in Exhibit A.

28. In *Chuway v. Nat'l Action Fin. Servs., Inc.*, 362 F.3d 944, 949 (7th Cir. 2004), the Seventh Circuit made clear that the debt collector must use the safe harbor language in *Miller* or equivalent language, in cases where the debt collector is attempting to collect the listed balance plus the interest running on it or other charges. *See also Avila v. Riexinger & Assocs., LLC*, 817 F.3d 72 (2d Cir. 2016) (a collection notice violated § 1692e by stating the "current balance" without providing notice that the amount is increasing due to accruing interest or other charges.); *Boucher v. Fin. Sys. of Green Bay*, No. 17-2308, 2018 U.S. App. LEXIS 1094 \*\*12-14 (7th Cir. Jan. 17, 2018) (*Miller*, including its "accuracy requirement," applies to claims brought under 15 U.S.C. § 1692e).

29. A court in this district recently held in a virtually identical scenario that when a debt collector is, in fact, collecting interest, the collector must use the *Miller* safe harbor or equivalent language, or risk confusing the unsophisticated consumer. *Spuhler v. State Collection Servs.*, No. 16-CV-1149, 2017 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 210895 at \*17-20 (E.D. Wis. Dec. 22, 2017) ("State Collection's letter undeniably does not contain any form of Miller's safe harbor language. Because State Collection's letter failed to inform the Spuhlers that interest was running on the amount owed, I find there is a triable issue of fact as to whether the collection letter is confusing or unclear on its face."); *see also Synder v. Gordon*, 2012 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 120659, at \*8-9 (W.D. Wash. Aug. 24, 2012); *Michalek v. ARS Nat'l Sys., Inc.*, 2011 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 142976, at \*4 (M.D. Penn. Dec. 13, 2011); *Dragon v. I.C. Sys.*, 483 F. Supp. 2d 198, 202-03 (D. Conn. 2007); *Lukawski v. Client Servs., Inc.*, 2013 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 124075, at \*10-14 (M.D. Penn.

Aug. 29, 2013); May v. Consumer Adjustment Co., 2015 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 97162, at \*15-20
(E.D. Mo. July 24, 2015); Gill v. Credit Bureau of Carbon County, 2015 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 58759, at \*14 (D. Colo. May 5, 2014); Smith v. Lyons, Doughty & Veldhuis, P.C., 2008 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 56725, at \*16-20 (D.N.J. July 22, 2008).

30. CCC's failure to include explanatory safe harbor language in <u>Exhibit A</u> is material because the unsophisticated consumer may pay the amount listed on <u>Exhibit A</u>, but the payment would not actually resolve the debt. The unsophisticated consumer would have no way of knowing if the debt was resolved because <u>Exhibit A</u> fails to explain what amount CCC is actually collecting.

31. CCC's failure to include explanatory safe harbor language in Exhibit A is also material because whether the account is bearing interest would undoubtedly be a factor in the unsophisticated consumer's prioritization of the debt. *See Martin v. Trott Law, P.C.*, 265 F. Supp. 3d 731, 748 (E.D. Mich. July 12, 2017) ("An inherent danger posed by harassing or deceptive collection practices is that consumers will be pressed into making uninformed decisions about debt prioritization, which affects their daily lives.") (quoting *Gillie v. Law Office of Eric A. Jones, LLC*, 785 F.3d 1091, 1097 (6th Cir. 2015), *rev'd on other grounds, Sheriff v. Gillie*, 136 S. Ct. 1594 (2016)); *Lox v. CDA, Ltd.*, 689 F.3d 818, 827 (7th Cir. 2012) ("Whether or not this fact would have led Lox to alter his course of action, it would have undoubtedly been a factor in his decision-making process[.]").

32. Further, even assuming CCC previously disclosed that the account was bearing interest, the unsophisticated consumer is not expected to reference documents sent years prior to ameliorate the confusion. *Fields v. Wilber Law Firm, P.C.*, 383 F.3d 562, 566 (7th Cir. 2004) ("an unsophisticated consumer may have lost the bill and forgotten the amount of the debt

completely"); *see also, e.g., Lukawski*, 2013 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 124075, at \*10, 11 (rejecting an argument that interest had been disclosed in a letter sent six weeks prior to the offending communication) ("the letter in question is deceptive in spite of the prior letter with the interest disclosure. . . . These arguments, requesting that the letters be read together to place notice on Michalek of increasing balances, were made and rejected by the Court.") (citing *Michalek*, 2011 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 142976, at \*18-19).

