Yitzchak Zelman, Esq., MARCUS & ZELMAN, LLC 701 Cookman Avenue, Suite 300 Asbury Park, New Jersey 07712 3 Tel: (732) 695-3282 Fax: (732) 298-6256 5 Email: yzelman@marcuszelman.com **Attorneys for Plaintiff** 6 Pro Hac Vice 7 IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT 8 FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA 9 10 KAI JOHNSON, individually and on Civil Case No.: 11 behalf of all others similarly situated, '20CV2017JM BLM 12 Plaintiff, **CIVIL ACTION** 13 CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT -against-14 **AND** 15 **DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL** 16 ONE TECHNOLOGIES, LLC, 17 Defendant. 18 19 Plaintiff Kai Johnson (hereinafter, "Plaintiff"), individually and on behalf of all 20 others similarly situated, bring this Class Action Complaint (the "Complaint") against 21 Defendant One Technologies, LLC ("Defendant"), and allege, upon personal 22 knowledge as to their own conduct, and upon information and belief as to the conduct 23 of others, as follows: 24 25 26 27 28

CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT

INTRODUCTION

- 1. Plaintiff brings this Complaint against Defendant to secure redress because Defendant willfully violated the Telephone Consumer Protection Act, 47 U.S.C § 227, et seq. ("TCPA") and invaded Plaintiff's privacy by causing unsolicited text messages to be made to Plaintiff's and other class members' cellular telephones through the use of an automatic telephone dialing system.
- 2. Defendant made one or more unauthorized phone call and/or text message to Plaintiff's cellular phone using an automatic telephone dialing system ("ATDS") in an attempt to profit.
- 3. The TCPA was enacted to protect consumers from unsolicited and phone calls exactly like those alleged in this case. In response to Defendant's unlawful conduct, Plaintiff seeks an injunction requiring Defendant to cease all unsolicited phone calls and/or text messages to consumers, and an award of statutory damages to the members of the Classes (defined below) under the TCPA equal to \$1,500.00 per violation, together with court costs, reasonable attorneys' fees, and treble damages (for knowing and/or willful violations).

PARTIES

- 4. Plaintiff at all time relevant hereto lives in San Diego, California.
- 5. Defendant is and was at all relevant times a business entity duly formed with a principal address at 8144 Walnut Hill Lane #600, Dallas, Texas 75231.
- 6. Whenever in this Complaint it is alleged that Defendant committed any act or omission, it is meant that the Defendant's officers, directors, vice-principals, agents, servants, or employees committed such act or omission and that at the time such act or omission was committed, it was done with the full authorization,

ratification or approval of Defendant or was done in the routine normal course and scope of employment of the Defendant's officers, directors, vice-principals, agents, servants, or employees.

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

- 7. This Court has subject matter jurisdiction under 28 U.S.C. § 1331, as this action arises under the TCPA, a federal statute.
- 8. The Court has personal jurisdiction over Defendant because it conducts significant business in this District, and the unlawful conduct alleged in this Complaint occurred in, was directed to, and/or emanated from this District.
- 9. Venue is proper in this District pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1391(b) because the wrongful conduct giving rise to this case occurred in, was directed to, and/or emanated from this District.
- 10. Defendant is subject to specific personal jurisdiction in this District because it has continuous and systematic contacts with this District through its telemarketing efforts that target this District, and the exercise of personal jurisdiction over Defendant in this District does not offend traditional notions of fair play or substantial justice.

LEGAL BASIS FOR THE CLAIMS

11. In 1991, Congress enacted the TCPA to regulate the explosive growth of the telemarketing industry. In doing so, Congress recognized that "[u]nrestricted telemarketing ... can be an intrusive invasion of privacy...." Telephone Consumer Protection Act of 1991, Pub. L. No. 102-243 § 2(5) (1991) (codified at 47 U.S.C. § 227).

