# IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF GEORGIA ATLANTA DIVISION

VICTORIA RENEE MCKOY AND DESIREE WRIGHT LOVINS, individually and on behalf of persons similarly situated,

Plaintiffs,

v.

BIG PICTURE LOANS, LLC, MATT MARTORELLO, ASCENSION TECHNOLOGIES, LLC F/K/A BELLICOSE CAPITAL, LLC, DANIEL GRAVEL,

CIVIL	<b>ACT</b>	ION	<b>FILE</b>

NO.

### **CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT**

COMES NOW Plaintiffs, Victoria Renee McKoy and Desiree Wright Lovins ("Plaintiffs"), on behalf of themselves and all individuals similarly situated, by counsel, and for their Class Action Complaint against Defendants, Big Picture Loans, LLC, Matt Martorello, Ascension Technologies, LLC f/k/a Bellicose Capital, LLC, Daniel Gravel (collectively "Defendants"), they allege as follows:

### I. INTRODUCTION

1. This case involves the online payday lending industry<sup>1</sup>, which takes advantage of desperate, poor Americans needing quick access to money by charging unconscionably high interest rates, often exceeding 550%. Payday lenders, such as Big Picture Loans, LLC, claim that they are above the law because they are supposedly wholly owned by a Native American tribe. However, lurking in the shadows, there is a complicated corporate management structure attempting to hide the fact that non-tribal members reap the overwhelming

Chapter 17 of Title 16 of the Georgia Code is commonly referred to as the "Payday Lending Act," even though it applies to installment loans as well. Similarly, Plaintiffs may refer to the loans and lending practices at issue in this litigation as "payday loans" or "payday lending," even though the loans to Plaintiffs and members of the Class may be more accurately defined as installment loans. Regardless of whether the term "payday loan" or "installment loan" is used hereafter, the lending practices at issue pertain to loans of \$3,000 or less made to Georgia borrowers at interest rates that exceed eight percent (8%).

The term "payday loan" is generally recognized as "a loan of short duration, typically two weeks [coinciding with the borrower's next payday], at an astronomical interest rate. Payday loans are the current version of salary buying or wage buying." Western Sky Financial, LLC v. State ex rel. Olens, 300 Ga. 340, 343 n.5, 793 S.E.2d 357, 363 n.5 (2016), quoting Clay v. Oxendine, 285 Ga.App. 50, 50 (1), 645 S.E.2d 553 (2007) (internal quotations and citations omitted). Similarly, an installment loan is a small-dollar consumer loan with terms that allow for the repayment of the debt over a period of months, generally with bi-weekly or monthly payment terms. In Georgia, the consumer finance laws address the legality of "payday loans" and "installment loans" through the same lending statutes, which regulate the lending of \$3,000 or less at interest rates that exceed eight percent (8%). GA. CODE ANN. §§ 7-3-1, et seq.; GA. CODE ANN. §§ 16-17-1, et seq.

majority of the profits. The purpose of this litigation is to shed light on this criminal enterprise that was established with the intent of evading state lending laws, to return the illegal gains to the exploited borrowers, to obtain statutory damages in accordance with Georgia and federal law, and to enjoin the Defendants from continuing their illegal practices with Georgia borrowers.

- 2. Attempting to insulate themselves from legal liability for their usurious lending practices, Defendants established what is commonly referred to as a "rent-a-tribe" business model, where a lender associates with a Native American tribe in an attempt to cloak itself in the privileges and immunities enjoyed by the tribe—or to at least create the illusion that it enjoys tribal immunity.
- 3. In this instance, Defendant Matt Martorello used the Lac Vieux Desert Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians (the "Tribe") to set up a lending entity supposedly beyond the reach of state and federal licensing and lending laws. Under the rent-a-tribe model, Defendants made high-interest loans in the name of Big Picture Loans, LLC ("Big Picture Loans"), which claims to be owned and operated by the Tribe. In reality, Martorello's company, Bellicose Capital, LLC ("Bellicose Capital"), funded the loans, controlled the underwriting, and handled the day-to-day operations of the business.
- 4. Big Picture Loans served as a front to disguise Martorello's and his company's roles and to ostensibly shield the scheme by exploiting tribal sovereign

immunity. In return for the use of its name to exploit claims of tribal sovereign immunity, the Tribe received about two percent (2%) of the revenue from the loans.<sup>2</sup>

5. In approximately January 2016, Ascension Technologies, LLC ("Ascension Technologies") acquired Bellicose Capital. Like Big Picture Loans, Ascension Technologies claims to be owned and operated by the Tribe.<sup>3</sup> Despite