- 33. Plaintiff was confused by Exhibit A.
- 34. The unsophisticated consumer would be confused by Exhibit A.

#### The FDCPA

35. The FDCPA creates substantive rights for consumers; violations cause injury to consumers, and such injuries are concrete and particularized. *Pogorzelski v. Patenaude & Felix APC*, No. 16-C-1330, 2017 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 89678 \*9 (E.D. Wis. June 12, 2017) ("A plaintiff who receives misinformation from a debt collector has suffered the type of injury the FDCPA was intended to protect against."); *Spuhler v. State Collection Servs.*, No. 16-CV-1149, 2017 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 177631 (E.D. Wis. Oct. 26, 2017) ("As in Pogorzelski, the Spuhlers' allegations that the debt collection letters sent by State Collection contained false representations of the character, amount, or legal status of a debt in violation of their rights under the FDCPA sufficiently pleads a concrete injury-in-fact for purposes of standing."); *Lorang v. Ditech Fin. LLC*, 2017 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 169286, at \*6 (W.D. Wis. Oct. 13, 2017) ("the weight of authority in this circuit is that a misrepresentation about a debt is a sufficient injury for standing because a primary purpose of the FDCPA is to protect consumers from receiving false and misleading information."); *Qualls v. T-H Prof'l & Med. Collections, Ltd.*, 2017 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 113037, at \*8 (C.D. Ill. July 20, 2017) ("Courts in this Circuit, both before and after *Spokeo*, have rejected

similar challenges to standing in FDCPA cases.") (citing "Hayes v. Convergent Healthcare Recoveries, Inc., 2016 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 139743 (C.D. Ill. 2016)); Long v. Fenton & McGarvey Law Firm P.S.C., 223 F. Supp. 3d 773, 777 (S.D. Ind. Dec. 9, 2016) ("While courts have found that violations of other statutes . . . do not create concrete injuries in fact, violations of the FDCPA are distinguishable from these other statutes and have been repeatedly found to establish concrete injuries."); Bock v. Pressler & Pressler, LLP, No. 11-7593, 2017 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 81058 \*21 (D.N.J. May 25, 2017) ("through [s]ection 1692e of the FDCPA, Congress established 'an enforceable right to truthful information concerning' debt collection practices, a decision that 'was undoubtedly influenced by congressional awareness that the intentional provision of misinformation' related to such practices, 'contribute[s] to the number of personal bankruptcies, to marital instability, to the loss of jobs, and to invasions of individual privacy,"); Quinn v. Specialized Loan Servicing, LLC, No. 16 C 2021, 2016 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 107299 \*8-13 (N.D. Ill. Aug. 11, 2016) (rejecting challenge to Plaintiff's standing based upon alleged FDCPA statutory violation); Lane v. Bayview Loan Servicing, LLC, No. 15 C 10446, 2016 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 89258 \*9-10 (N.D. Ill. July 11, 2016) ("When a federal statute is violated, and especially when Congress has created a cause of action for its violation, by definition Congress has created a legally protected interest that it deems important enough for a lawsuit."); Church v. Accretive Health, Inc., No. 15-15708, 2016 U.S. App. LEXIS 12414 \*7-11 (11th Cir. July 6, 2016) (same); see also Mogg v. Jacobs, No. 15-CV-1142-JPG-DGW, 2016 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 33229, 2016 WL 1029396, at \*5 (S.D. III. Mar. 15, 2016) ("Congress does have the power to enact statutes creating legal rights, the invasion of which creates standing, even though no injury would exist without the statute," (quoting Sterk v. Redbox Automated Retail, LLC, 770 F.3d 618, 623 (7th

Cir. 2014)). For this reason, and to encourage consumers to bring FDCPA actions, Congress authorized an award of statutory damages for violations. 15 U.S.C. § 1692k(a).