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12. Specifically, the TCPA restricts telephone solicitations (i.e., telemarketing) and the use of automated telephone equipment. The TCPA limits the use of automatic dialing systems, artificial or prerecorded voice messages, SMS text messages, and fax machines. It also specifies several technical requirements for fax machines, autodialers, and voice messaging systems – principally with provisions requiring identification and contact information of the entity using the device to be contained in the message.

In its initial implementation of the TCPA rules, the FCC included an 13. exemption to its consent requirement for prerecorded telemarketing calls. Where the caller could demonstrate an "established business relationship" with a customer, the TCPA permitted the caller to place pre-recorded telemarketing calls to residential lines. The new amendments to the TCPA, effective October 16, 2013, eliminated this relationship business Therefore, all established exemption. pre-recorded telemarketing calls to residential lines and all ATDS calls to wireless numbers violate the TCPA if the calling party does not first obtain express written consent from the called party.

14. As of October 16, 2013, unless the recipient has given prior express written consent, the TCPA and Federal Communications Commission ("FCC") rules under the TCPA generally:

¹ Prior express written consent means "an agreement, in writing, bearing the signature of the person called that clearly authorizes the seller to deliver or cause to be delivered to the person called advertisements or telemarketing messages using an automatic telephone dialing system or an artificial or prerecorded voice, and the telephone number to which the signatory authorizes such advertisements or telemarketing messages to be delivered." 47 C.F.R. § 64.1200(f)(8).

- Prohibit solicitors from calling residences before 8 a.m. or after 9 p.m., local time.
- Require that solicitors provide their name, the name of the person or entity on whose behalf the call is being made, and a telephone number or address at which that person or entity may be contacted.
- Prohibit solicitations to residences that use an artificial voice or a recording.
- Prohibit any call or text made using automated telephone equipment or an artificial or prerecorded voice to a wireless device or cellular telephone.
- Prohibit any call made using automated telephone equipment or an artificial or prerecorded voice to an emergency line (e.g., "911"), a hospital emergency number, a physician's office, a hospital/health care facility/elderly room, a cellular telephone, or any service for which the recipient is charged for the call.
 - Prohibit autodialed calls that engage two or more lines of a multi-line business.
 - Prohibit unsolicited advertising faxes.
- Prohibit certain calls to members of the National Do Not Call Registry.
- 15. Furthermore, in 2008, the FCC held that "a creditor on whose behalf an autodialed or prerecorded message call is made to a wireless number bears the responsibility for any violation of the Commission's rules." *In re Rules and*

Regulations Implementing the Telephone Consumer Protection Act, Declaratory Ruling on Motion by ACA International for Reconsideration, 23 FCC Rcd. 559, 565, ¶ 10 (Jan. 4, 2008); Birchmeier v. Caribbean Cruise Line, Inc., 2012 WL 7062748 (N.D. Ill., Dec. 31, 2012).

16. Accordingly, the entity can be liable under the TCPA for a call made on its behalf, even if the entity did not directly place the call. Under those circumstances, the entity is deemed to have initiated the call through the person or entity.

FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS

- 17. Defendant operates a generation lead company in which it solicits consumers in an attempt to divert them to one of their partner sites for profit.
- 18. Defendant utilizes a sophisticated telephone dialing system to text consumers en masse in an effort to profit. However, Defendant fails to get the requisite prior consent prior to texting.
- 19. In fact, there have been numerous complaints on the better business bureau from consumers complaining of receiving numerous unsolicited and harassing phone calls from the Defendant.
- 20. In Defendant's overzealous attempt to market its services, Defendant knowingly made (and continues to make) telemarketing phone calls without the prior express written consent of the call recipients and with the knowledge that they did not have the prior express written consent. As such, Defendant not only invaded the personal privacy of Plaintiff and members of the Classes, but also intentionally and repeatedly violated the TCPA.

