

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

CRYSTAL MARTIN, Individually and on Behalf) of All Others Similarly Situated,) Plaintiff,) v.) ATLANTIC CREDIT & FINANCE INC.,) Defendant.)	Case No.: 17-cv-1652 CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT Jury Trial Demanded
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INTRODUCTION

1. This class action seeks redress for collection practices that violate the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, 15 U.S.C. § 1692 *et seq.* (the “FDCPA”).

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

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

PARTIES

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

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

5. Defendant Atlantic Credit & Finance, Inc. (“Atlantic”) is a foreign business corporation with its principal offices located at 3353 Orange Avenue, Roanoke, Virginia 24012, and with Wisconsin registered agent Corporation Service Company, 8040 Excelsior Drive, Suite 400, Madison, Wisconsin 53717.

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

7. Atlantic is engaged in the business of collecting debts owed to others and incurred for personal, family or household purposes. Atlantic is a debt collector as defined in 15 U.S.C. § 1692a.

FACTS

8. On or about January 27, 2017, Atlantic mailed a debt collection letter to Plaintiff regarding an alleged debt. A copy of this letter is attached to this complaint as Exhibit A.

9. Upon information and belief, Exhibit A is a form letter, generated by computer, and with the information specific to Plaintiff inserted by computer.

10. Upon information and belief, Exhibit A is a form debt collection letter, generated by computer and with the information specific to Plaintiff inserted by computer.

11. Upon information and belief, Exhibit A was the first written communication Atlantic mailed to Plaintiff regarding the alleged debt at issue.

12. Exhibit A contains the validation notice that the FDCPA, 15 U.S.C. § 1692g, requires debt collectors to send consumers along with the initial written communication.

13. Exhibit A contains the following:

Original Creditor ▶ CITIBANK, N.A.
BEST BUY VISA
Current Creditor ▶ MIDLAND FUNDING, LLC ("MID")
Acct # ▶ *****6548
ACF Acct # ▶ █████0557
Balance ▶ \$1,357.05

Exhibit A.

14. Exhibit A also contains the following:

Our records reflect you are obligated on the Account which is in default. Accordingly, Atlantic is entitled to be paid the balance due of \$1,357.05. All payments on the account should be sent as noted below.

Exhibit A.

15. The payment remittance slip portion of Exhibit A contains the following:

DETACH HERE AND ENCLOSE THIS PORTION ALONG WITH PAYMENT

Make check or money order payable to Atlantic Credit & Finance, Inc.

Exhibit A.

16. The payment remittance slip portion of Exhibit A also contains the following:

Original Creditor ▶ CITIBANK, N.A.
Acct # ▶ *****6548
ACF Acct # ▶ █████0557
Balance ▶ \$1,357.05
Amount Enclosed ▶

Exhibit A.

17. The “Privacy Notice” addendum to Exhibit A also contains the following:

OBTAINING INFORMATION:

- We obtain Customer Information as permitted by law from: a customer’s account file at the time we purchase his or her account; applications or questionnaires; and a customer’s transactions and experience with us or our affiliates.
- This information may include a customer’s name, address, social security number, former employers, payment history and account balances.

Exhibit A.

VIOLATIONS OF THE FDCPA

18. Exhibit A is false and misleading as to the identity of the creditor.

19. A debt collector cannot make confusing representations about the identity of the creditor in a collection letter.

20. 15 U.S.C. § 1692e generally prohibits “any false, deceptive, or misleading representation or means in connection with the collection of any debt.”

21. 15 U.S.C. § 1692e(2)(a) specifically prohibits: “The false representation of—the character, amount, or legal status of any debt.”

22. 15 U.S.C. § 1692e(10) specifically prohibits the “use of any false representation or deceptive means to collect or attempt to collect any debt.”

23. 15 U.S.C. § 1692g(a)(2) requires that debt collectors identify the name of the creditor to whom the debt is owed in a non-confusing manner. *See Miller v. McCalla, Raymer, Padrick, Cobb, Nichols, & Clark, L.L.C.*, 214 F.3d 872, 875 (7th Cir. 2000) (statutory disclosures must be made in a non-confusing way):

It is no excuse that it was “impossible” for the defendants to comply when as in this case the amount of the debt changes daily. What would or might be impossible for the defendants to do would be to determine what the amount of the debt might be at some future date if for example the interest rate in the loan agreement was variable. What they certainly could do was to state the total amount due--interest and other charges as well as principal--on the date the dunning letter was sent. We think the statute required this.