36. Moreover, Congress has explicitly described the FDCPA as regulating "abusive practices" in debt collection. 15 U.S.C. §§ 1692(a) - 1692(e). Any person who receives a debt collection letter containing a violation of the FDCPA is a victim of abusive practices. *See* 15 U.S.C. §§ 1692(e) ("It is the purpose of this subchapter to eliminate abusive debt collection practices by debt collectors, to insure that those debt collectors who refrain from using abusive debt collection practices are not competitively disadvantaged, and to promote consistent State action to protect consumers against debt collection abuses").

37. 15 U.S.C. § 1692e generally prohibits "any false, deceptive, or misleading representation or means in connection with the collection of any debt."

38. 15 U.S.C. § 1692e(2)(a) specifically prohibits "The false representation of— the character, amount, or legal status of any debt.

39. 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."

40. 15 U.S.C. § 1692f generally prohibits "unfair or unconscionable means to collect or attempt to collect any debt."

#### The WCA

41. The Wisconsin Consumer Act ("WCA") was enacted to protect consumers against unfair, deceptive, and unconscionable business practices and to encourage development of fair and economically sound practices in consumer transactions. Wis. Stat. § 421.102(2).

42. The Wisconsin Supreme Court has favorably cited authority finding that the WCA "goes further to protect consumer interests than any other such legislation in the country,"

and is "probably the most sweeping consumer credit legislation yet enacted in any state." *Kett* v. *Community Credit Plan, Inc.*, 228 Wis. 2d 1, 18 n.15, 596 N.W.2d 786 (1999) (citations omitted).

43. To further these goals, the Act's protections must be "liberally construed and applied." Wis. Stat. § 421.102(1); *see also* § 425.301.

44. "The basic purpose of the remedies set forth in Chapter 425, Stats., is to induce compliance with the WCA and thereby promote its underlying objectives." *First Wisconsin Nat'l Bank v. Nicolaou*, 113 Wis. 2d 524, 533, 335 N.W.2d 390 (1983). Thus, private actions under the WCA are designed to both benefit consumers whose rights have been violated and also competitors of the violators, whose competitive advantage should not be diminished because of their compliance with the law.

45. To carry out this intent, the WCA provides Wisconsin consumers with an array of protections and legal remedies. The Act contains significant and sweeping restrictions on the activities of those attempting to collect debts. *See* Wis. Stats. § 427.104.

46. The Act limits the amounts and types of additional fees that may be charged to consumers in conjunction with transactions. Wis. Stats. § 422.202(1). The Act also provides injured consumers with causes of action for class-wide statutory and actual damages and injunctive remedies against defendants on behalf of all customers who suffer similar injuries. *See* Wis. Stats. §§ 426.110(1); § 426.110(4)(e). Finally, "a customer may not waive or agree to forego rights or benefits under [the Act]." Wis. Stat. § 421.106(1).

47. Consumers' WCA claims under Wis. Stat. § 427.104(1) are analyzed using the same methods as claims under the FDCPA. Indeed, the WCA itself requires that the court

analyze the WCA "in accordance with the policies underlying a federal consumer credit protection act," including the FDCPA. Wis. Stat. § 421.102(1).

48. Further, the Wisconsin Supreme Court has held that WCA claims relating to debt collection are to be analyzed under the "unsophisticated consumer" standard. *Brunton v. Nuvell Credit Corp.*, 785 N.W.2d 302, 314-15. In *Brunton*, the Wisconsin Supreme Court explicitly adopted and followed the "unsophisticated consumer" standard, citing and discussing *Gammon v. GC Servs. Ltd. P'ship*, 27 F.3d 1254, 1257 (7th Cir. 1994). *Id.* 

49. Wis. Stat. § 427.104(1)(g) states that a debt collector may not: "Communicate with the customer or a person related to the customer with such frequency of at such unusual hours or in such a manner as can reasonably be expected to threaten or harass the customer."

50. Wis. Stat. § 427.104(1)(h) states that a debt collector may not: "Engage in other conduct . . . in such a manner as can reasonably be expected to threaten or harass the customer."