FACTUAL BACKGROUND AS TO PLAINTIFF

- 21. For at least the last ten years, Plaintiff has been the owner of a cellular telephone number ending in 6842.
- 22. On November 19, 2014, Plaintiff's cellular telephone was registered with the National Do Not Call Registry.
- 23. Within the last four years, at times better known by Defendant, Defendant began texting Plaintiff on his cellular telephone number via an ATDS, as defined by 47 U.S.C. § 227(a)(1).
- 24. Each text message included an unsolicited advertisement and requested a call to action. Such messages included:
 - a. June 17, 2020 "Carlos There's been an increase to your CreditScore"
 - b. July 23, 2020 "A Change Has been Made to Your Score(s)"
 - c. "Data-Breach Alert Check If Your Information Is Involved"
 - d. "Notice, Change Detected On Your Credit File",
 - e. "Score Update2: A Change Was Made To Your Three Score(s)".
- 25. In each text message included a hyperlink at the end of the message. Upon clicking on link, Plaintiff was redirected to a website warning Plaintiff that he may be affected by the recent Equifax Data Breach, and instructing Plaintiff to click on another link. Upon clicking on that link, Plaintiff would be redirected to one of the many partner websites of One Technologies, LLC, including freescore360.com or ScoreSense.

- 26. In fact, the web page hosted by www.freescore360.com states that "One Technologies, LLC is the proud owner of this website."
- 27. Upon information and belief, Defendant directs and arranges for these automated messages to be sent to the Plaintiff by various shell companies, which messages all ultimately direct the recipient back to sites owned and controlled by the Defendant.
- 28. Plaintiff never gave Defendant prior express consent for Defendant to call or text his cellular telephone.
- 29. Over the last several months, Defendant has texted Plaintiff over fifteen (15) times using an ATDS.

LEGAL CLAIMS

- 30. Defendant's text messages constituted calls that were not for emergency purposes as defined by 47 U.S.C. § 227(b)(1)(A)(i).
- 31. Plaintiff did not provide Defendant prior express written consent to place texts to his cellular telephones utilizing an ATDS or artificial or pre-recorded voice, pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 227 (b)(1)(A).
- 32. All texts Defendant made to Plaintiff, invaded Plaintiffs' privacy and violated 47 U.S.C. § 227(b)(1).
- 33. Plaintiff has reason to believe that Defendant has called, and continues to call, thousands of wireless telephone customers to market its services without consent and/or after consumers revoked their consent in a reasonable manner.

- 34. In order to redress injuries caused by Defendant's violations of the TCPA, Plaintiff, on behalf of themselves and the Classes of similarly situated individuals, bring suit under the TCPA, 47 U.S.C. § 227, et seq., which prohibits certain unsolicited text messages to cellular phones.
- 35. On behalf of Plaintiff and the Class, Plaintiff seek an award of statutory damages to the Class members, together with costs and reasonable attorneys' fees.

CLASS ACTION ALLEGATIONS

- 36. Plaintiff brings this action pursuant to Rule 23(a), Rule 23(b)(2), and Rule 23(b)(3) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure individually and on behalf of the Class, which include:
 - a. "The Class", consisting of all individuals in the United States who received a text message made by or on behalf of One Technologies, LLC to an individual's cellular telephone, with the use of an automatic telephone dialing system, without prior express consent, within the last four years.
 - b. "National Do Not Call Class", consisting of all individuals in the United States, whose phone numbers were registered on the national do not call list, who received more than one text message made by or on behalf of One Technologies, LLC to an individual's telephone, where Defendant's records fail to indicate prior express written consent from the recipient to make such a text.
- 37. Plaintiff reserves the right to modify the Class definitions as warranted as facts are learned in further investigation and discovery.

38. Plaintiff and the Class members were harmed by Defendant's acts in at least the following ways: Defendant, either directly or through its agents, illegally contacted Plaintiff and the Class via their cellular telephones by using an ATDS, thereby causing Plaintiffs and the Class to incur certain cellular telephone charges or reduce cellular telephone time for which Plaintiffs and the Class members previously paid; and Plaintiffs and Class members' privacy was invaded.