24. While *Miller* addressed a debt collector’s obligation to provide the amount of the debt under 15 U.S.C. § 1692g(a)(1), the Seventh Circuit has held that the standards for claims under § 1692e and § 1692g are the same. *McMillan v. Collection Professionals, Inc.*, 455 F.3d 754, 759 (7th Cir. 2006).

We cannot accept the district court’s view that claims brought under § 1692e or § 1692f are different from claims brought under § 1692g for purposes of Rule 12(b)(6) analysis. Whether or not a letter is ‘false, deceptive, or misleading’ (in violation of § 1692e) or ‘unfair or unconscionable’ (in violation of § 1692f) are inquiries similar to whether a letter is confusing in violation of § 1692g. After all, as our cases reflect, the inquiry under §§ 1692e, 1692g and 1692f is basically the same: it requires a fact-bound determination of how an unsophisticated consumer would perceive the letter.”)

25. The unsophisticated consumer, seeing Atlantic’s representations that “Atlantic is entitled to be paid the balance due of \$1,357.05” and “We obtain Customer Information as

permitted by law from: a customer's account file at the time we purchase his or her account," would understand that Atlantic had purchased her account.

26. Atlantic's misrepresentation is a material false statement.

27. The unsophisticated consumer would not know who she was supposed to be paying on the account Exhibit A was attempting to collect.

28. The unsophisticated consumer would not understand whether Exhibit A was collecting on behalf of Atlantic, "MID," or Citibank.

29. Defendant's letter identifies the "Original Creditor" as Citibank and the "Current Creditor" as "MID" but also says Atlantic is entitled to be paid the balance due and that Atlantic obtains Customer Information from the customer's account file at the time Atlantic purchases his or her account.

30. To satisfy § 1692g(a)(2), a debt collector may provide "the name under which [the creditor] usually transacts business, or a commonly-used acronym, or any name that it has used from the inception of the credit relation." *Blarek v. Encore Receivable Mgmt.*, No. 06-cv-420-WEC, 2007 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 22549 at *22 (E.D. Wis. Mar. 27, 2007).

31. However, "a particularly non-obvious acronym can on its face constitute a plainly confusing statement in violation of § 1692g(a)(2)." *Id.* at *23.

32. Plaintiff was confused by Exhibit A.

33. The unsophisticated consumer would be confused by Exhibit A.

34. Plaintiff had to spend time and money investigating Exhibit A, and the consequences of any potential responses to Exhibit A.

35. Plaintiff had to take time to obtain and meet with counsel, including traveling to counsel's office by car and its related expenses, including but not limited to the cost of gasoline and mileage, to advise Plaintiff on the consequences of Exhibit A.

36. The FDCPA creates substantive rights for consumers; violations cause injury to consumers, and such injuries are concrete and particularized. *Bock v. Pressler & Pressler, LLP*, No. 11-7593, 2017 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 81058 *21 (D.N.J. May 25, 2017) (“through [s]ection 1692e of the FDCPA, Congress established ‘an enforceable right to truthful information concerning’ debt collection practices, a decision that ‘was undoubtedly influenced by congressional awareness that the intentional provision of misinformation’ related to such practices, ‘contribute[s] to the number of personal bankruptcies, to marital instability, to the loss of jobs, and to invasions of individual privacy,’”); *Quinn v. Specialized Loan Servicing, LLC*, No. 16 C 2021, 2016 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 107299 *8-13 (N.D. Ill. Aug. 11, 2016) (rejecting challenge to Plaintiff’s standing based upon alleged FDCPA statutory violation); *Lane v. Bayview Loan Servicing, LLC*, No. 15 C 10446, 2016 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 89258 *9-10 (N.D. Ill. July 11, 2016) (“When a federal statute is violated, and especially when Congress has created a cause of action for its violation, by definition Congress has created a legally protected interest that it deems important enough for a lawsuit.”); *Church v. Accretive Health, Inc.*, No. 15-15708, 2016 U.S. App. LEXIS 12414 *7-11 (11th Cir. July 6, 2016) (same); *see also Mogg v. Jacobs*, No. 15-CV-1142-JPG-DGW, 2016 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 33229, 2016 WL 1029396, at *5 (S.D. Ill. Mar. 15, 2016) (“Congress does have the power to enact statutes creating legal rights, the invasion of which creates standing, even though no injury would exist without the statute,” (quoting *Sterk v. Redbox Automated Retail, LLC*, 770 F.3d 618, 623 (7th Cir. 2014))). For this reason, and to encourage consumers to bring FDCPA actions, Congress authorized an award of statutory damages for violations. 15 U.S.C. § 1692k(a).