51. The Wisconsin Department of Financial Institutions, which is tasked with regulating licensed collection agencies, has found that "conduct which violates the Federal Fair Debt Collection Practices Act" can reasonably be expected to threaten or harass the customer. *See* Wis. Admin. Code DFI-Bkg 74.16(9) ("Oppressive and deceptive practices prohibited.").

52. Although the FDCPA does not authorize injunctive or declaratory relief, *see Ademiluyi v. PennyMac Mortg. Inv. Trust Holdings I, LLC*, 929 F. Supp. 2d 502, 507 n.3 (D. Md. Mar. 11, 2013), these forms of relief are available under the WCA. Wis. Stat. §§ 426.109(1); 426.110(4)(e); 426.110(6)(b).

53. The WCA expressly authorizes individual actions to enjoin "any person who in . .. enforcing consumer credit transactions engages in . . . False, misleading, deceptive, or

unconscionable conduct in enforcing debts . . . arising from consumer credit transactions." Wis. Stat. § 426.110(2)(c); *see* Wis. Stat. § 426.110(3).

54. The WCA also authorizes "any customer affected by a violation of chs. 421 to 427 and 429 . . . or by a violation of the federal consumer credit protection act . . . [to] bring a civil action on behalf of all persons similarly situated, for actual damages by reason of such conduct or violation, together with penalties as provided in sub. (14), reasonable attorney fees and other relief to which such persons are entitled under chs. 421 to 427 and 429." Wis. Stat. § 426.110(1).

55. The WCA authorizes customers to bring class actions for injunctive relief to cure violations of Wis. Stat. § 427.104(1).

#### <u>COUNT I – FDCPA</u>

56. Plaintiff incorporates by reference as if fully set forth herein the allegations contained in the preceding paragraphs of this Complaint.

57. The "Total Due" stated in <u>Exhibit A</u> is confusing and misleading.

58. The amount of the debt varies day to day, and has increased over time, due to CCC's addition of interest, but no *Miller* safe harbor language is provided to inform the unsophisticated consumer of that fact or how to pay the correct amount.

59. The unsophisticated consumer would be confused and misled as to the amount and character of the debt.

60. Defendant violated 15 U.S.C. §§ 1692e, 1692e(2)(a), 1692e(10), and 1692f.

#### <u>COUNT II – WCA</u>

61. Plaintiff incorporates by reference as if fully set forth herein the allegations contained in the preceding paragraphs of this Complaint.

62. Defendant is licensed as a Collection Agency pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 218.04 and Wis. Admin. Code Ch. DFI-Bkg. 74.

63. The "Balance" stated in <u>Exhibit A</u> is confusing and misleading.

64. The amount of the debt varies day to day, and has increased over time, due to CCC's addition of interest, but no *Miller* safe harbor language is provided to inform the unsophisticated consumer of that fact or how to pay the correct amount.

65. The unsophisticated consumer would be confused and misled as to the amount and character of the debt.

66. Defendant violated the FDCPA.

67. Defendant violated Wis. Stat. §§ 427.104(1)(g) and 427.104(1)(h).

#### **CLASS ALLEGATIONS**

68. Plaintiff brings this action on behalf of a Class consisting of:

(a) all natural persons in the State of Wisconsin (b) who were sent collection letters by Defendant in the form of <u>Exhibit A</u> to the complaint in this action, (c) seeking to collect a debt for personal, family or household purposes, (d) in which the "Total Due" increases over time due to the addition of interest but no explanatory language is provided in the letter, (e) between February 20, 2017 and February 20, 2018, inclusive, (f) that was not returned by the postal service.

69. The Class is so numerous that joinder is impracticable. On information and belief, there are more than 50 members of the Class.

70. There are questions of law and fact common to the members of the class, which common questions predominate over any questions that affect only individual class members. The predominant common question is whether <u>Exhibit A</u> violates the FDCPA and/or the WCA.

71. Plaintiff's claims are typical of the claims of the Class members. All are based on the same factual and legal theories.

72. Plaintiff will fairly and adequately represent the interests of the Class members. Plaintiff has retained counsel experienced in consumer credit and debt collection abuse cases.

73. A class action is superior to other alternative methods of adjudicating this dispute. Individual cases are not economically feasible.

