BARSHAY SANDERS, PLLC

100 Garden City Plaza, Suite 500 Garden City, New York 11530 Tel: (516) 203-7600 Fax: (516) 706-5055 Email: *ConsumerRights@BarshaySanders.com Attorneys for Plaintiff* Our File No.: 115651

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT EASTERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

Leopold Koenig, individually and on behalf of all others similarly situated,

Plaintiff,

vs.

Docket No:

CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT

JURY TRIAL DEMANDED

Stevens Business Services, Inc.,

Defendant.

Leopold Koenig, individually and on behalf of all others similarly situated (hereinafter referred to as "*Plaintiff*"), by and through the undersigned counsel, complains, states and alleges against Stevens Business Services, Inc. (hereinafter referred to as "*Defendant*"), as follows:

INTRODUCTION

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

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

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

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

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

BARSHAY | SANDERS PLLC 100 GARDEN CTY PLAZA, SUITE 500 GARDEN CITY, NEW YORK 11530

PARTIES

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

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

7. On information and belief, Defendant Stevens Business Services, Inc., is a Massachusetts Corporation with a principal place of business in Suffolk County, Massachusetts.

8. Defendant is regularly engaged, for profit, in the collection of debts allegedly owed by consumers.

9. Defendant is a "debt collector" as defined by 15 U.S.C. § 1692a(6).

ALLEGATIONS

10. Defendant alleges Plaintiff owes a debt ("the Debt").

11. The Debt was primarily for household utility purposes and is therefore a "debt" as defined by 15 U.S.C. § 1692a(5).

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

13. Thereafter, at an exact time known only to Defendant, the Debt was assigned or otherwise transferred to Defendant for collection.

14. In its efforts to collect the debt, Defendant contacted Plaintiff by letter ("the Letter") dated January 4, 2018. ("<u>Exhibit 1</u>.")

15. The Letter was the initial communication Plaintiff received from Defendant.

16. The Letter is a "communication" as defined by 15 U.S.C. § 1692a(2).

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

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

18. The Debt was incurred on a Keyspan New York ("Keyspan") account.

19. Pursuant to the terms and conditions of the account, Keyspan charged Plaintiff late fees on any payments due but not timely made by Plaintiff.

20. Pursuant to the terms and conditions of the account, Keyspan charged Plaintiff other fees on the account.

2

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

22. The right to collect from Plaintiff other fees on the account was not waived by Keyspan.

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

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

25. Plaintiff was never informed by anyone that the terms and conditions of the account were changed.

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

27. Pursuant to the terms and conditions of the account, other fees continued to accrue on the account.

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

29. Pursuant to the terms and conditions of the account, Keyspan and any assignee or successor-in-interest had the legal right to collect from Plaintiff other fees on the account.

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

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

32. 15 U.S.C. § 1692e requires debt collectors, when they notify consumers of their account balance, to disclose that the balance may increase due to and fees.

- 33. The Letter failed to disclose that the balance stated may increase due to late fees.
- 34. The Letter failed to disclose that the balance stated may increase due to other fees.
- 35. The Letter, because of the aforementioned failures, violates 15 U.S.C. § 1692e.

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

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

37. 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.

38. 15 U.S.C. § 1692g(a)(1) requires the written notice provide "the amount of the debt."

39. 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.

40. 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.

41. 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.

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

43. 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.

44. 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.

45. 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 that may cause the balance to increase at any time in the future.

46. The failure to include the foregoing information renders an otherwise accurate

4

statement of the "amount of the debt" violative of 15 U.S.C. § 1692g(a)(1).

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

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

49. The Letter fails to provide information that would allow Plaintiff to determine what Plaintiff will need to pay to resolve the debt at any given moment in the future.

50. 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.

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

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

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

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

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

56. The Letter fails to state whether late fees and/or other fees are accruing.

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

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

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

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

61. 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.

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

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

5

Case 1:18-cv-04820 Document 1 Filed 08/24/18 Page 6 of 9 PageID #: 6

not know whether fees would continue to accrue, or whether the amount of the debt was static.

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

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

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

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

68. 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.

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

<u>THIRD COUNT</u> Violation of 15 U.S.C. § 1692e

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

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

72. As previously set forth, Plaintiff was always charged fees on the account.

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

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

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

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

77. A collection letter violates 15 U.S.C. § 1692e if it can reasonably be read by the least sophisticated consumer to have two or more meanings, one of which is inaccurate.

78. The Letter, because of the aforementioned failures, and because fees were always charged on the account and Plaintiff was never informed by anyone that fees would no longer be

BARSHAY | SANDERS PILC 100 GARDEN CITY PLAZA, SUITE 500 GARDEN CITY, NEW YORK 11530

Case 1:18-cv-04820 Document 1 Filed 08/24/18 Page 7 of 9 PageID #: 7

applied, can reasonably be read by the least sophisticated consumer to mean that fees were still accruing.