37. Moreover, Congress has explicitly described the FDCPA as regulating “abusive practices” in debt collection. 15 U.S.C. §§ 1692(a) – 1692(e). Any person who receives a debt collection letter containing a violation of the FDCPA is a victim of abusive practices. *See* 15

U.S.C. §§ 1692(e) (“It is the purpose of this subchapter to eliminate abusive debt collection practices by debt collectors, to insure that those debt collectors who refrain from using abusive debt collection practices are not competitively disadvantaged, and to promote consistent State action to protect consumers against debt collection abuses”).

COUNT I – FDCPA

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

39. The language in Exhibit A is false, misleading and confusing to the unsophisticated consumer, in that the letter misleads the consumer as to the identity of the current creditor.

40. Defendant’s misstatement of the name of the creditor is a false representation or deceptive means to collect or attempt to collect any debt.

41. Defendant’s misstatement of the name of the creditor is a false, deceptive, misleading, and confusing statement of the character and legal status of the alleged debt.

42. The Defendant has therefore violated 15 U.S.C. §§ 1692e, 1692e(2)(a), 1692e(10), and 1692g(a)(2).

CLASS ALLEGATIONS

43. Plaintiff brings this action on behalf of a Class, consisting of (a) all natural persons in the State of Wisconsin (b) who were sent a debt collection letter (c) in the form of Exhibit A, (d) seeking to collect a debt for personal, family or household purposes, (e) between November 28, 2016 and November 28, 2017, inclusive, (f) that was not returned by the postal service.

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

45. There are questions of law and fact common to the members of the class, which common questions predominate over any questions that affect only individual class members. The predominant common question is whether the Defendant complied with the FDCPA.

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

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

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

JURY DEMAND

49. Plaintiff hereby demands a trial by jury.

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

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

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

Dated: November 28, 2017

ADEMI & O'REILLY, LLP

By: /s/ Mark A. Eldridge
John D. Blythin (SBN 1046105)
Mark A. Eldridge (SBN 1089944)
Jesse Fruchter (SBN 1097673)
Ben J. Slatky (SBN 1106892)

3620 East Layton Avenue
Cudahy, WI 53110
(414) 482-8000
(414) 482-8001 (fax)
jblythin@ademilaw.com
meldridge@ademilaw.com
jfruchter@ademilaw.com
bslatky@ademilaw.com

EXHIBIT A

Atlantic Credit & Finance, Inc.
PO Box 11887
Roanoke, VA 24022-1887



Return Service Requested



CRYSTAL MARTIN
5615 S DISCH AVE
CUDAHY, WI 53110-2605

Original Creditor ▶ CITIBANK, N.A.
BEST BUY VISA
Current Creditor ▶ MIDLAND FUNDING, LLC ("MID")
Acct # ▶ *****6548
ACF Acct # ▶ 0557
Balance ▶ \$1,357.05

January 27, 2017

Dear Mr./Ms. Crystal Martin:

Please allow this letter to serve as an introduction to MID. MID has purchased or was otherwise assigned the account (the "Account") referenced above and it has been placed with Atlantic Credit & Finance, Inc. ("Atlantic") for collection.

Our records reflect you are obligated on the Account which is in default. Accordingly, Atlantic is entitled to be paid the balance due of \$1,357.05. All payments on the account should be sent as noted below.

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 of 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.

To discuss this debt, please contact Alicia Shiflett toll free at 866-397-4100, between 12:00 P.M. and 9:00 P.M. EST Monday through Wednesday, 8:30 A.M. to 5:30 P.M. on Thursday and 9:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. EST on Friday.