#### JURY DEMAND

74. Plaintiff hereby demands a trial by jury.

#### PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff requests that the Court enter judgment in favor of Plaintiff and the Class and against Defendant for:

- (a) actual damages;
- (b) statutory damages;
- (c) injunctive relief;
- (d) attorneys' fees, litigation expenses and costs of suit; and
- (e) such other or further relief as the Court deems proper.

Dated: February 20, 2018

#### ADEMI & O'REILLY, LLP

By: /s/ John Blythin John D. Blythin (SBN 1046105) Mark A. Eldridge (SBN 1089944) Jesse Fruchter (SBN 1097673) Ben J. Slatky (SBN 1106892) 3620 East Layton Avenue Cudahy, WI 53110 (414) 482-8000 (414) 482-8001 (fax)

jblythin@ademilaw.com meldridge@ademilaw.com jfruchter@ademilaw.com bslatky@ademilaw.com

## **EXHIBIT A**

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3055 N Brookfield Rd, Suite 31 • Brookfield, WI 53045 (262) 754-2222 • centralcollectioncorp.com

April 17, 2017

Eneida Johnson 4535 S Whitnall Ave Apt 20 Saint Francis WI 53235-6019 Account Number: Client Name: Total Due: See Account List on Reverse Side See Account List on Reverse Side \$887.37

Scan the barcode below to make a payment online



Your payment has not been received. We have attempted to work with you regarding this unpaid balance. If there is a problem, please call us to resolve this matter.

THIS COMMUNICATION IS FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR. THIS IS AN ATTEMPT TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.

Please: Remit payment directly to our office only.

For your convenience, the following payment options are available:

1) Check, Cashier's Check, or Money Order by US Mail

2) Visa, MasterCard, Discover, AmEx or Electronic Check by phone

3) Visa, MasterCard, Discover, AmEx or Electronic Check through our secure payment website portal at centralcollectioncorp.com

\*\*\* Please detach the lower portion and return with your payment \*\*\* 632-DNCENT10-4F-09/22/16



3055 N Brookfield Rd, Suite 31 Brookfield WI 53045-3336 RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED CARD NUMBER EXP. DATE
CARD HOLDER NAME
CARD HOLDER NAME
CARD HOLDER NAME
CARD HOLDER NAME
CVV
SIGNATURE
AMOUNT PAID

IF YOU WISH TO PAY BY CREDIT CARD, CHECK ONE AND FILL IN THE INFORMATION BELOW.

Account Number: See Account List on Reverse Side Client Name: See Account List on Reverse Side Total Due: \$887.37

0008120024002848378553235601920---Y1DB1C69E2 632 Encida Johnson 4535 S Whitnall Ave Apt 20 Saint Francis WI 53235-6019

April 17, 2017



Central Collection Corporation 3055 N Brookfield Rd, Suite 31 Brookfield WI 53045-3336



ACCOUNT/DEBTOR # CLIENT 5122 Bell Ambulance Inc

TOTAL 887.37

# Exhibit B

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#### PLEASE RETURN THIS STUB WITH YOUR PAYMENT



Client Name: JOHNSON, ENEIDA

"IF IT DOESN'T SAY BELL ON THE SIDE, YOU'VE JUST BEEN TAKEN FOR A RIDE!!!"® 2204 SILVERNAIL RD

PEWAUKEE, WI, 53072-9903

APT 20

ENEIDA JOHNSON 4535 S WHITNALL AVE

ST FRANCIS, WI 53235-6019

իվյուղերկները հեղիներիների հներիներին հերիներին

Trip Number:



Service Date: **12/24/2015** Amount Due: **\$ 878.60** Billing Date: **02/05/2016** Toll-Free Number: **(800) 896-6200** Se Habla Español: **(414) 486-4016** 

### **REFERRAL OF ACCOUNT FOR COLLECTION**

The above account has been turned over to this department for collection. This is to advise you that unless the balance due is paid in full or other payment arrangements have been made within ten (10) days of the above date, we will be forced to proceed with further collection measures. To make payment arrangements regarding this account call (414) 486-2000.