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Zeke Faux, Payday Lenders are Changing the Game Ahead of a U.S. Crackdown, Bloomberg (Feb. 4, 2016) ("Bellicose has collected tens of millions of dollars, with the tribe keeping about 2 percent of the revenue...."). https://bloomberg.com/news/articles/2016-02-04/payday-lenders-are-changing-the-game-ahead-of-a-u-s-crackdown (last visited June 27, 2018).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> This lawsuit challenges Big Picture Loans' and Ascension Technologies' anticipated claim that they are an "arm of the Tribe" and thus entitled to the protection of sovereign immunity. Although the doctrine of tribal sovereign immunity protects the Tribe itself, the Supreme Court of Georgia has held that this state's jurisdiction over predatory payday lending practices is not defeated by tribal sovereignty, because the subject of the litigation involves nondiscriminatory civil and criminal laws regulating conduct beyond the boundaries of the Native Americans' reservation. See also Western Sky Financial, LLC v. State ex rel. Olens, 300 Ga. 340, 348, 793 S.E.2d 357, 366-67 (2016). Additionally or alternatively, the tribal sovereignty does not automatically extend to economic subdivisions of a tribe, and the Court must determine whether these entities are "analogous to a governmental agency, which should benefit from sovereign immunity" or whether they are more like a "commercial business enterprise, instituted for the purpose of generating profits for [their] private owners." Breakthrough Mgmt. Grp., Inc. v. Chukchansi Gold Casino & Resort, 629 F.3d 1173, 1184 (10th Cir. 2010) (citing Gavle v. Little Six, Inc., 555 N.W.2d 284, 293 (Minn. 1996)). In addition to the analysis in this Complaint concerning the creation, purpose, and business structure of Big Picture Loans and Ascension Technologies, these companies are not entitled to sovereign immunity because the conduct at issue occurred outside of the reservation boundaries; the vast majority of the profits from the scheme went to non-tribal participants; the companies are not wholly

the alleged tribal ownership, Ascension Technologies continues to conduct its business off of the tribal reservation and generate massive profits for Martorello. In fact, Ascension Technologies conducts a significant amount of its illegal operations at its corporate offices in this Division. On information and belief, at all times relevant to this litigation, the Tribe has had no direct control over the income, expenses, or day-to-day operations of Big Picture Loans, Bellicose Capital, or Ascension Technologies. Further, on information and belief, the Tribe does not fund the loans or handle the servicing or collection of the loans.

6. From their respective residences in Georgia, Plaintiffs, Victoria Renee McKoy and Desiree Wright Lovins, received short-term installment loans. Through online application and confirmation by telephone, Ms. McKoy obtained an \$800 loan from Big Picture Loans with bi-weekly payments of \$189.08. Similarly, Ms. Lovins received a loan of \$300 with payments of \$145.12 deducted from her account every month. Neither Plaintiff was told that the interest rate for their respective loans would exceed 550%. Plaintiffs were not given the opportunity to consider Big Picture Loans' agreement and were not informed that it would attempt to set aside their rights under Georgia law.

owned, operated, and/or controlled by the Tribe; and the companies were established for the sole purpose of evading state usury laws. Further, extending the protections of tribal immunity to Defendants' scheme would not serve the policies underlying tribal sovereign immunity.

- 7. Plaintiffs assert a class claim for Defendants' violations of Georgia's lending statutes. Short term loans under \$3,000 at an interest rate that exceeds eight percent (8%) from a non-bank lender are illegal under Georgia law. GA. CODE ANN. §§ 16-17-1, et seq. Defendants' loan transactions were made in violation of § 16-17-2 of the Payday Lending Act and should be declared null and void ab initio. GA. CODE ANN. § 16-17-2. Defendants also violated the Industrial Loan Act by making and collecting loans as an unlicensed lender that greatly exceed the maximum legal interest rate under Georgia law. GA. CODE ANN. §§ 7-3-1, et seq. For making the unlicensed, usurious loans, the Defendants' loans are void and unenforceable, and the Defendants and related third parties may not collect, obtain, or receive any principal or interest on the loans. GA. CODE ANN. § 7-3-29(a). In a judgment entered against the Defendants jointly and severally, the Court should order that the debts at issue are void and that Defendants must repay the principal and interest as well as statutory damages equal to three times the amount of any interest or other charges to the borrowers arising out of Defendants' loan transactions. GA. CODE ANN. § 16-17-3.
- 8. Defendants' conduct, as alleged herein, violated the Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations Act ("RICO"), 18 U.S.C. §§ 1961–1968. Defendants acted in concert and conspired with others to repeatedly violate state lending statutes resulting in the collection of an unlawful debt from Plaintiffs and

the Class members. In violation of the statute, Defendants sought to collect, and did collect on usurious, "unlawful debts" under 18 U.S.C. § 1961(6), specifically Defendants collected debts incurred in "the business of lending money" where the "usurious rate is at least twice the enforceable rate" under state or federal law. Defendants' acts described herein are unlawful as set forth in 18 U.S.C. § 1962.