Mail all Correspondence to:
Atlantic Credit & Finance, Inc.
PO Box 13386
Roanoke, VA 24033-3386

Mail all Payments to:
Atlantic Credit & Finance, Inc.
PO Box 12966
Roanoke, VA 24030-2966

Office Hours: 8:30 A.M. - 9:00 P.M., Monday - Wednesday; 8:30 A.M. - 5:30 P.M., Thursday; 9:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M. Friday (EST)

This communication is from a debt collector.
This is an attempt to collect a debt. Any information obtained will be used for that purpose.
NOTICE: SEE REVERSE SIDE FOR IMPORTANT INFORMATION

← Detach Here →

DETACH HERE AND ENCLOSE THIS PORTION ALONG WITH PAYMENT
Make check or money order payable to Atlantic Credit & Finance, Inc.

← Detach Here →

5080557
CRYSTAL MARTIN
5615 S DISCH AVE
CUDAHY, WI 53110-2605

January 27, 2017

Original Creditor ▶ CITIBANK, N.A.
Acct # ▶ *****6548
ACF Acct # ▶ 0557
Balance ▶ \$1,357.05
Amount Enclosed ▶

WE ACCEPT M/C AND VISA



Account Number: _____
Expiration Date: _____
Amount To Be Applied to Card: \$ _____
Cardholder Signature: (Print Name Below Line)

ATLANTIC CREDIT & FINANCE, INC.
PO BOX 12966
ROANOKE, VA 24030-2966

015505

L21AC27 007753 227145934121 NNIVY NNINNI NNINNI 000001

We are required to provide the following information under state law. This is not a complete list of your rights by state. If you do not reside in one of these states, you may still have the same or similar rights under federal or state law.

California Residents: As required by law, you are hereby notified that a negative credit report reflecting on your credit record may be submitted to a credit reporting agency if you fail to fulfill the terms of your credit obligations. But we will not submit a negative credit report to a credit reporting agency about the credit obligation until the expiration of the time period described on the front of this letter.

The state Rosenthal Fair Debt Collection Practices Act and the Federal Fair Debt Collection Practices Act require that, except under unusual circumstances, collectors may not contact you before 8 a.m. or after 9 p.m. They may not harass you by using threats of violence or arrest or by using obscene language. Collectors may not use false or misleading statements or call you at work, when they know or have reason to know that you may not receive personal calls at work. For the most part, collectors may not tell another person, other than your attorney or spouse, about your debt. Collectors may contact another person to confirm your location or enforce a judgment. For more information about debt collection activities, you may contact the Federal Trade Commission at 1-877-FTC-HELP or www.ftc.gov.

Please see the enclosed insert: **NOTICE TO CALIFORNIA CONSUMERS.**

Colorado Residents: FOR INFORMATION ABOUT THE COLORADO FAIR DEBT COLLECTION PRACTICES ACT, SEE WWW.COAG.GOV/CAR.

Local Office: Colorado Manager, Inc., Building B, 80 Garden Center, Suite 3, Broomfield, CO 80020 (303)920-4763

A consumer has the right to request in writing that a debt collector or collection agency cease further communication with the consumer. A written request to cease communication will not prohibit the debt collector or collection agency from taking any other action authorized by law to collect the debt.

Illinois Residents: The name and address of the Original Creditor are: CITIBANK, N.A., P.O. BOX 6000, SIOUX FALLS, SD 57117.

Massachusetts Residents: You have the right to make a written or oral request that telephone calls regarding your debt not be made to you at your place of employment. Any such oral request will be valid for only ten days unless you provide written confirmation of the request postmarked or delivered within seven days of such request. You may terminate this request by writing to the debt collector.

Minnesota Residents: This collection Agency is licensed by the Minnesota Department of Commerce.

Tennessee Residents: This collection agency is licensed by the Collection Service Board, State Department of Commerce and Insurance, 500 James Robertson Parkway, Nashville, Tennessee 37243.