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

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

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

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

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

84. For these reasons, Defendant violated 15 U.S.C. § 1692e.

CLASS ALLEGATIONS

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

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

87. Defendant regularly engages in debt collection.

88. The Class consists of more than 35 persons from whom Defendant attempted to collect delinquent consumer debts using a collection letter containing the same deficiencies as the Letter herein.

89. Plaintiff's claims are typical of the claims of the Class. Common questions of law or fact raised by this class action complaint affect all members of the Class and predominate over any individual issues. Common relief is therefore sought on behalf of all members of the Class.

BARSHAY | SANDERS PILC 100 GARDEN CITY PLAZA, SUITE 500 GARDEN CITY, NEW YORK 11530

Case 1:18-cv-04820 Document 1 Filed 08/24/18 Page 8 of 9 PageID #: 8

This class action is superior to other available methods for the fair and efficient adjudication of this controversy.

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

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

JURY DEMAND

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

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff respectfully requests judgment as follows:

a. Certify this action as a class action; and

b. Appoint Plaintiff as Class Representative of the Class, and Plaintiff's attorneys as Class Counsel; and

c. Find that Defendant's actions violate the FDCPA; and

d. Grant damages against Defendant pursuant to 15 U.S.C. § 1692k; and

e. Grant Plaintiff's attorneys' fees pursuant to 15 U.S.C. § 1692k; and

f. Grant Plaintiff's costs; together with

g. Such other relief that the Court determines is just and proper.

DATED: August 19, 2018

BARSHAY SANDERS, PLLC

By: <u>/s/ Craig B. Sanders</u> Craig B. Sanders, Esq. 100 Garden City Plaza, Suite 500 Garden City, New York 11530 Tel: (516) 203-7600 Fax: (516) 706-5055 csanders@barshaysanders.com *Attorneys for Plaintiff* Our File No.: 115651

Case 1:18-cv-04820 Document 1-1 92 BOLT STREET, SUITE 1 PO BOX 1233 LOWELL MA 01853-1233	Filed 08/24/19TEPENS BUSINESS SERVICE 92 BOLT STREET, SUPE 1 · PO BOX 1233 · LOWELL MA 01853 1-800-549-9972 WWW.SBS4MONEY.COM TO PAY BY CREDIT CARD, PLEASE			
	CARD NUMBER CC-ID# EXP. DATE AMOUNT CARDHOLDER NAME (Please Print) SIGNATURE			
DATE: 01/04/18	RE: NATIONAL GRID fka KEYSPAN NY			
ACCT: 00007	TOTAL DUE: \$6,598.79 FOR: 01/01/2005 - 03/02/2017			
1 AB *A-02-6NU-AM-02271-8 مایی را از این را از این را از این را از	qqludlllllulullllllqlqqqllllqqqqllllqqqqlllllqlqllll STEVENS BUSINESS SERVICE 92 BOLT STREET, SUITE 1 PO BOX 1233 LOWELL MA 01853-1233			

PLEASE DETACH HERE AND ENCLOSE WITH YOUR PAYMENT IN THE ENVELOPE PROVIDED

DEAR LEOPOLD KOENIG:

01/04/18

BUSINESS HOURS: MON-FRI 8:00AM-8:30PM

MON-FRI 8:00AM-7:00PM

THE ABOVE REFERENCED DEBT HAS BEEN REFERRED TO OUR OFFICE FOR PAYMENT IN FULL. NATIONAL GRID Fka KEYSPAN NY HAS BEEN EXTREMELY PATIENT AND THIS PAST DUE BALANCE DESERVES YOUR ATTENTION.

YOUR CHECK FOR THE FULL BALANCE, PAYABLE TO YOUR CREDITOR SHOULD BE FORWARDED TO OUR OFFICE. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS KINDLY CALL OUR OFFICE TO DISCUSS THIS MATTER, OR IF YOU PREFER WE CONTACT YOU, RETURN THIS LETTER WITH THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION PROVIDED:

DAYTIME TELEPHONE NUMBER (___)

EVENING TELEPHONE NUMBER (___)___

PLEASE SEE REVERSE SIDE FOR IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR RIGHTS.