- 9. Defendants' operations also violated the Georgia Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations Act ("Georgia RICO Act"), GA. CODE ANN. §§ 16-14-1, et seq. Specifically, Defendants participated in, and conspired to participate in, a pattern of racketeering activity through the violation of the Georgia Payday Lending Act. GA. CODE ANN. §§ 16-14-3(9)(A)(xxxviii), 16-14-4(a), 16-14-4(c). As a proximate result of these unlicensed and illegal operations, Defendants systematically charged excessive and usurious interest rates to Plaintiffs and the Class. To address this wrongful conduct, the Court should enjoin the Defendants from further misconduct as permitted by statute as well as award three times actual damages, punitive damages, attorneys' fees, and reasonable investigation and litigation costs. GA. CODE ANN. § 16-14-6.
- 10. In the alternative, Plaintiffs also assert a class claim for Defendants' unjust enrichment. Defendants were unjustly enriched by their receipt of any payments on the void and uncollectable loans. It would be inequitable for the Defendants to accept or retain the benefit conferred by their unlicensed and

usurious lending scheme, namely the collection on illegal loans. Under this alternative theory of recovery, Plaintiffs further seek injunctive and/or declaratory relief in the form of debt forgiveness on all pending and future loans with Georgia borrowers. Plaintiffs further seek the collection of attorneys' fees and costs to the extent permissible under state and federal law.

11. Plaintiffs also seek a declaratory judgment that the choice-of-law, forum selection, tribal dispute resolution, and class action waiver provisions in Big Picture Loans' loan agreement are void and unenforceable because they violate Georgia law. GA. CODE ANN. § 16-17-2(c)(1) (prohibiting loan agreements involving Georgia residents from including choice of law and forum selection provisions that designate a law other than Georgia law or a court other than the county in which the borrower resides); GA. CODE ANN. § 16-17-2(c)(2) (prohibiting unconscionable arbitration provisions). Additionally, the terms of the loan agreement are void and unenforceable because they are unconscionable and against public policy. For example, the loan agreement seeks to disclaim all federal and state laws in favor of "tribal law." The choice of law, dispute resolution, and class action waiver provisions offer no forum for a just and fair adjudication of Plaintiffs' rights and obligations. As addressed by the Georgia Supreme Court, out-of-state lenders cannot circumvent the Payday Lending Act by drafting "an agreement to contract around it." Western Sky Financial, LLC, 300 Ga. at 347, 793 S.E.2d at 366. These unconscionable provisions also render the loan agreements void and unenforceable as a matter of public policy.<sup>4</sup>

# II. JURISDICTION AND VENUE

12. This Court has jurisdiction pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1965 and 28 U.S.C. § 1332(d)(2). Moreover, the Court has supplemental jurisdiction over state law claims pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1367.

13. Venue is proper in this Court pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1391(b) as Plaintiff, Victoria Renee McKoy, is a resident of this District and a substantial part of Plaintiffs' claims occurred in this Division of the Northern District of Georgia. Additionally, Defendant Ascension Technologies is a foreign limited liability corporation with operations in Atlanta, Georgia and a registered agent for service of process in this Division.

### III. PARTIES

14. Plaintiff Victoria Renee McKoy ("McKoy") is a natural person and resident of Buford in Gwinnett County, Georgia.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> For example, in two recent cases, the Fourth Circuit held that similar provisions were unenforceable for violating public policy. *Hayes v. Delbert Services Corp.*, 811 F.3d 666, 673 (4th Cir. 2016) ("This arbitration agreement fails for the fundamental reason that it purports to renounce wholesale the application of any federal law to plaintiffs' federal claims."); *see also Dillon v. BMO Harris Bank, N.A.*, 2017 WL 1903475, at \*4 (4th Cir. 2017) ("[W]e interpret these terms in the arbitration agreement as an unambiguous attempt to apply tribal law *to the exclusion of federal and state law.*").

15. Plaintiff Desiree Wright Lovins ("Lovins") is a natural person and resident of Valdosta in Lowndes County, Georgia.

16. Defendant Big Picture Loans is a limited liability company doing business as an internet lending website under the domain name www.bigpictureloans.com. Big Picture Loans is the successor in interest of Red Rock Tribal Lending, LLC and Castle Payday (collectively referred to hereafter as "Big Picture Loans").<sup>5</sup> Big Picture Loans was formed in approximately August 2014. Big Picture Loans does business in Gwinnett County, Lowndes County, and throughout the State of Georgia and the United States.