Utah Residents: As required by Utah law, you are hereby notified that a negative credit report reflecting on your credit record may be submitted to a credit reporting agency if you fail to fulfill the terms of your credit obligations. We will not submit a negative credit report to a credit reporting agency about the credit obligation until the expiration of the time period described on the front of this letter.

North Carolina Permit No. 112256 (3353 Orange Ave., Roanoke, VA 24012)

North Carolina Permit No. 112467 (16 McLeland Road, St. Cloud, MN 56303)

016506

PRIVACY NOTICE

This privacy notice is given on behalf of Atlantic Credit & Finance, Inc. and its affiliates ("Atlantic"). Atlantic is committed to protecting your personal information. This notice is provided as required by the Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act, 15 U.S.C. § 6801 *et seq.* Please take a moment and read this notice for some important information about your rights. There may be additional rights under applicable state law. Atlantic's privacy policy covers "Customer Information" which means personally identifiable information based on your current or former relationship with us.

INFORMATION SECURITY:

- We restrict access to Customer Information to those employees or third-party service providers who need to know that information to service the account(s).
- We maintain physical, electronic and procedural safeguards that comply with federal regulations to guard the Customer Information.

OBTAINING INFORMATION:

- We obtain Customer Information as permitted by law from: a customer's account file at the time we purchase his or her account; applications or questionnaires; and a customer's transactions and experience with us or our affiliates.
- This information may include a customer's name, address, social security number, former employers, payment history and account balances.

USING AND DISCLOSURE OF INFORMATION:

- If we want to use any Customer Information we have obtained, we will do so only as permitted by the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, the Fair Credit Reporting Act, the Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act or other applicable laws.
- You do not have to do anything to limit this use or sharing as allowed by law.

VERMONT RESIDENTS: The following only applies if you are a resident of Vermont. You do not need to return any opt out response form because:

- We will not disclose your non-public personal information to non-affiliated third parties (other than as permitted by law).
- Unless otherwise permitted by law, we will not disclose the information that you provide to us or that we obtain from third parties (such as credit bureaus) to our affiliates.

CALIFORNIA RESIDENTS: The following only applies if you are a resident of California. You do not need to return any opt out response form because:

- We will not disclose your non-public personal information to non-affiliated third parties except as permitted by applicable California law.
- We will also limit the sharing of information about you with our affiliates to the extent required by applicable California law.

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 THE REVERSE OF THE FORM.)

Place an X in the appropriate Box: Green Bay Division Milwaukee Division

I. (a) PLAINTIFFS
CRYSTAL MARTIN

(b) County of Residence of First Listed Plaintiff Milwaukee
 (EXCEPT IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES)

(c) Attorney's (Firm Name, Address, and Telephone Number)
 Ademi & O'Reilly, LLP, 3620 E. Layton Ave., Cudahy, WI 53110
 (414) 482-8000-Telephone (414) 482-8001-Facsimile

DEFENDANTS
ATLANTIC CREDIT & FINANCE, INC.

County of Residence of First Listed Defendant _____
 (IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES ONLY)

NOTE: IN LAND CONDEMNATION CASES, USE THE LOCATION OF THE LAND INVOLVED.

Attorneys (If Known)

II. BASIS OF JURISDICTION (Place an "X" in One Box Only)

1 U.S. Government Plaintiff 3 Federal Question (U.S. Government Not a Party)

2 U.S. Government Defendant 4 Diversity (Indicate Citizenship of Parties in Item III)

III. CITIZENSHIP OF PRINCIPAL PARTIES (Place an "X" in One Box for Plaintiff and One Box for Defendant)

	PTF	DEF		PTF	DEF
Citizen of This State	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	Incorporated <i>or</i> Principal Place of Business In This State	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 4
Citizen of Another State	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	Incorporated <i>and</i> Principal Place of Business In Another State	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
Citizen or Subject of a Foreign Country	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	Foreign Nation	<input type="checkbox"/> 6	<input type="checkbox"/> 6