RE: NATIONAL GRID fka KEYSPAN NY

REF: 5312 TOTAL DUE: \$6.598.79 ACCT: 0007 STEVENS BUSINESS SERVICE

92 BOLT STREET, SUITE 1 PO BOX 1233 LOWELL MA 01853 1-800-549-9972 New York City License # 1190886 Buffalo License # 538513

0000577-LET60 0101

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

UNLESS YOU NOTIFY THIS OFFICE WITHIN 30 DAYS AFTER RECEIVING THIS NOTICE THAT YOU DISPUTE THE VALIDITY OF THIS DEBT OR ANY PORTION THEREOF, THIS OFFICE WILL ASSUME THIS DEBT IS VALID. IF YOU NOTIFY THIS OFFICE IN WRITING WITHIN 30 DAYS FROM RECEIVING THIS NOTICE THAT YOU DISPUTE THE VALIDITY OF THIS DEBT OR ANY PORTION THEREOF, THIS OFFICE WILL OBTAIN VERIFICATION OF THE DEBT OR OBTAIN A COPY OF A JUDGMENT 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.

Debt collectors, in accordance with the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, 15 U.S.C.§ 1692 et seq., are prohibited from engaging in abusive, deceptive, and unfair debt collection efforts, including but not limited to: (i) the use or threat of violence; (ii) the use of obscene or profane language; and (iii) repeated phone calls made with the intent to annoy, abuse, or harass.

If a creditor or debt collector receives a money judgment against you in court, state and federal laws may prevent the following types of income from being taken to pay the debt:

- 1. Supplemental security income, (SSI);
- 2. Social security;
- 3. Public assistance (welfare);
- 4. Spousal support, maintenance (alimony) or child support;
- 5. Unemployment benefits;
- 6. Disability benefits;
- 7. WorkersÆ compensation benefits;
- 8. Public or private pensions;
- 9. VeteransÆ benefits;
- 10. Federal student loans, federal student grants, and federal work study funds; and
- 11. Ninety percent of your wages or salary earned in the last sixty days.

15488-10128-2016;04820 Degument Ov Files 08/24/18 Page 1 of 2 PageID #: 12

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

I. (a) PLAINTIFFS			DEFENDANTS	DEFENDANTS		
LEOPOLD KOENIG			STEVENS BU	STEVENS BUSINESS SERVICES, INC.		
(b) County of Residence of First Listed Plaintiff KINGS (EXCEPT IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES)			NOTE: IN LAND CO	County of Residence of First Listed Defendant SUFFOLK (IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES ONLY) NOTE: IN LAND CONDEMNATION CASES, USE THE LOCATION OF THE TRACT OF LAND INVOLVED.		
(c) Attorneys (Firm Name, Address, and Telephone Number) BARSHAY SANDERS, PLLC 100 Garden City Plaza, Ste 500, Garden City, NY 11530 (516) 203-7600			Attorneys (If Known)			
II. BASIS OF JURISDICTION (Place an "X" in One Box Only)			II. CITIZENSHIP OF I	PRINCIPAL PARTIES (
O 1 U.S. Government Plaintiff	• 3 Federal Question (U.S. Government 1	Not a Party)		PTF DEF D 1 O 1 Incorporated or Pri of Business In T		
O 2 U.S. Government Defendant	O 4 Diversity (Indicate Citizenshi	p of Parties in Item III)	Citizen of Another State C	O 2 O 2 Incorporated and P of Business In A	-	
IV. NATURE OF SUIT	(Place an "Y" in One Boy On	(b)	Citizen or Subject of a G Foreign Country	O 3 O 3 Foreign Nation	O 6 O 6	
CONTRACT		ORTS	FORFEITURE/PENALTY	BANKRUPTCY	OTHER STATUTES	
 O 110 Insurance O 120 Marine O 130 Miller Act O 140 Negotiable Instrument O 150 Recovery of Overpayment & Enforcement of Judgment O 151 Medicare Act O 152 Recovery of Defaulted Student Loans (Excludes Veterans) O 153 Recovery of Overpayment of Veteran's Benefits O 160 Stockholders' Suits O 190 Other Contract O 195 Contract Product Liability O 196 Franchise REAL PROPERTY O 210 Land Condemnation O 220 Foreclosure O 230 Rent Lease & Ejectment O 240 Torts to Land 	PERSONAL INJURY O 310 Airplane O 315 Airplane Product Liability O 320 Assault, Libel & Slander O 330 Federal Employers' Liability O 340 Marine O 345 Marine Product Liability O 350 Motor Vehicle O 355 Motor Vehicle Product Liability O 360 Other Personal Injury O 360 Other Personal Injury O 362 Personal Injury - Medical Malpractice CIVIL RIGHTS O 440 Other Civil Rights O 441 Voting O 442 Employment O 443 Housing/	PERSONAL INJURY O 365 Personal Injury - Product Liability O 367 Health Care/ Pharmaceutical Personal Injury Product Liability O 368 Asbestos Personal Injury Product Liability PERSONAL PROPERTY O 370 Other Fraud O 371 Truth in Lending O 380 Other Personal Property Damage Product Liability PRISONER PETITIONS Habeas Corpus: O 463 Alien Detainee O 510 Motions to Vacate Sentence	 O 625 Drug Related Seizure of Property 21 USC 881 O 690 Other Y 0 710 Fair Labor Standards Act O 720 Labor/Management Relations O 740 Railway Labor Act O 751 Family and Medical Leave Act O 790 Other Labor Litigation O 791 Employee Retirement Income Security Act 	 O 422 Appeal 28 USC 158 O 423 Withdrawal 28 USC 157 PROPERTY RIGHTS O 820 Copyrights O 830 Patent O 840 Trademark SOCIAL SECURITY O 861 HIA (1395ff) O 862 Black Lung (923) O 863 DIWC/DIWW (405(g)) O 864 SSID Title XVI O 865 RSI (405(g)) FEDERAL TAX SUITS O 870 Taxes (U.S. Plaintiff or Defendant) O 871 IRS—Third Party 26 USC 7609 	 O 375 False Claims Act O 400 State Reapportionment O 410 Antitrust O 430 Banks and Banking O 450 Commerce O 460 Deportation O 470 Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations • 480 Consumer Credit O 490 Cable/Sat TV O 850 Securities/Commodities/ Exchange O 890 Other Statutory Actions O 891 Agricultural Acts O 895 Freedom of Information Act O 896 Arbitration O 899 Administrative Procedure Act/Review or Appeal of Agency Decision O 950 Constitutionality of State Statutes 	
O 245 Tort Product Liability O 290 All Other Real Property	Accommodations O 445 Amer. w/Disabilities - Employment O 446 Amer. w/Disabilities - Other O 448 Education	 0 530 General 0 535 Death Penalty Other: 0 540 Mandamus & Other 0 550 Civil Rights 0 555 Prison Condition 0 560 Civil Detainee Conditions of Confinement 	IMMIGRATION O 462 Naturalization Applicatio O 465 Other Immigration Actions	n		
V. ORIGIN (Place an "X" in • 1 Original O 2 Remo Proceeding Con	wed from State O 3 Rem		Reinstated or Reopened O 5 Transfer Another (specify)	District Litigation –	O 8 Multidistrict Litigation – Direct File	
VI. CAUSE OF ACTIO		·		tatutes unless diversity): 15 USC §		
VII. REQUESTED IN • CHECK IF THIS IS A CLASS ACTION		15 USC DEMAND \$	15 USC \$1692 Fair Debt Collection Practices Act Violation CMAND \$ CHECK YES only if demanded in complaint:			
COMPLAINT:	UNDER RULE 2	3, F.R.Cv.P.		JURY DEMAND:	• Yes O No	
VIII. RELATED CASE(S) IF ANY JUDGE				DOCKET NUMBER		
DATE August 24, 2018	/s Craig Sanders	SIGNATURE OF ATTO	RNEY OF RECORD			
FOR OFFICE USE ONLY	C					
RECEIPT #AN	IOUNT	APPLYING IFP	JUDGE	MAG. JUI	DGE	