17. Defendant Matt Martorello is a natural person and resident of Dallas, Texas and/or Dorado, Puerto Rico. Martorello was the founder and chief executive officer of Bellicose Capital, which Martorello created to make and collect the usurious loans described herein. Martorello was the architect of the rent-a-tribe lending scheme and had direct personal involvement in the creation and day-to-day operations of the illegal enterprise. Martorello does business in Gwinnett County, Lowndes County, and throughout the State of Georgia and the United States.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Castle Payday, We Have Big News! Castle Payday is now Big Picture Loans, https://www.bigpictureloans.com/CastlePaydayRedirectLanding (last visited June 27, 2018).

18. Defendant Ascension Technologies, LLC, f/k/a Bellicose Capital, LLC ("Ascension Technologies") is a limited liability company. Bellicose Capital was formed in approximately 2011 under the laws of the U.S. Virgin Islands and then Puerto Rico. Based on available evidence, Ascension Technologies' principal place of business is in Atlanta, Georgia. On information and belief, Bellicose Capital procured the investment capital, serviced the loans, and received the vast majority of the revenue from loans created through Big Picture Loans. In approximately April 2016, Martorello transferred, sold, or merged Bellicose Capital into Ascension Technologies, a subsidiary of Tribal Economic Development Holdings, LLC, in an attempt to shield Bellicose Capital's illegal business practices. Although the nominal ownership of the company changed, Ascension Technologies continues to funnel a significant amount of its income to Martorello and/or other non-tribal members.<sup>6</sup> Further, Ascension Technologies operates independent of the Tribe with most of its business services and operations based in Atlanta, Georgia and Puerto Rico. Ascension Technologies is a foreign limited liability corporation licensed to do business, and doing business, in the State of Georgia. Having designated a registered agent for service of process in Gwinnett County,

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Zeke Faux, *Payday Lenders on the Run*, Bloomberg Business Week (Feb. 8, 2016) ("Martorello is selling Bellicose to the tribe for just \$1.3 million upfront, plus as much as \$300 million in future payments, depending on how the business does.").

Georgia, Ascension Technologies has agreed that it is amenable to suit in this jurisdiction, and it has agreed to operate subject to the laws of this State. Ascension Technologies does business in Gwinnett County, Lowndes County, and throughout the State of Georgia and the United States.

19. Defendant Daniel Gravel ("Gravel") is a natural person and resident of Leesburg, Virginia. Gravel was the general counsel for Bellicose Capital and was one of the masterminds of the rent-a-tribe lending scheme described herein. As early as August 2012, Gravel had direct personal involvement in the day-to-day operations of the illegal enterprise and participated in the management of the legal affairs of the company, including drafting and reviewing the software, financial, payment processing, and servicing contracts that enabled the enterprise to operate. Additionally, Gravel drafted and reviewed all advertising and marketing materials for the enterprise and made the decisions regarding the legal content in the websites and contracts. Gravel does business in Gwinnett County, Lowndes County, and throughout the State of Georgia and the United States.

### IV. FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS

# A. Victoria Renee McKoy

20. On or about January 25, 2018, Victoria Renee McKoy applied online for a short-term loan from her residence in Gwinnett County, Georgia.

- 21. Shortly after completing an online application, a Big Picture Loans representative called Ms. McKoy, informed her that she was eligible for an \$800 loan, and noted that she would be making payments of \$189.08 every two weeks.
- 22. The Big Picture Loans representative did not explain that the annual percentage rate for her loan would be 556.63% or that the anticipated finance charges for her loan would be a total of \$1,657.82.
- 23. During the same call from the Big Picture Loans representative, Ms. McKoy was sent an email with an internet link that would enable her to complete the loan application process.
- 24. The Big Picture Loans representative made sure that Ms. McKoy digitally signed the loan document and returned/submitted it before she got off the phone.
- 25. The Big Picture Loans representative did not explain the terms of the loan agreement, and knew that Ms. McKoy could not have read the six-page document.
- 26. Ms. McKoy was not aware that, according to the terms of her loan, she was purportedly waiving her rights as a Georgia consumer under the loan.
- 27. On or about January 25, 2018, Ms. Lovins received a deposit into her account for \$800.

- 28. From February 9 through May 5, 2018, Big Picture Loans deducted six payments of \$189.08 from Ms. McKoy's account for a total of \$1,323.56 in repayment of the loan.
- 29. Thereafter, Ms. Lovins learned that Big Picture Loans applied almost all of her payments as interest. According to Big Picture Loans, Ms. Lovins reduced her loan balance from \$800 to roughly \$600, after payments of \$1,323.56.

## B. Desiree Wright Lovins

- 30. On or about December 30, 2017, Desiree Wright Lovins applied online for a short-term loan from her residence in Lowndes County, Georgia.
- 31. Ms. Lovins filled out the application in the name of "Desiree Wright," which was her name before marriage and the name recognized by her bank.
- 32. Shortly after completing an online application, Ms. Lovins received a call from a Big Picture Loans representative.
- 33. The Big Picture Loans representative told Ms. Lovins that she was eligible for, and would receive, a loan of \$300 and that her repayment would be in the amount of \$145.12 deducted from her account every month.
- 34. The Big Picture representative did not explain that the annual percentage rate for her loan would be 591.46% or that the anticipated finance charges for her loan would be a total of \$1,005.84.