IV. NATURE OF SUIT (Place an "X" in One Box Only)

CONTRACT	TORTS	FORFEITURE/PENALTY	BANKRUPTCY	OTHER STATUTES
<input type="checkbox"/> 110 Insurance <input type="checkbox"/> 120 Marine <input type="checkbox"/> 130 Miller Act <input type="checkbox"/> 140 Negotiable Instrument <input type="checkbox"/> 150 Recovery of Overpayment & Enforcement of Judgment <input type="checkbox"/> 151 Medicare Act <input type="checkbox"/> 152 Recovery of Defaulted Student Loans (Excl. Veterans) <input type="checkbox"/> 153 Recovery of Overpayment of Veteran's Benefits <input type="checkbox"/> 160 Stockholders' Suits <input type="checkbox"/> 190 Other Contract <input type="checkbox"/> 195 Contract Product Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 196 Franchise	PERSONAL INJURY <input type="checkbox"/> 310 Airplane <input type="checkbox"/> 315 Airplane Product Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 320 Assault, Libel & Slander <input type="checkbox"/> 330 Federal Employers' Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 340 Marine <input type="checkbox"/> 345 Marine Product Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 350 Motor Vehicle <input type="checkbox"/> 355 Motor Vehicle Product Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 360 Other Personal Injury	PERSONAL INJURY <input type="checkbox"/> 362 Personal Injury - Med. Malpractice <input type="checkbox"/> 365 Personal Injury - Product Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 368 Asbestos Personal Injury Product Liability PERSONAL PROPERTY <input type="checkbox"/> 370 Other Fraud <input type="checkbox"/> 371 Truth in Lending <input type="checkbox"/> 380 Other Personal Property Damage <input type="checkbox"/> 385 Property Damage Product Liability	<input type="checkbox"/> 422 Appeal 28 USC 158 <input type="checkbox"/> 423 Withdrawal 28 USC 157 PROPERTY RIGHTS <input type="checkbox"/> 820 Copyrights <input type="checkbox"/> 830 Patent <input type="checkbox"/> 840 Trademark SOCIAL SECURITY <input type="checkbox"/> 861 HIA (1395ff) <input type="checkbox"/> 862 Black Lung (923) <input type="checkbox"/> 863 DIWC/DIWW (405(g)) <input type="checkbox"/> 864 SSID Title XVI <input type="checkbox"/> 865 RSI (405(g)) FEDERAL TAX SUITS <input type="checkbox"/> 870 Taxes (U.S. Plaintiff or Defendant) <input type="checkbox"/> 871 IRS—Third Party 26 USC 7609	<input type="checkbox"/> 400 State Reapportionment <input type="checkbox"/> 410 Antitrust <input type="checkbox"/> 430 Banks and Banking <input type="checkbox"/> 450 Commerce <input type="checkbox"/> 460 Deportation <input type="checkbox"/> 470 Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 480 Consumer Credit <input type="checkbox"/> 490 Cable/Sat TV <input type="checkbox"/> 810 Selective Service <input type="checkbox"/> 850 Securities/Commodities/Exchange <input type="checkbox"/> 875 Customer Challenge 12 USC 3410 <input type="checkbox"/> 890 Other Statutory Actions <input type="checkbox"/> 891 Agricultural Acts <input type="checkbox"/> 892 Economic Stabilization Act <input type="checkbox"/> 893 Environmental Matters <input type="checkbox"/> 894 Energy Allocation Act <input type="checkbox"/> 895 Freedom of Information Act <input type="checkbox"/> 900 Appeal of Fee Determination Under Equal Access to Justice <input type="checkbox"/> 950 Constitutionality of State Statutes
REAL PROPERTY <input type="checkbox"/> 210 Land Condemnation <input type="checkbox"/> 220 Foreclosure <input type="checkbox"/> 230 Rent Lease & Ejectment <input type="checkbox"/> 240 Torts to Land <input type="checkbox"/> 245 Tort Product Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 290 All Other Real Property	CIVIL RIGHTS <input type="checkbox"/> 441 Voting <input type="checkbox"/> 442 Employment <input type="checkbox"/> 443 Housing/Accommodations <input type="checkbox"/> 444 Welfare <input type="checkbox"/> 445 Amer. w/Disabilities - Employment <input type="checkbox"/> 446 Amer. w/Disabilities - Other <input type="checkbox"/> 440 Other Civil Rights	PRISONER PETITIONS <input type="checkbox"/> 510 Motions to Vacate Sentence Habeas Corpus: <input type="checkbox"/> 530 General <input type="checkbox"/> 535 Death Penalty <input type="checkbox"/> 540 Mandamus & Other <input type="checkbox"/> 550 Civil Rights <input type="checkbox"/> 555 Prison Condition	LABOR <input type="checkbox"/> 710 Fair Labor Standards Act <input type="checkbox"/> 720 Labor/Mgmt. Relations <input type="checkbox"/> 730 Labor/Mgmt. Reporting & Disclosure Act <input type="checkbox"/> 740 Railway Labor Act <input type="checkbox"/> 790 Other Labor Litigation <input type="checkbox"/> 791 Empl. Ret. Inc. Security Act IMMIGRATION <input type="checkbox"/> 462 Naturalization Application <input type="checkbox"/> 463 Habeas Corpus - Alien Detainee <input type="checkbox"/> 465 Other Immigration Actions	