39. The exact size of the Class is presently unknown but can be ascertained through a review of Defendant's records, and it is clear that individual joinder is impracticable. Defendant made telephone calls to thousands of consumers who fall into the definition of the Classes.

- 40. There are many questions of law and fact common to the claims of Plaintiffs and the Classes, and those questions predominate over any questions that may affect individual members of the Classes.
 - 41. Common questions for the Classes include, without limitation:
 - a. Whether Defendant's conduct violated the TCPA;
 - b. Whether Class members are entitled to treble damages based on the willfulness of Defendant's conduct;
 - Whether Defendant made phone calls to consumers using any automatic dialing system to any telephone number assigned to a cellular phone service; and
 - d. Whether Defendant and its agents should be enjoined from engaging in such conduct in the future.

- 42. Plaintiff's claims are typical of the claims of the other members of the Class. Plaintiff and the Class sustained damages as a result of Defendant's uniform wrongful conduct during transactions with Plaintiff and the Class.
- 43. Plaintiff will fairly and adequately represent and protect the interests of the Class, and has retained counsel competent and experienced in complex class actions.
- 44. Plaintiff has no interests antagonistic to those of the Class, and Defendant has no defenses unique to Plaintiff.
- 45. This class action is appropriate for class certification because Defendant has acted or refused to act on grounds generally applicable to the Class as a whole, thereby requiring the Court's imposition of uniform relief to ensure compatible standards of conduct toward the Class, and making final injunctive relief appropriate with respect to the Class as a whole.
- 46. Defendant's practices challenged herein apply to and affect the Class members uniformly, and Plaintiffs' challenge of those practices hinges on Defendant's conduct with respect to the Classes as a whole, not on facts or law applicable only to Plaintiff.
- 47. This case is also appropriate for class certification because class proceedings are superior to all other available methods for the fair and efficient adjudication of this controversy given that joinder of all parties is impracticable.

- 48. The damages suffered by the individual members of the Classes will likely be relatively small, especially given the burden and expense of individual prosecution of the complex litigation necessitated by Defendant's actions.
- 49. Thus, it would be virtually impossible for the individual members of the Classes to obtain effective relief from Defendant's misconduct.
- 50. Even if members of the Classes could sustain such individual litigation, it would still not be preferable to a class action, because individual litigation would increase the delay and expense to all parties due to the complex legal and factual controversies presented in this Complaint.
- 51. By contrast, a class action presents far fewer management difficulties and provides the benefits of single adjudication, economy of scale, and comprehensive supervision by a single court. Economies of time, effort and expense will be fostered, and uniformity of decisions ensured.

FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION

VIOLATIONS OF THE TELEPHONE CONSUMER PROTECTION ACT 47 U.S.C. § 227

- 52. Plaintiff re-alleges and incorporates by reference each preceding paragraph as though fully set forth herein.
- 53. Defendant made unsolicited and unauthorized phone calls to Plaintiff's and the Class members cellular telephones for the purpose of marketing products and/or services to Plaintiff and the Class, with the use of an ATDS or pre-recorded messages.

RELIEF REQUESTED 2 WHEREFORE, Plaintiff, individually and on behalf of the Class, respectfully request the following relief: 3 An order certifying this matter as a class action with Plaintiffs as Class 4 Representatives, and designating Marcus & Zelman, LLC as Class Counsel. 5 6 b. An award of actual or statutory damages for each and every negligent 7 violation to each member of the Classes pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 227(b)(3)(B); 8 9 An award of treble actual or statutory damages for each and every c. 10 knowing and/or willful violation to each member of the Classes pursuant to 47 U.S.C 11 § 227(b)(3)(B); 12 13 d. Injunctive relief prohibiting Defendant's conduct complained of herein, 14 pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 227(b)(3)(A); 15 16 Pre-judgment and post-judgment interest on monetary relief; and e. 17 18 f. All other and further relief as the Court deems necessary, just, and proper. 19 Dated: October 13, 2020 20 /s/ Joshua B. Swigart 21 Joshua B. Swigart SWIGART LAW GROUP, APC 22 2221 Camino del Rio South, Suite 308 23 San Diego, California 92108 Telephone: (866) 219-3343 24 Facsimile: (866) 219-8344 25 Email: josh@swigartlawgroup.com 26 /s/ Yitzchak Zelman 27 Yitzchak Zelman 28