- 35. During the same call from the Big Picture Loans representative, Ms. Lovins was sent an email with an internet link for her to complete the loan application process.
- 36. The Big Picture Loans representative made sure that Ms. Lovins digitally signed the loan agreement and returned/submitted it before she got off the phone.
- 37. The Big Picture Loans representative did not explain the terms of the loan agreement and knew that Ms. Lovins could not have had time to read them.
- 38. Ms. Lovins was not aware that, according to the terms of her loan, she was purportedly waiving her rights as a Georgia consumer under the loan.
- 39. On or before January 5, 2018, Ms. Lovins received a deposit into her account for \$300, the loan amount.
- 40. From February 1 through June 1, 2018, Big Picture Loans deducted five payments of \$145.12 from Ms. Lovins' account, for a total of \$725.60 in repayment of the loan.
- 41. Thereafter, Ms. Lovins learned that Big Picture Loans applied almost all of her payments as interest on her \$300 loan. According to Big Picture Loans, Ms. Lovins still owes them approximately \$200 after timely payments of \$725.60.
- 42. On June 8, 2018, Ms. Lovins called Big Picture Loans and demanded that the lender stop taking automatic withdrawals from her account.

#### V. CLASS ALLEGATIONS

- A. Georgia Consumer Finance Laws and Licensing Requirements Protect Georgia Residents from Defendants' Predatory Lending Practices
  - 1. Georgia's Payday Lending Act Prohibits Abusive Payday Lending Practices
- 43. The State of Georgia has taken aggressive measures to protect Georgia residents from predatory lending practices.
- 44. "[I]n the State of Georgia the practice of engaging in activities commonly referred to as payday lending, deferred presentment services, or advance cash services and other similar activities are currently illegal," and to prohibit such lending practices, the state has imposed "substantial criminal and civil penalties." GA. CODE ANN. § 16-17-1(c) and (e).
- 45. Sections 16-17-1 through 16-17-10 of the Georgia Code are commonly referred to as the "Payday Lending Act"; however, the statute applies not only to what is commonly referred to as "payday lending" but to any business that involves the lending of \$3,000 or less unless the loan falls within the exceptions set forth in section 16-17-2, none of which apply in this case. GA. CODE ANN. § 16-17-2. See also Western Sky Financial, LLC v. State ex rel. Olens, 300 Ga. 340, 343, 793 S.E.2d 357, 363 (2016).
- 46. Although other Georgia statutes impose interest rate limits, licensure requirements, and other restrictions on consumer lending practices, the Payday

Lending Act is intended as an additional deterrent to high-interest, short-term lending practices. *Western Sky Financial*, *LLC*, 300 Ga. at 343, 793 S.E.2d at 363.

- 47. The Payday Lending Act prohibits lenders from using "mail, electronic means, the Internet, or telephonic means" to make consumer loans. GA. CODE ANN. § 16-17-2(a).
- 48. Non-bank lenders outside of the state of Georgia are regulated by the Payday Lending Act. *Western Sky Financial*, *LLC*, 300 Ga. at 344, 793 S.E.2d at 364.
- 49. Violation of the Payday Lending Act, even by an out-of-state lender, is an explicit violation of the statute and renders the loan void. GA. CODE ANN. §§ 16-17-2, 16-17-3.
- 50. The Payday Lending Act prohibits lenders from enforcing choice of law provisions, venue provisions, and unconscionable arbitration provisions. GA. CODE ANN. § 16-17-2(c)(1) ("A payday lender shall not include in any loan contract made with a resident of this state any provision by which the laws of a state other than Georgia shall govern the terms and enforcement of the contract, nor shall the loan contract designate a court for the resolution of disputes concerning the contract other than a court of competent jurisdiction in and for the county in which the borrower resides or the loan office is located."); GA. CODE ANN. § 16-17-2(c)(2) (addressing unconscionable arbitration provisions).

- 51. The Georgia Supreme Court has found that out-of-state lenders cannot circumvent the Payday Lending Act by drafting "an agreement to contract around it." *Western Sky Financial*, *LLC*, 300 Ga. at 347, 793 S.E.2d at 366.
- 52. For loans that are made in violation of Section 16-17-2, the lender is barred from collecting on the indebtedness, because such transactions are "void *ab* initio." GA. CODE ANN. § 16-17-3.
- 53. Additionally, the lender shall be held liable to the borrower "in each unlawful transaction for three times the amount of any interest or other charges to the borrower." GA. CODE ANN. § 16-17-3.
- 54. Georgia law specifically empowers borrowers to pursue their civil remedies individually or "on behalf of an ascertainable class of borrowers." GA. CODE ANN. § 16-17-3.
- 55. In a successful action to enforce the provisions of the Payday Lending Act, "a court shall award a borrower, or class of borrowers, costs including reasonable attorneys' fees." GA. CODE ANN. § 16-17-3.