V. ORIGIN (Place an "X" in One Box Only)

1 Original Proceeding 2 Removed from State Court 3 Remanded from Appellate Court 4 Reinstated or Reopened 5 Transferred from another district (specify) 6 Multidistrict Litigation 7 Appeal to District Judge from Magistrate Judgment

VI. CAUSE OF ACTION

Cite the U.S. Civil Statute under which you are filing (Do not cite jurisdictional statutes unless diversity):
 15 U.S.C. 1692 et seq

Brief description of cause:
 Violation of Fair Debt Collection Practices Act

VII. REQUESTED IN COMPLAINT: CHECK IF THIS IS A CLASS ACTION UNDER F.R.C.P. 23 **DEMAND \$** _____ **CHECK YES only if demanded in complaint:**
JURY DEMAND: Yes No

VIII. RELATED CASE(S) IF ANY (See instructions): JUDGE _____ DOCKET NUMBER _____

DATE: November 28, 2017 SIGNATURE OF ATTORNEY OF RECORD: s/ Mark A. Eldridge

INSTRUCTIONS FOR ATTORNEYS COMPLETING CIVIL COVER SHEET FORM JS 44

Authority For Civil Cover Sheet

The JS 44 civil cover sheet and the information contained herein neither replaces nor supplements the filings and service of pleading or other papers as required by law, except as provided by local rules of court. This form, approved by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required for the use of the Clerk of Court for the purpose of initiating the civil docket sheet. Consequently, a civil cover sheet is submitted to the Clerk of Court for each civil complaint filed. The attorney filing a case should complete the form as follows:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

VI. Cause of Action. Report the civil statute directly related to the cause of action and give a brief description of the cause. **Do not cite jurisdictional statutes unless diversity.** Example: U.S. Civil Statute: 47 USC 553

Brief Description: Unauthorized reception of cable service

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

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

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

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

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

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
for the
Eastern District of Wisconsin

CRYSTAL MARTIN

Plaintiff(s)

v.

ATLANTIC CREDIT & FINANCE, INC.

Defendant(s)

Civil Action No. 17-cv-1652

SUMMONS IN A CIVIL ACTION

To: *(Defendant's name and address)* ATLANTIC CREDIT & FINANCE, INC.
c/o CORPORATION SERVICE COMPANY
8040 EXCELSIOR DRIVE, SUITE 400
MADISON , WI 53717

A lawsuit has been filed against you.

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

Mark A. Eldridge
Ademi & O'Reilly, LLP
3620 East Layton Avenue
Cudahy, WI 53110

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

STEPHEN C. DRIES, CLERK OF COURT

Date: _____

Signature of Clerk or Deputy Clerk

PROOF OF SERVICE

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

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

_____ were received by me on *(date)* _____.

I personally served the summons and the attached complaint on the individual at *(place)*:

_____ on *(date)* _____ ; or

I left the summons and the attached complaint 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 and the attached complaint on *(name of individual)* _____

who is designated by law to accept service of process on behalf of *(name of organization)* _____ on *(date)* _____ ; or

I returned the summons unexecuted because _____ ; or

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: _____

Server's signature

Printed name and title

Server's address

Additional information regarding attempted service, etc.:

ClassAction.org

This complaint is part of ClassAction.org's searchable class action lawsuit database and can be found in this post: [FDCPA Suit Claims Atlantic Credit & Finance Misrepresented Consumer's Creditor](#)
