UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT EASTERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

ARSEN KAKURIYEV, on behalf of himself and all others similarly situated,

Plaintiffs,

-against-

FMA ALLIANCE, LTD.

Defendant.

CIVIL ACTION

CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT AND DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL

Plaintiff ARSEN KAKURIYEV (hereinafter, "Plaintiff"), a New York resident, brings this class action complaint by and through his attorneys, Joseph H. Mizrahi Law, P.C., against Defendants FMA ALLIANCE, LTD. (hereinafter "Defendant"), individually and on behalf of a class of all others similarly situated, pursuant to Rule 23 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, based upon information and belief of Plaintiff's counsel, except for allegations specifically pertaining to Plaintiff, which are based upon Plaintiff's personal knowledge.

INTRODUCTION/PRELIMINARY STATEMENT

- 1. Congress enacted the FDCPA in 1977 in response to the "abundant evidence of the use of abusive, deceptive, and unfair debt collection practices by many debt collectors." 15 U.S.C. § 1692(a). At that time, Congress was concerned that "abusive debt collection practices contribute to the number of personal bankruptcies, to material instability, to the loss of jobs, and to invasions of individual privacy." *Id.* Congress concluded that "existing laws . . . [we]re inadequate to protect consumers," and that "the effective collection of debts" does not require "misrepresentation or other abusive debt collection practices." 15 U.S.C. §§ 1692(b) & (c).
- 2. Congress explained that the purpose of the Act was not only to eliminate abusive debt

collection practices, but also to "insure that those debt collectors who refrain from using abusive debt collection practices are not competitively disadvantaged." *Id.* § 1692(e). After determining that the existing consumer protection laws were inadequate, *id.* § 1692(b), Congress gave consumers a private cause of action against debt collectors who fail to comply with the Act. *Id.* § 1692k.

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

- 3. The Court has jurisdiction over this class action under 28 U.S.C. § 1331, 15 U.S.C. § 1692 *et seq.* and 28 U.S.C. § 2201. If applicable, the Court also has pendent jurisdiction over the state law claims in this action pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1367(a).
- 4. Venue is proper in this judicial district pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1391(b)(2).

NATURE OF THE ACTION

- 5. Plaintiff brings this class action on behalf of a class of New York consumers seeking redress for Defendant's actions of using an unfair and unconscionable means to collect a debt.
- 6. Defendant's actions violated § 1692 et seq. of Title 15 of the United States Code, commonly referred to as the Fair Debt Collections Practices Act ("FDCPA") which prohibits debt collectors from engaging in abusive, deceptive and unfair practices.
- 7. Plaintiff is seeking damages, and declaratory and injunctive relief.

PARTIES

- 8. Plaintiff is a natural person and a resident of the State of New York, and is a "Consumer" as defined by 15 U.S.C. §1692(a)(3).
- Upon information and belief, Defendant's principal place of business is located in Houston,
 Texas.
- 10. Defendant is a company that uses the mail, telephone, and facsimile and regularly engages in business the principal purpose of which is to attempt to collect debts alleged to be due another.

11. Defendant is a "debt collector," as defined under the FDCPA under 15 U.S.C. § 1692a(6).

CLASS ALLEGATIONS

- 12. Plaintiff brings claims, pursuant to the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure (hereinafter "FRCP")
 Rule 23, individually and on behalf of the following consumer class (the "Class"):
 - All New York consumers who received a collection letter from Defendant attempting to collect an obligation owed to or allegedly owed to Discover Bank, that contains the alleged violation arising from Defendant's failure to adequately advise the consumer of the amount of debt in violation of 15 U.S.C. §1692e, et seq.
 - The Class period begins one year to the filing of this Action.
- 13. The Class satisfies all the requirements of Rule 23 of the FRCP for maintaining a class action:
 - Upon information and belief, the Class is so numerous that joinder of all members is impracticable because there are hundreds and/or thousands of persons who have received debt collection Letter and/or notices from Defendant that fail to adequately advise the consumer of the amount owed in violation of the FDCPA. Plaintiff is complaining of a standard form letter and/or notice that is sent to hundreds of persons (*See* Exhibit A, except that the undersigned attorney has, in accordance with Fed. R. Civ. P. 5.2 partially redacted the financial account numbers in an effort to protect Plaintiff's privacy);
 - There are questions of law and fact which are common to the Class and which
 predominate over questions affecting any individual Class member. These
 common questions of law and fact include, without limitation:
 - a. Whether Defendant violated various provisions of the FDCPA;
 - b. Whether Plaintiff and the Class have been injured by Defendant's conduct;