# 2. Georgia's Industrial Loan Act

56. "The purpose of [the Georgia Industrial Loan Act] is to authorize and provide regulation of the business of making loans of \$3,000.00 or less and to bring within the regulation of [the Act] and within its provisions all loans of \$3,000.00 or less, whether or not made by a person organized or operating under the provisions

and authority of some other statute, except those persons and loans expressly exempted by the terms of this chapter." GA. CODE ANN. § 7-3-2.

- 57. A lender must be licensed to make loans of \$3,000.00 or less at an interest rate exceeding eight percent (8%) unless the loan transaction is specifically exempted by the terms of the Industrial Loan Act. GA. CODE ANN. §§ 7-3-5, 7-3-6, 7-3-8.
- 58. The loans that are the subject of this litigation are subject to regulation by the Georgia Industrial Loan Commissioner. GA. CODE ANN. § 7-3-6.
- 59. The loans that are the subject of this litigation do not fall within any of the exemptions of the Georgia Industrial Loan Act. GA. CODE ANN. § 7-3-6.
- 60. If an unlicensed lender makes a loan in violation of the Georgia Industrial Loan Act, the loan is "null and void." GA. CODE ANN. § 7-3-29(a). Stated differently, where, as here, a business is not licensed to lend or collect on a loan to Georgia consumers, the entity may not receive or retain any proceeds from the loan, including repayment of the principal or any interest or other compensation as a result of the loan.
- 61. The Georgia Industrial Loan Act specifically provides that borrowers may prosecute claims for violation of the Industrial Loan Act against an unlicensed lender in a class action. GA. CODE ANN. §§ 7-3-29(e), 9-11-23.

## B. Overview of Defendants' Enterprise

- 62. Over the last decade, businesses have sought to evade state lending laws by entering into ventures with Native American tribes "so they can use tribal immunity as a shield for conduct of questionable legality." *Michigan v. Bay Mills Indian Cmty.*, 134 S. Ct. 2024, 2052 (2014) (Scalia, J., dissenting) (citing Nathalie Martin & Joshua Schwartz, *The Alliance Between Payday Lenders and Tribes: Are Both Tribal Sovereignty and Consumer Protection at Risk?* 69 Wash. & Lee L. Rev. 751, 758–759, 777 (2012)).
- 63. Defendant Martorello recognized the exorbitant profits he could achieve by not complying with state usury laws and making high interest loans to desperate and vulnerable consumers, many of whom are Georgia residents.
- 64. Through Bellicose Capital, Martorello and Gravel established a rent-atribe business model with the Tribe. They assisted the Tribe in forming Big Picture Loans as a "business enterprise" of the Tribe, which then claimed to be "wholly owned" and "operated as an instrumentality of the Tribe."

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> See, e.g., Lac Vieux Desert Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians, Resolution # T2014-066, Approving the Creation of the Wholly Owned and Operated Lending Entity—Big Picture Loans, LLC (Aug. 26, 2014), http://www.lvdtribal.com/pdf/BPL%20Organizing%20Documents.pdf (last viewed June 27, 2018).

- 65. According to tribal records, "all information and records of Big Picture are confidential," so the agreements and business operations among Defendants have not yet been fully disclosed.
- 66. Upon information and belief, the Tribe has had no direct control over the income or expenses of Big Picture Loans.
- 67. Although the Tribe holds itself out as the actual lender of the internet payday loans, the Tribe is merely a front. The Tribe allowed Defendants to use its name and, in return, received a nominal percentage of the revenue.<sup>8</sup> Bellicose Capital provided the infrastructure and investment capital to market, fund, underwrite, and collect the loans, including by providing the following services: lead generation, technology platforms, payment processing, and collection procedures.
- 68. Moreover, nearly all activities performed on behalf of Big Picture Loans were performed by officers and employees of Bellicose Capital, now Ascension Technologies, who were not located on the Lac Vieux Reservation. On information

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Zeke Faux, *Payday Lenders on the Run*, Bloomberg Business Week (Feb. 8, 2016) ("[Matt Martorello's] company, Bellicose Capital, helps an American Indian tribe in Michigan run websites that offer small loans to the public at annualized interest rates as high as 780 percent. Bellicose has collected tens of millions of dollars, with the tribe keeping about 2 percent of the revenue....").

and belief, Bellicose Capital employees were located in the Virgin Islands, Puerto Rico, and the Philippines.