Client Name: <b>JOHNSON, ENEIDA</b> Service Date: <b>12/24/2015</b>	Trip Number: <b>15-10179</b>
Billing Date: 02/05/2016	
Amo	unt Due: \$ 878.60
This charge can be put on your major credit card account. Simply fill out the following blanks, sign and return in the enclosed envelope.	MasterCard
15-0179	\$ 878.60
Trip Number	Amount of Billing
Name on Card	Card Number
Card Billing Address	Expiration Date
City, State, ZIP Case 2:18-cv-00281-PP Filed	Signature 02/22/18 Page 2 of 2 Document 1-2

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(c)	Ademi & O'Reilly, LLP, 3	Address, and Telephone Nun 620 E. Layton Ave., Cudahy, V e (414) 482-8001-Facsimile	,		Attorneys (If Know	wn)					
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IV. N		(Place an "X" in One Box		_							
110 Ir	CONTRACT	PERSONAL INJURY	<u>ORTS</u> PERSONAL INJURY	_	RFEITURE/PENAL 0 Agriculture		BANKRUPT 422 Appeal 28 US		OTHEF 400 State R	R STATUT eapportion	

110 Insurance	PERSONAL INJURY	PERSONAL INJURY	610 Agriculture	422 Appeal 28 USC 158	400 State Reapportionment
120 Marine	310 Airplane	362 Personal Injury -	620 Other Food & Drug	423 Withdrawal	410 Antitrust
130 Miller Act	315 Airplane Product	Med. Malpractice	625 Drug Related Seizure	28 USC 157	430 Banks and Banking
140 Negotiable Instrument	Liability	365 Personal Injury -	of Property 21 USC 881		450 Commerce
150 Recovery of Overpayment	320 Assault, Libel &	Product Liability	630 Liquor Laws	PROPERTY RIGHTS	460 Deportation
& Enforcement of Judgmen	t Slander	368 Asbestos Personal	640 R.R. & Truck	820 Copyrights	470 Racketeer Influenced and
151 Medicare Act	330 Federal Employers'	Injury Product	650 Airline Regs.	830 Patent	Corrupt Organizations
☐ 152 Recovery of Defaulted	Liability	Liability	660 Occupational	840 Trademark	✓ 480 Consumer Credit
Student Loans	340 Marine	PERSONAL PROPERTY	Safety/Health	_	490 Cable/Sat TV
(Excl. Veterans)	345 Marine Product	370 Other Fraud	690 Other		810 Selective Service
153 Recovery of Overpayment	Liability	371 Truth in Lending	LABOR	SOCIAL SECURITY	850 Securities/Commodities/
of Veteran's Benefits	350 Motor Vehicle	380 Other Personal	710 Fair Labor Standards	861 HIA (1395ff)	Exchange
160 Stockholders' Suits	355 Motor Vehicle	Property Damage	Act	862 Black Lung (923)	875 Customer Challenge
190 Other Contract	Product Liability	385 Property Damage	720 Labor/Mgmt. Relations	863 DIWC/DIWW (405(g))	12 USC 3410
195 Contract Product Liability	360 Other Personal	Product Liability	730 Labor/Mgmt.Reporting	864 SSID Title XVI	890 Other Statutory Actions
196 Franchise	 Injury		& Disclosure Act	865 RSI (405(g))	891 Agricultural Acts
REAL PROPERTY	CIVIL RIGHTS	PRISONER PETITIONS	740 Railway Labor Act	FEDERAL TAX SUITS	892 Economic Stabilization Act
210 Land Condemnation	441 Voting	510 Motions to Vacate	790 Other Labor Litigation	870 Taxes (U.S. Plaintiff	893 Environmental Matters
220 Foreclosure	442 Employment	Sentence	791 Empl. Ret. Inc.	or Defendant)	894 Energy Allocation Act
230 Rent Lease & Ejectment	443 Housing/	Habeas Corpus:	Security Act	871 IRS—Third Party	895 Freedom of Information
240 Torts to Land	Accommodations	☐ 530 General		26 USC 7609	Act
245 Tort Product Liability	444 Welfare	535 Death Penalty	IMMIGRATION		900Appeal of Fee Determination
290 All Other Real Property	445 Amer. w/Disabilities -		462 Naturalization Application		Under Equal Access
<b>—</b> -> -> -> -> -> -> -> -> -> -> -> -> ->	Employment	550 Civil Rights	463 Habeas Corpus -		to Justice
	446 Amer. w/Disabilities -		Alien Detainee		950 Constitutionality of
	Other	P	465 Other Immigration		State Statutes
	440 Other Civil Rights		Actions		
			110110115		
	<b>I</b>				
V. ORIGIN (Place	an "X" in One Box Only)				Appeal to District
( ····	emoved from $\Box$ 3	Remanded from $\Box$ 4	Reinstated or 5 Transf	Terred from <b>1</b> 6 Multidist	T <sup>1</sup> I C
	tate Court	Appellate Court	Reonened allouid	I ulsulci — Litigation	- Magistrate
		**	(speci	ly)	Judgment
		tatute under which you are fi	iling (Do not cite jurisdiction	al statutes unless diversity):	:
VI. CAUSE OF ACTI	15 U.S.C. 1692 et seq				
VI. CAUSE OF ACT	Brief description of				
	Violation of Fair Debt	Collection Practices Act			
VII. REQUESTED IN	CHECK IF THIS	S IS A CLASS ACTION	DEMAND \$	CHECK YES only	if demanded in complaint:
COMPLAINT:	UNDER F.R.C.I			JURY DEMAND	•
CONFLAINT:	on DER Filler	. 25		JUKI DEMAND	
VIII. RELATED CAS	SE(S)				
IF ANY	(See instructions):	JUDGE		DOCKET NUMBER	
IF AN I		JUDGE		DOCKET NOMBER	
DATE		SIGNATURE OF ATTOR	RNEY OF RECORD		
February 22, 20	18	s/ John D. Bl	vthin		
			,		
FOR OFFICE USE ONLY					