- c. Whether Plaintiff and the Class have sustained damages and are entitled to restitution as a result of Defendant's wrongdoing and if so, what is the proper measure and appropriate statutory formula to be applied in determining such damages and restitution; and
- d. Whether Plaintiff and the Class are entitled to declaratory and/or injunctive relief.
- Plaintiff's claims are typical of the Class, which all arise from the same operative facts and are based on the same legal theories.
- Plaintiff has no interest adverse or antagonistic to the interest of the other members of the Class.
- Plaintiff will fairly and adequately protect the interest of the Class and has retained experienced and competent attorneys to represent the Class.
- A Class Action is superior to other methods for the fair and efficient adjudication of the claims herein asserted. Plaintiff anticipates that no unusual difficulties are likely to be encountered in the management of this class action.
- A Class Action will permit large numbers of similarly situated persons to prosecute their common claims in a single forum simultaneously and without the duplication of effort and expense that numerous individual actions would engender. Class treatment will also permit the adjudication of relatively small claims by many Class members who could not otherwise afford to seek legal redress for the wrongs complained of herein. Absent a Class Action, class members will continue to suffer losses of statutory protected rights as well as monetary damages. If

- Defendant's conduct is allowed to proceed without remedy they will continue to reap and retain the proceeds of their ill-gotten gains.
- Defendant has acted on grounds generally applicable to the entire Class, thereby
 making appropriate final injunctive relief or corresponding declaratory relief
 with respect to the Class as a whole.

ALLEGATIONS OF FACT PARTICULAR TO ARSEN KAKURIYEV

- 14. Plaintiff repeats, reiterates and incorporates the allegations contained in paragraphs numbered "1" through "13" herein with the same force and effect as if the same were set forth at length herein.
- 15. Defendant collects and attempts to collect debts incurred or alleged to have been incurred for personal, family or household purposes on behalf of creditors using the United States Postal Services, telephone and Internet.
- 16. Upon information and belief, within the last year Defendant commenced efforts to collect an alleged consumer "debt" as defined by 15 U.S.C. 1692a(5), when it mailed a Collection Letter to Plaintiff seeking to collect on an unpaid account allegedly owed to Discover Bank.
- 17. On or around December 19, 2016, Defendant sent Plaintiff a collection letter. See Exhibit A.
- 18. The letter was sent or caused to be sent by persons employed by Defendant as a "debt collector" as defined by 15 U.S.C. §1692a(6).
- 19. The letter is a "communication" as defined by 15 U.S.C. §1692a(2).
- 20. The December 19, 2016 letter was an initial communication between Plaintiff and Defendant.
- 21. As a result of the following Counts Defendant violated the FDCPA.

<u>First Count</u> 15 U.S.C. §1692g and §1692e *et seq*.

Failure to Adequately and Honestly Convey the Amount of the Debt

22. Plaintiff repeats, reiterates and incorporates the allegations contained in paragraphs numbered "1" through "21" herein with the same force and effect as if the same were set forth at length herein.