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1	PRO HAC VICE MOTION TO BE
2	FILED Marcus & Zelman, LLC
3	701 Cookman Avenue, Suite 300
4	Asbury Park, New Jersey 07712 Telephone: (732) 695-3282
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6	YZelman@MarcusZelman.com
7	Attorneys for Plaintiff
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Case 3:20-cv-02017-JM-BLM Document 1-1 Filed 10/14/20 PageID.16 Page 1 of 2 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.)

(b) County of Residence of First Listed Plannitf San Diego (EXCEPT IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES) (C) Attorneys (Firm Name, Address, and Telephone Number) Swigart Law Group APC, 2221 Carnino del Rio South, Suite 308, San Diego, CA 92108, 866.219, 3343, josh @ swigartlawgroup.com III. BASIS OF JURISDICTION (Place an "X" in One Box Only) 1 U.S. Government Plaintiff (U.S. Government Not a Party) 1 U.S. Government Defondant A Diversity (Indicate Citizgaship of Parties in Items III)	I. (a) PLAINTIFFS KAI JOHNSON, individua	ally and on behalf of al	others similarly sit	tuated	DEFENDANTS ONE TECHNOLOG		;				
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Proceeding State Court Appellate Court Reopened Another District Litigation - Litigation - Company Com					ened Anothe	er District	Litigat	tion -	Litigatio	n -	
VI. CAUSE OF ACTION Cite the U.S. Civil Statute under which you are filing (Do not cite jurisdictional statutes unless diversity): 47 U.S.C. § 227 Brief description of cause: Violations of the TCPA	VI. CAUSE OF ACTIO	N 47 U.S.C. § 227 Brief description of ca	use:	re filing (I	Oo not cite jurisdictional stat	tutes unless di	versity):				
VII. REQUESTED IN COMPLAINT: Image: CHECK IF THIS IS A CLASS ACTION UNDER RULE 23, F.R.Cv.P. DEMAND \$ CHECK YES only if demanded in complaint: JURY DEMAND: IMAGE: IMAGE IN CHECK YES ONLY IF THIS IS A CLASS ACTION UNDER RULE 23, F.R.Cv.P.	VII. REQUESTED IN COMPLAINT:			N D	EMAND \$			•		nt:	
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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.Cv.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; **NOTE: 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 there are multiple nature of suit codes associated with the case, pick the nature of suit code that is most applicable. Click here for: Nature of Suit Code Descriptions.
- **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 Transfer. (6) Check this box when a multidistrict case is transferred into the district under authority of Title 28 U.S.C. Section 1407
 - Multidistrict Litigation Direct File. (8) Check this box when a multidistrict case is filed in the same district as the Master MDL docket. **PLEASE NOTE THAT THERE IS NOT AN ORIGIN CODE 7.** Origin Code 7 was used for historical records and is no longer relevant due to changes in statue.
- 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 actual dollar amount being demanded or indicate other demand, such as a preliminary injunction. Jury Demand. Check the appropriate box to indicate whether or not a jury is being demanded.
- VIII. Related Cases. This section of the JS 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.

ClassAction.org

This complaint is part of ClassAction.org's searchable class action lawsuit database and can be found in this post: One Technologies Hit with Class Action Over Credit Score Text Message Ads