----- Case 2:18-cv-00281-PP Filed 02/22/18- Page 1 of 2 - Document 1-3 -

#### **INSTRUCTIONS FOR ATTORNEYS COMPLETING CIVIL COVER SHEET FORM JS 44**

#### Authority For Civil Cover Sheet

The JS 44 civil cover sheet and the information contained herein neither replaces nor supplements the filings and service of pleading or other papers as required by law, except as provided by local rules of court. This form, approved 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. Consequently, a civil cover sheet is submitted to the Clerk of Court for each civil complaint filed. The attorney filing a case should complete the form as follows:

I. (a) Plaintiffs-Defendants. Enter names (last, first, middle initial) of plaintiff and defendant. If the plaintiff or defendant is a government agency, use only the full name or standard abbreviations. If the plaintiff or defendant is an official within a government agency, identify first the agency and then the official, giving both name and title.

(b) County of Residence. For each civil case filed, except U.S. plaintiff cases, enter the name of the county where the first listed plaintiff resides at the time of filing. In U.S. plaintiff cases, enter the name of the county in which the first listed defendant resides at the time of filing. (NOTE: In land condemnation cases, the county of residence of the "defendant" is the location of the tract of land involved.)

(c) Attorneys. Enter the firm name, address, telephone number, and attorney of record. If there are several attorneys, list them on an attachment, noting in this section "(see attachment)".

**II.** Jurisdiction. The basis of jurisdiction is set forth under Rule 8(a), F.R.C.P., which requires that jurisdictions be shown in pleadings. Place an "X" in one of the boxes. If there is more than one basis of jurisdiction, precedence is given in the order shown below.

United States plaintiff. (1) Jurisdiction based on 28 U.S.C. 1345 and 1348. Suits by agencies and officers of the United States are included here.

United States defendant. (2) When the plaintiff is suing the United States, its officers or agencies, place an "X" in this box.

Federal question. (3) This refers to suits under 28 U.S.C. 1331, where jurisdiction arises under the Constitution of the United States, an amendment to the Constitution, an act of Congress or a treaty of the United States. In cases where the U.S. is a party, the U.S. plaintiff or defendant code takes precedence, and box 1 or 2 should be marked.

Diversity of citizenship. (4) This refers to suits under 28 U.S.C. 1332, where parties are citizens of different states. When Box 4 is checked, the citizenship of the different parties must be checked. (See Section III below; federal question actions take precedence over diversity cases.)

**III.** Residence (citizenship) of Principal Parties. This section of the JS 44 is to be completed if diversity of citizenship was indicated above. Mark this section for each principal party.