- 23. 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.
- 24. 15 U.S.C. § 1692g(a)(1) requires the written notice provide "the amount of the debt."
- 25. The written notice, to comply with 15 U.S.C. § 1692g(a)(1), must convey the amount of the debt clearly from the perspective of the least sophisticated consumer.
- 26. The written notice, to comply with 15 U.S.C. § 1692g(a)(1), must convey the amount of the debt accurately from the perspective of the least sophisticated consumer.
- 27. The written notice, to comply with 15 U.S.C. § 1692g(a)(1), must convey the amount of the debt without ambiguity from the perspective of the least sophisticated consumer.
- 28. The written notice, to comply with 15 U.S.C. § 1692g(a)(1), must state whether interest, late fees and/or other fees are accruing.
- 29. The written notice, to comply with 15 U.S.C. § 1692g(a)(1), must allow the least sophisticated consumer to determine the minimum amount he or she owes at the time of the notice.
- 30. The written notice, to comply with 15 U.S.C. § 1692g(a)(1), must allow the least sophisticated consumer to determine what he or she will need to pay to resolve the debt at any given moment in the future.
- 31. The written notice, to comply with 15 U.S.C. § 1692g(a)(1), must contain an explanation, understandable by the least sophisticated consumer, of any fees or interest that may cause the balance to increase at any time in the future.
- 32. The failure to include the foregoing information renders an otherwise accurate statement of the "amount of the debt" violative of 15 U.S.C. § 1692g(a)(1).

- 33. The Letter states in pertinent part:
 - "As of the date of this letter, you owe \$1,313.00. 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."
- 34. The Letter fails to provide information that would allow the least sophisticated consumer to determine what he or she will need to pay to resolve the debt at any given moment in the future.
- 35. The Letter fails to provide information that would allow the least sophisticated consumer to determine the amount of interest owed.
- 36. For instance, the Letter fails to indicate the date of accrual of interest.
- 37. For instance, the Letter fails to indicate the amount of interest during any measurable period.
- 38. The Letter fails to contain an explanation, understandable by the least sophisticated consumer, of any fees and interest that may cause the amounts stated to increase.
- 39. The Letter fails to contain an explanation, understandable by the least sophisticated consumer, of any "other charges" that may cause the amounts stated to increase.
- 40. The Letter, because of the aforementioned failures, would render the least sophisticated consumer unable to determine what she will need to pay to resolve the debt at any given moment in the future.
- 41. The Letter, because of the aforementioned failures, would render the least sophisticated consumer unable to determine the amount of his or her debt.
- 42. The Letter, because of the aforementioned failures, would render the least sophisticated consumer unable to determine the amount of his debt because the consumer would not know whether interest and fees would or just "may" continue to accrue, or whether the amount of the debt was static.
- 43. The Letter, because of the aforementioned failures, did not convey "the amount of the debt"

- clearly and accurately from the perspective of the least sophisticated consumer.
- 44. Plaintiff's rights under 1692g were violated because Defendant demanded payment without sufficiently communicating to Plaintiff the exact amount due and owing on the alleged account.
- 45. As a result of Defendant's communications, Plaintiff and the least sophisticated consumer would not be able to adequately discern the exact amount due and owing on the alleged debt.
- 46. As the Second Circuit recently stated:

Absent fuller disclosure, an unsophisticated consumer may not understand how these fees are calculated, whether they may be disputed, or what provision of the note gives rise to them. Because the statement gives no indication as to what the unaccrued fees are or how they are calculated, she cannot deduce that information from the statement. *Carlin v. Davidson Fink LLP*, No. 15-3105-cv (2d Cir. Mar. 29, 2017).

47. The Court further elaborated by stating that it is a violation of Section 1692g if the debt collector in "the Payoff Statement only expresses that the Total Amount Due may include estimated fees and costs. There is no clarity as to whether new fees and costs are accruing or as to the basis for those fees and costs." *Id*.

48. It went on to state:

We do not hold that a debt collector may never satisfy its obligations under § 1692g by providing a payoff statement that provides an amount due, including expected fees and costs. But a statement is incomplete where, as here, it omits information allowing the least sophisticated consumer to determine the minimum amount she owes at the time of the notice, what she will need to pay to resolve the debt at any given moment in the future, and an explanation of any fees and interest that will cause the balance to increase" (emphasis added). *Id*.

- 49. Defendant's Letter merely states that "the amount due on the day you pay may be greater."
- 50. Defendant fails to clarify whether the balance is actually accruing. Instead it merely asserts that the balance "may be greater."
- 51. The Letter, because of the aforementioned failures, renders the statements of the amount of the debts, even if otherwise accurate, violative of 15 U.S.C. § 1692g(a)(1).

- 52. The Letter, because of the aforementioned failures, did not adequately set forth "the amount of the debt" as required by 15 U.S.C. § 1692g.
- 53. The Letter, because of the aforementioned failures, violates 15 U.S.C. § 1692g.
- 54. For these reasons, Defendant failed to clearly state the amount of the debt.