69. On information and belief, Bellicose Capital handled the lead generation used to identify and solicit potential consumers.<sup>9</sup> Bellicose Capital's lead generation procedures were developed by Martorello and Gravel.

70. On information and belief, if a consumer called the number on the letter, he or she would reach a call center in the Philippines, who took direction and instructions from Bellicose Capital and not the Tribe.

71. In January 2016, due to various lawsuits against Martorello's competitors and anticipated regulation from the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau ("CFPB"), Martorello transferred or sold Bellicose Capital in an attempt to shield Bellicose Capital's illegal business practices. Bellicose was re-branded as Ascension Technologies, which continues to operate with minimal tribal involvement or benefit to the Tribe.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> In order to find potential customers, internet lenders pay companies known as "lead generators," which are businesses that collect information on potential consumers to solicit for high-interest loans. *Pew Charitable Trust, Fraud and Abuse Online: Harmful Practices in Internet Payday Lending* (Oct. 2014), http://www.pewtrusts.org/-/media/assets/2014/10/payday-lending-report/fraud\_and\_abuse\_online\_harmful\_practices\_in\_internet\_payday\_lending.pdf (last visited June 27, 2018). Lead generators pay high fees to several sources, such as consumer reporting agencies, to acquire borrower information to determine whether a consumer has ever applied or received an internet loan or whether a consumer may be in need or qualify for an additional loan. *Id*.

72. As part of this arrangement, the Tribe paid Martorello \$1.3 million dollars, plus he is entitled to receive as much as \$300 million in future payments. Faux, *supra* notes 2, 6. Through several corporate shells, Martorello is receiving variable, non-regular payments that may total \$300 million over the course of seven years. According to a press release by the Tribe, each of the annual payments to Martorello's company will "build additional equity in its own lending support business." Thus, the Tribe acknowledges that it does not own all of the equity in the company. With the purchase structured so that Martorello's company continues to receive substantial profits, the Tribe continues to receive only a modest fee in return for the use of its name.

73. And while it is now purportedly organized under the laws of the Tribe, Ascension Technologies continues to operate in the same manner and with several of the same individuals who ran Bellicose Capital—none of whom appear to be affiliated with the Tribe.

74. Upon information and belief, tribal members do not participate in the day-to-day operations of Ascension Technologies and Big Picture Loans, and nearly all the activities associated with these companies occurred off the Tribe's

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> https://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/lac-vieux-desert-band-of-lake-superior-chippewa-indians-bolsters-tribal-economic-development-portfolio-with-purchase-of-bellicose-capital-llc-300210679.html (last visited June 27, 2018).

reservation, such as the office management, business development, internet marketing, call centers, payment processing, and servicing of the loans.

75. For example, approximately 20 individuals identify Ascension Technologies as their employer on LinkedIn; however, none of these people are located on the reservation. https://www.linkedin.com/search/results/index/?keywords=%22ascension%20technologies%22&origin=GLOBAL\_SEARCH\_HE ADER (last visited June 27, 2018).

76. Three LinkedIn members claim an ownership interest in Defendant Ascension Technologies. None of these owners are residents on tribal land. Instead, the alleged owners are located near Phoenix, Arizona, Green Bay, Wisconsin, and Jackson, Mississippi. https://www.linkedin.com/search/results/people/?facetCurrentCompany=%5B%2212899424%22%5D&keywords=ascension%20technologies%20owner&origin=GLOBAL\_SEARCH\_HEADER (last visited June 27, 2018).

77. Additionally, the Defendant's CEO claims to be located near Kansas City, Missouri:



https://www.linkedin.com/in/james-birch-642a805b/ (last visited June 27, 2018).

78. The company's co-founder is in the New York City area:



https://www.linkedin.com/in/bob-clyne-90b15a/ (last visited June 27, 2018).

79. The Facebook page for Ascension Technologies lists Atlanta, Georgia as its place of business.

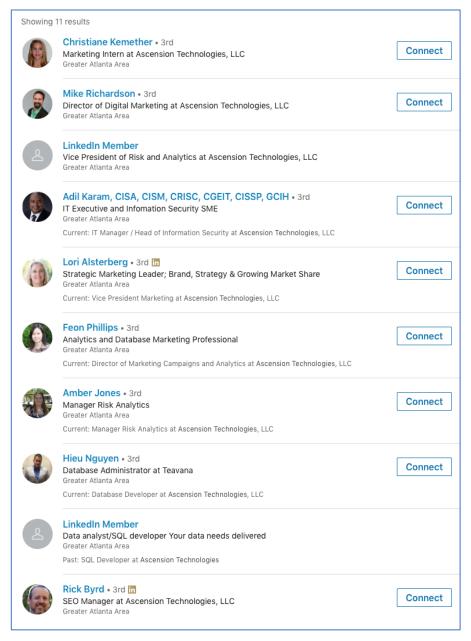


https://www.facebook.com/pages/Ascension-Technologies-

LLC/1151747724868477 (last visited June 27, 2018).