**IV.** Nature of Suit. Place an "X" in the appropriate box. If the nature of suit cannot be determined, be sure the cause of action, in Section VI below, is sufficient to enable the deputy clerk or the statistical clerks in the Administrative Office to determine the nature of suit. If the cause fits more than one nature of suit, select the most definitive.

V. Origin. Place an "X" in one of the seven boxes.

Original Proceedings. (1) Cases which originate in the United States district courts.

Removed from State Court. (2) Proceedings initiated in state courts may be removed to the district courts under Title 28 U.S.C., Section 1441. When the petition for removal is granted, check this box.

Remanded from Appellate Court. (3) Check this box for cases remanded to the district court for further action. Use the date of remand as the filing date.

Reinstated or Reopened. (4) Check this box for cases reinstated or reopened in the district court. Use the reopening date as the filing date.

Transferred from Another District. (5) For cases transferred under Title 28 U.S.C. Section 1404(a). Do not use this for within district transfers or multidistrict litigation transfers.

Multidistrict Litigation. (6) Check this box when a multidistrict case is transferred into the district under authority of Title 28 U.S.C. Section 1407. When this box is checked, do not check (5) above.

Appeal to District Judge from Magistrate Judgment. (7) Check this box for an appeal from a magistrate judge's decision.

 

 VI.
 Cause of Action. Report the civil statute directly related to the cause of action and give a brief description of the cause. Do not cite jurisdictional statutes

 unless diversity.
 Example:
 U.S. Civil Statute: 47 USC 553 Brief Description: Unauthorized reception of cable service

VII. Requested in Complaint. Class Action. Place an "X" in this box if you are filing a class action under Rule 23, F.R.Cv.P.

Demand. In this space enter the dollar amount (in thousands of dollars) being demanded or indicate other demand such as a preliminary injunction.

Jury Demand. Check the appropriate box to indicate whether or not a jury is being demanded.

VIII. Related Cases. This section of the JS 44 is used to reference related pending cases if any. If there are related pending cases, insert the docket numbers and the corresponding judge names for such cases.

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

### UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

for the Eastern District of Wisconsin

)
) )
)
)
) Civil Action No. 18-cv-281
)
)
)
, )
IN A CIVIL ACTION

To: (Defendant's name and address)

CENTRAL COLLECTION CORPORATION 3055 N BROOKFIELD RD., SUITE 31 BROOKFIELD, WI 53045

A lawsuit has been filed against you.

Within 21 days after service of this summons on you (not counting the day you receive 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 the plaintiff's attorney, whose name and address are: John D. Blythin Ademi & O'Beilly, LLP

Ademi & O'Reilly, LLP 3620 East Layton Avenue Cudahy, WI 53110

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.

STEPHEN C. DRIES, CLERK OF COURT

Date:

Signature of Clerk or Deputy Clerk

Civil Action No. 18-cv-281

#### **PROOF OF SERVICE**

(This section should not be filed with the court unless required by Fed. R. Civ. P. 4(l))

This summons and the attached complaint for (name of individual and title, if any):

$\Box$ I personally served	d the summons and the attached con	mplaint on the individual at (place):	
		On (date)	; or
$\Box$ I left the summons	and the attached complaint at the	individual's residence or usual place of a	bode with (na
	, a	person of suitable age and discretion whe	o resides there
on (date)	, and mailed a copy	y to the individual's last known address;	or
$\Box$ I served the summ	ons and the attached complaint on	(name of individual)	
who is designated by 1	law to accept service of process on	behalf of (name of organization)	
0		on (date)	: or
$\Box$ I returned the sum	mons unexecuted because		
			, 01
Other ( <i>specify</i> ):			
My fees are \$	for travel and \$	for services, for a total of \$	0.00
I declare under penalty	y of perjury that this information is	true.	
		<u> </u>	
		Server's signature	
		Printed name and title	
		r riniea name ana ilite	

Additional information regarding attempted service, etc.:

## **ClassAction.org**

This complaint is part of ClassAction.org's searchable class action lawsuit database and can be found in this post: <u>FDCPA Suit Filed Against Central Collection Corporation</u>