Second Count 15 U.S.C. §1692g(a)(3) Suggesting a Dispute Must be Made in Writing

- 55. Plaintiff repeats, reiterates and incorporates the allegations contained in paragraphs numbered "1" through "54" herein with the same force and effect as if the same were set forth at length herein.
- 56. 15 U.S.C. § 1692g(3) requires the notice to include a statement that unless the consumer, within thirty days after receipt of the notice, disputes the validity of the debt, or any portion thereof, the debt will be assumed to be valid by the debt collector.
- 57. There is no requirement that the consumer dispute the debt in writing.
- 58. It is a violation of FDCPA to require disputes be made in writing.
- 59. It is a violation of the FDCPA to include language in the Letter that overshadows the required 15 U.S.C. § 1692g(3) statement.
- 60. It is a violation of the FDCPA to include language in the Letter that contradicts the required 15 U.S.C. § 1692g(3) statement.
- 61. It is a violation of the FDCPA to include language in the Letter that, when examined from the perspective of the least sophisticated consumer, overshadows the required § 1692g(a)(3) statement.
- 62. It is a violation of the FDCPA to include language in the Letter that, when examined from the perspective of the least sophisticated consumer, contradicts the required § 1692g(a)(3) statement.

- 63. It is a violation of the FDCPA to include language in the Letter that, when examined from the perspective of the least sophisticated consumer, leads the least sophisticated consumer to believe that her dispute must be in writing.
- 64. Defendant's Letter states "Please send all payments or correspondence to:" and proceeds to provide a mailing address for which to mail same.
- 65. The least sophisticated consumer, reading the Letter as a whole, would be likely to understand that, because a dispute is a correspondence, all disputes must be communicated in writing, thereby invalidating the right to make a dispute orally.
- 66. Disputes need not be in writing. *Hooks v. Forman, Holt, Eliades & Ravin, LLC*, 717 F.3d 282 (2d Cir. 2013).
- 67. The language concerning written disputes overshadows the required 15 U.S.C. § 1692g(3) statement.
- 68. The language concerning written disputes contradicts the required 15 U.S.C. § 1692g(3) statement.
- 69. The language concerning written disputes, when examined from the perspective of the least sophisticated consumer, overshadows the required § 1692g(a)(3) statement.
- 70. The language concerning written disputes, when examined from the perspective of the least sophisticated consumer, contradicts the required § 1692g(a)(3) statement.
- 71. The language concerning written disputes, when examined from the perspective of the least sophisticated consumer, leads the least sophisticated consumer to believe that her dispute must be in writing.

72. Defendant has violated § 1692g as the above-referenced language overshadows the information required to be provided by that Section. See *Balke v. All. One Receivables Mgt.*, *Inc.*, 16-CV-5624(ADS)(AKT), 2017 WL 2634653, at *8 (E.D.N.Y. June 19, 2017). ¹

Third Count Violation of 15 U.S.C. § 1692e, et seq False and Misleading Representations

- 73. Plaintiff repeats, reiterates and incorporates the allegations contained in paragraphs numbered "1" through "72" herein with the same force and effect as if the same were set forth at length herein.
- 74. 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.
- 75. While § 1692e specifically prohibits certain practices, the list is non-exhaustive, and does not preclude a claim of falsity or deception based on non-enumerated practice.
- 76. For purposes of 15 U.S.C. § 1692e, the failure to clearly provide the consumer with complete and accurate information notifying them of their rights and obligations is unfair and deceptive to the least sophisticated consumer.
- 77. Collection notices are deceptive if they can be reasonably read to have two or more different meanings, one of which is inaccurate.
- 78. The question of whether a collection Letter is deceptive is determined from the perspective of the "least sophisticated consumer."
- 79. Because the collection Letter in the instant case was reasonably susceptible to an inaccurate reading concerning Plaintiff's right to dispute the debt by something other than in writing, it is deceptive within the meaning of the FDCPA.