(

Case 1:18-cv-04820 Document 1-2 Filed 08/24/18 Page 2 of 2 PageID #: 13 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.

Case is Eligible for Arbitration

I, _____, counsel for _____, do hereby certify that the above captioned civil action is ineligible for

compulsory arbitration for the following reason(s):

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

DISCLOSURE STATEMENT - FEDERAL RULES CIVIL PROCEDURE 7.1

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

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

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

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

- 1.) Is the civil action being filed in the Eastern District removed from a New York State Court located in Nassau or Suffolk County: □ Yes No
- 2.) If you answered "no" above:

a) Did the events or omissions giving rise to the claim or claims, or a substantial part thereof, occur in Nassau or Suffolk

County? □ Yes ■ No

b) Did the events or omissions giving rise to the claim or claims, or a substantial part thereof, occur in the Eastern District? ■ Yes □ No

c) If this is a Fair Debt Collection Practice Act case, specific the County in which the offending communication was received: KINGS

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

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

BAR ADMISSION

I am currently admitted in the Eastern District of New York and currently a member in good standing of the bar of this court. Yes D 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: <u>/s Craig B. Sanders</u>

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

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

for the

EASTERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

)

)

))

)

)

Leopold Koenig, individually and on behalf of all others similarly situated,

Plaintiff(s)

v.

Civil Action No.

Stevens Business Services, Inc.,

Defendant(s)

SUMMONS IN A CIVIL ACTION

To:(*Defendant's name and address*) Stevens Business Services, Inc. c/o Devine, Millimet & Branch, P.C. 2 Oliver Street Boston, Massachusetts 02109

A lawsuit has been filed against you.

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

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

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

CLERK OF COURT

Date: _____

ClassAction.org

This complaint is part of ClassAction.org's searchable class action lawsuit database and can be found in this post: <u>Stevens Business Services Sued Over Allegedly Non-FDCPA-Compliant Letter</u>