¹ Namely, the Court finds that, although the Collection Letter did not explicitly state that the Plaintiff could only dispute the debt in writing, from the perspective of the least sophisticated consumer, the inclusion of a mailing address to which "all correspondence for this account should be mailed" introduces enough uncertainty regarding the permissible methods of disputing the debt to state a plausible claim for relief under the statute.

- 80. When confronted with Defendant's Letter which stated, "Please send all payments or correspondence to:" it is reasonable for the least sophisticated consumer to believe that all disputes would be needed in writing. That is inaccurate since you can also call to orally dispute the debt.
- 81. When confronted with Defendant's Letter which states, "Please send all payments or correspondence to:" it would be reasonable for the least sophisticated consumer to understand that statement to mean that in order to dispute the debt she must send it in writing. That would be inaccurate since she can dispute the debt verbally.
- 82. The least sophisticated consumer would likely be deceived by Defendants' conduct.
- 83. The least sophisticated consumer would likely be deceived in a material way by Defendant's conduct.
- 84. The least sophisticated consumer would be unsure as to whether a writing or oral communication is necessary to dispute the underlying debt.
- 85. Defendant's conduct violated 15 U.S.C. §1692e. There is no requirement that the consumer dispute the debt in writing.
- 86. Because the Letter, for the reasons described above, could be read by the least sophisticated consumer to have two or more meanings, one of which is inaccurate, such violates 15 U.S.C. § 1692e. See *Balke v. Alliance One Receivables Management, Inc.*, No. 16-CV 5624(ADS)(AKT), 2017 WL 2634653 (E.D.N.Y. June 19, 2017).

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff demands judgment against Defendants as follows:

- (a) Declaring that this action is properly maintainable as a Class Action and certifying Plaintiff as Class representative and Joseph H. Mizrahi Law, P.C., as Class Counsel;
- (b) Awarding Plaintiff and the Class statutory damages;
- (c) Awarding Plaintiff and the Class actual damages;
- (d) Awarding Plaintiff costs of this Action, including reasonable attorneys' fees and expenses;
- (e) Awarding pre-judgment interest and post-judgment interest; and
- (f) Awarding Plaintiff and the Class such other and further relief as this Court may deem just and proper.

Respectfully submitted,

By: /s/ Joseph H. Mizrahi
Joseph H. Mizrahi, Esq.
Joseph H. Mizrahi Law, P.C.
337 Avenue W, Suite 2F
Brooklyn, New York 11223
Phone: (347) 927-4529

Fax: (347) 665-1545

Email: Jmizrahilaw@gmail.com

Attorney for Plaintiff

DEMAND FOR TRIAL BY JURY

Pursuant to Rule 38 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, Plaintiff hereby requests a trial by jury on all issues so triable.

/s/ Joseph H. Mizrahi
Joseph H. Mizrahi, Esq.

Dated: Brooklyn, New York August 10, 2017 JS 44 (Rev. 06/17)

Case 1:17-cv-04697 Document 2-1-VEIRO 08/10/17 Page 1 of 2 PageID #: 14

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.)

purpose of initiating the civil do	ocket sheet. (SEE INSTRUC	TIONS ON NEXT PAGE OF	THIS FO	PRM.)	, 1		
I. (a) PLAINTIFFS ARSEN KAKURIYEV, on behalf of himself and all others similarly situated,				DEFENDANTS FMA ALLIANCE, LTD.			
(E)	KCEPT IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CA	SES)					
(c) Attorneys (Firm Name, A	Address and Telephone Numbe	r)		Attorneys (If Known)			
JOSEPH H. MIZRAHI LA 11223, (917) 299-6612	•		NY	, J., (J)			
II. BASIS OF JURISDI	CCTION (Place an "X" in O	ne Box Only)			RINCIPAL PARTIES	(Place an "X" in One Box for Plainti	
□ 1 U.S. Government				(For Diversity Cases Only) P1		and One Box for Defendant) PTF DEF	
Plaintiff (U.S. Government Not a Par		Not a Party)	Citize	en of This State	1		
☐ 2 U.S. Government Defendant	☐ 4 Diversity (Indicate Citizenship)	☐ 4 Diversity (Indicate Citizenship of Parties in Item III)		en of Another State	2		
			Citizen or Subject of a				
IV. NATURE OF SUIT		ely) PRTS	FC	ORFEITURE/PENALTY	Click here for: Nature of BANKRUPTCY	of Suit Code Descriptions. OTHER STATUTES	
☐ 110 Insurance	PERSONAL INJURY	PERSONAL INJURY		25 Drug Related Seizure	☐ 422 Appeal 28 USC 158	☐ 375 False Claims Act	
☐ 120 Marine ☐ 130 Miller Act	☐ 310 Airplane ☐ 315 Airplane Product	☐ 365 Personal Injury - Product Liability	□ 69	of Property 21 USC 881	☐ 423 Withdrawal 28 USC 157	☐ 376 Qui Tam (31 USC 3729(a))	
☐ 140 Negotiable Instrument	Liability	☐ 367 Health Care/	L 0)	o other		☐ 400 State Reapportionment	
☐ 150 Recovery of Overpayment & Enforcement of Judgment	☐ 320 Assault, Libel & Slander	Pharmaceutical Personal Injury			PROPERTY RIGHTS ☐ 820 Copyrights	☐ 410 Antitrust☐ 430 Banks and Banking	
☐ 151 Medicare Act ☐ 152 Recovery of Defaulted	☐ 330 Federal Employers' Liability	Product Liability ☐ 368 Asbestos Personal			☐ 830 Patent ☐ 835 Patent - Abbreviated	☐ 450 Commerce ☐ 460 Deportation	
Student Loans	☐ 340 Marine	Injury Product			New Drug Application	☐ 470 Racketeer Influenced and	
(Excludes Veterans) ☐ 153 Recovery of Overpayment	☐ 345 Marine Product Liability	Liability PERSONAL PROPERT	ry —	LABOR	□ 840 Trademark SOCIAL SECURITY	Corrupt Organizations 3 480 Consumer Credit	
of Veteran's Benefits 160 Stockholders' Suits	☐ 350 Motor Vehicle ☐ 355 Motor Vehicle	☐ 370 Other Fraud ☐ 371 Truth in Lending		0 Fair Labor Standards	☐ 861 HIA (1395ff) ☐ 862 Black Lung (923)	☐ 490 Cable/Sat TV ☐ 850 Securities/Commodities/	
☐ 190 Other Contract	Product Liability	☐ 380 Other Personal	1 72	Act 20 Labor/Management	☐ 863 DIWC/DIWW (405(g))	Exchange	
☐ 195 Contract Product Liability ☐ 196 Franchise	☐ 360 Other Personal Injury	Property Damage 385 Property Damage	□ 74	Relations O Railway Labor Act	☐ 864 SSID Title XVI ☐ 865 RSI (405(g))	☐ 890 Other Statutory Actions☐ 891 Agricultural Acts	
	☐ 362 Personal Injury - Medical Malpractice	Product Liability	1 75	1 Family and Medical Leave Act		☐ 893 Environmental Matters ☐ 895 Freedom of Information	
REAL PROPERTY	CIVIL RIGHTS	PRISONER PETITIONS		0 Other Labor Litigation	FEDERAL TAX SUITS	Act	
☐ 210 Land Condemnation ☐ 220 Foreclosure	☐ 440 Other Civil Rights ☐ 441 Voting	Habeas Corpus: ☐ 463 Alien Detainee	1 79	1 Employee Retirement Income Security Act	☐ 870 Taxes (U.S. Plaintiff or Defendant)	☐ 896 Arbitration☐ 899 Administrative Procedure	
☐ 230 Rent Lease & Ejectment	☐ 442 Employment	☐ 510 Motions to Vacate		meome security race	☐ 871 IRS—Third Party	Act/Review or Appeal of	
240 Torts to Land245 Tort Product Liability	☐ 443 Housing/ Accommodations	Sentence ☐ 530 General			26 USC 7609	Agency Decision ☐ 950 Constitutionality of	
☐ 290 All Other Real Property	☐ 445 Amer. w/Disabilities - Employment	☐ 535 Death Penalty Other:	□ 46	IMMIGRATION 52 Naturalization Application		State Statutes	
	☐ 446 Amer. w/Disabilities -	☐ 540 Mandamus & Other		55 Other Immigration			
	Other 448 Education	☐ 550 Civil Rights ☐ 555 Prison Condition		Actions			
		560 Civil Detainee - Conditions of					
		Confinement					
	moved from 3	Remanded from Appellate Court		stated or	r District Litigation	ı - Litigation -	
	Cite the U.S. Civil Sta	tute under which you are	filing (I	(specify) Do not cite jurisdictional stat	Transfer utes unless diversity):	Direct File	
VI. CAUSE OF ACTIO	Drief description of ca	use:					
Defendant violated the FDCPA VII. REQUESTED IN ☐ CHECK IF THIS IS A CLASS ACTION				EMAND \$	•	if demanded in complaint:	
COMPLAINT:	UNDER RULE 2	3, F.R.CV.P.			JURY DEMAND:	: X Yes □No	
VIII. RELATED CASI IF ANY	(See instructions):	JUDGE			DOCKET NUMBER		
DATE 09/40/2047		SIGNATURE OF ATTO		OF RECORD			
08/10/2017 FOR OFFICE USE ONLY		/s/ Joseph H. Mi	ziani				
	MOUNT	APPLYING IFP		JUDGE	MAG. JUE	DGE	

CERTIFICATION OF ARBITRATION ELIGIBILITY

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

I, JOSEPH ineligib	ole for co	counsel for PLAINTIFF, do hereby certify that the above captioned civil action is 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 fact predominate <u>DISCLOSURE STATEMENT - FEDERAL RULES CIVIL PROCEDURE 7.1</u>						
NONE		Identify any parent corporation and any publicly held corporation that owns 10% or more or its stocks:					
RELATED CASE STATEMENT (Section VIII on the Front of this Form)							
Please list all cases that are arguably related pursuant to Division of Business Rule 50.3.1 in Section VIII on the front of this form. Rule 50.3.1 (a) provides that "A civil case is "related" to another civil case for purposes of this guideline when, because of the similarity of facts and legal issues or because the cases arise from the same transactions or events, a substantial saving of judicial resources is likely to result from assigning both cases to the same judge and magistrate judge." Rule 50.3.1 (b) provides that "A civil case shall not be deemed "related" to another civil case merely because the civil case: (A) involves identical legal issues, or (B) involves the same parties." Rule 50.3.1 (c) further provides that "Presumptively, and subject to the power of a judge to determine otherwise pursuant to paragraph (d), civil cases shall not be deemed to be "related" unless both cases are still pending before the court."							
		NY-E DIVISION OF BUSINESS RULE 50.1(d)(2)					
1.)	Is the ci County:	vil action being filed in the Eastern District removed from a New York State Court located in Nassau or Suffolk					
2.)	If you answered "no" above: a) Did the events or omissions giving rise to the claim or claims, or a substantial part thereof, occur in Nassau or Suffolk County? NO						
	b) Did the District	he events or omissions giving rise to the claim or claims, or a substantial part thereof, occur in the Eastern					
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?							
BAR ADMISSION							
I am cui	rently ad	Imitted in the Eastern District of New York and currently a member in good standing of the bar of this court. Yes No					
Are you currently the subject of any disciplinary action (s) in this or any other state or federal court? Yes (If yes, please explain) No							

I certify the accuracy of all information provided above.

Signature:_/s/ Joseph H. Mizrahi

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

for the

Eastern District of New York

Edistria District of New York							
ARSEN KAKURIYEV, on behalf of himself and all others similarly situated,)							
Plaintiff(s)							
v. ,	Civil Action No.						
FMA ALLIANCE, LTD.							
)))							
Defendant(s)							
SUMMONS IN A CIVIL ACTION							
To: (Defendant's name and address) FMA ALLIANCE, LTD. C/O CT CORPORATION SYSTEM 111 EIGHTH AVENUE NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10011							
A lawsuit has been filed against you.							
Within 21 days after service of this summons on you (not counting the day you received it) — or 60 days if you are the United States or a United States agency, or an officer or employee of the United States described in Fed. R. Civ. P. 12 (a)(2) or (3) — you must serve on the plaintiff an answer to the attached complaint or a motion under Rule 12 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure. The answer or motion must be served on the plaintiff or plaintiff's attorney,							
whose name and address are							
JOSEPH H. MIZRAHI LAW, P.C. 337 AVENUE W, SUITE 2F BROOKLYN, NEW YORK 11223							
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.							
	DOUGLAS C. PALMER CLERK OF COURT						
_							
Date:	Signature of Clerk or Deputy Clerk						

AO 440 (Rev. 06/12) Summons in a Civil Action (Page 2)

Civil Action No.

PROOF OF SERVICE

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

was re	ceived by me on (date)	·						
	☐ I personally served	the summons on the individual	at (place)					
			on (date)					
	☐ I left the summons at the individual's residence or usual place of abode with (name)							
	, a person of suitable age and discretion who resides there,							
	on (date)	, and mailed a copy to	the individual's last known address; or					
	☐ I served the summons on (name of individual), where the summons on (name of individual), and,							
	designated by law to a	accept service of process on beh	alf of (name of organization)					
		on (date)						
	☐ I returned the summ	I returned the summons unexecuted because						
	☐ Other (specify):							
	My fees are \$	for travel and \$	for services, for a total of \$	0.00				
	I declare under penalty of perjury that this information is true.							
Date:								
Dute.			Server's signature					
			Printed name and title					
			Server's address					

Additional information regarding attempted service, etc:



1:17-cv-04697 Document 1-3 Filed 08/10/17 Page 1 of 1 PageID #: 18 12/19/2016

ACCOUNT INFORMATION

Personal & Confidential
Creditor: Discover Bank
Regarding Your Discover Card
Account #: XXXXXXXXXXXXXX776

File#: **822**6

Total Account Balance: \$16826.22 as of 12/19/2016

Amount Due: \$1,313.00

FMA Alliance, Ltd. 12339 Cutten Road, Houston, TX 77066 877-259-5545

A different kind of collection experience!

FMA knows - if you had the money to pay off the balance, you would. We understand repaying your debt isn't easy in today's economy. FMA is here to help create a win-win solution to resolve this debt. Experience the FMA difference!







Simple! Fast! Secure! Available 24 hours/365 days!
Pay on-line at www.PayFma.com
No conversations and no interactions with a live person when online.
Plus our professionally trained staff is here to assist you on the phone. Our hours of operation are Monday - Thursday 8am - 8pm, Friday 8am - 5pm, and Saturday 8am - 12pm Central Time.



Scan here to access www.PayFma.com Mobile data rates may apply.

Pay Online Login Information Usemame: 34758226 Pin: 2873 Password: 62540

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 that this debt, or any portion thereof, is disputed, within 30 days from receiving this notice, this office will: obtain verification of the debt or obtain a copy of a judgment and mail you a copy of such judgment or verification. If you request 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 from the current creditor.

As of the date of this letter, you owe \$1,313.00. 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 877-259-5545.

Notice About Electronic Check Conversion: When you provide a check as payment, you authorize us either to use information from your check to make a one-time electronic fund transfer from your account or to process the payment as a check transaction. When we use information from your check to make an electronic fund transfer, funds may be withdrawn from your account as soon as the same day we receive your payment and you will not receive your check back from your financial institution.

See important information on the reverse side.

This has been sent to you by a debt collector.

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

*** Please detach and return lower portion with payment ***

FMBB117-1220-810741458-01238-1238

DEPT 287 9515637716124 PO BOX 4115 CONCORD CA 94524



ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

#BWNFTZF #FMB9515637716124#

վոկներիանարկությունականերիցներիկիկիկորվել

ARSEN KAKURIYEV



Make your check payable to FMA Alliance, Ltd.

Amount Paid: \$_____

Account #: XXXXXXXXXXXXX3776

Creditor: Discover Bank

Please send all payments or correspondence to:

FMA Alliance, Ltd. P.O. Box 2409 Houston, TX 77252-2409

ClassAction.org

This complaint is part of ClassAction.org's searchable class action lawsuit database and can be found in this post: <u>Lawsuit Claims FMA Alliance Left Vital Information Out of Debt Collection Notice</u>