- 80. Ascension Technologies is a foreign limited liability company certified to do business, in the State of Georgia. The Certificate of Authority was issued by the Secretary of State for the State of Georgia on August 9, 2016, and the annual registration for the company was most recently reissued on March 8, 2018.
- 81. Ascension Technologies has designated Lynda Galler of Duluth, Gwinnett County, Georgia as its registered agent for service of process in the state.
- 82. Having designated a registered agent for service of process in Georgia, Ascension Technologies has agreed that it is amenable to suit in this jurisdiction, and it has agreed to operate subject to the laws of this State.

83. According to its employees' LinkedIn pages, Ascension Technologies conducts its risk analysis, database development, analytics, database marketing, strategic marketing, digital marketing, information technology, and information security in Atlanta, Georgia. At least two corporate vice presidents work in Atlanta.



https://www.linkedin.com/search/results/people/?facetGeoRegion=%5B%22us%3A52%22%5D&keywords=%22ascension%20technologies%22&origin=FACET ED\_SEARCH (last visited June 27, 2018).

84. In Puerto Rico, where Martorello claims his residence, Ascension Technologies has additional business operations.<sup>11</sup> According to the LinkedIn pages of its employees, corporate office management for Ascension Technologies occurs from Puerto Rico. Additionally, the company's predictive modeling, data science, and compliance testing are conducted in Puerto Rico. James Dowd, one of the corporate vice presidents of Ascension Technologies, is located in Puerto Rico; Mr. Dowd was formerly a director of Bellicose Capital.

85. Ascension Technologies' director of business development is located in Chattanooga, Tennessee, and on his LinkedIn page, he describes the company's business as follows:

<sup>11</sup> https://www.linkedin.com/search/results/people/?facetCurrentCompany =%5B%2212899424%22%5D&keywords=ascension%20technologies%20puerto%2 Orico&origin=GLOBAL\_SEARCH\_HEADER (last visited June 27, 2018); https://www.linkedin.com/search/results/people/?facetCurrentCompany=%5 B%2212899424%22%5D&keywords=ascension%20technologies%20manager&origin=GLOBAL\_SEARCH\_HEADER (last visited June 27, 2018).



#### **Director of Business Development**

Ascension Technologies, LLC

Aug 2016 – Present • 1 yr 11 mos

Ascension Technologies, LLC is a wholly owned subsidiary of Tribal Economic Development Holdings, LLC, a wholly owned and operated economic arm and instrumentality of the Lac Vieux Desert Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians, a federally recognized Indian tribe.

The team at Ascension Technologies, LLC has an extensive history in servicing lending portfolios, helping hundreds of thousands of people to achieve their financial goals. They specialize in facilitating personal, unsecured loans and financing, as well as the building of risk models, marketing, and providing customer service. Ascension does this by using cutting-edge technology, big data, and creative innovation to provide a transparent, frictionless, and highly efficient marketplace for the everyday borrower. Ascension effectively automates all aspects of operations while ensuring the ability to scale the lending portfolio, including the borrower application process, regulatory compliance, credit decisions, and underwriting. Combining strategic, technical, operational and organizational expertise with proven disciplined approaches, Ascension builds solutions that get results

https://www.linkedin.com/in/ben-u-63532012/ (last visited June 27, 2018).

86. Ascension Technologies' vice president of marketing in Atlanta describes her position as follows:



#### Vice President Marketing

Ascension Technologies, LLC Nov 2016 – Present • 1 yr 8 mos Atlanta, Georgia

Create and lead data-driven omni-channel marketing strategies and tactics for customer acquisition and retention in B2C sub-prime lending. Drive strategy, brand, digital, traditional and emerging channels to deliver marketing success. Use data and sophisticated analytics to accelerate revenue growth.

https://www.linkedin.com/in/lorialsterberg/ (last visited June 27, 2018).

87. Ascension Technologies' director of digital marketing in Atlanta describes his position at the company as follows:



#### **Director of Digital Marketing**

Ascension Technologies, LLC Jan 2017 – Present • 1 yr 6 mos Greater Atlanta Area

Vertical - B2C Online Personal Lending - Big Picture Loans - www.bigpictureloans.com

Responsible for all digital marketing & advertising for Big Picture Loans including; mixed-media channel budget planning & multi-channel integration, partner directly with Direct Mail channel owner, ensuring all creative assets and messaging unify both the digital and offline customer journey

Directly hands-on, build & manage all digital marketing campaigns and strategies including; SEO, SEM, Social, Programmatic, Content Marketing & Amplification, email Marketing, Campaign Landing Page Development, Re-targeting and Marketing Automation

Directly manage all Paid Search accounts and Programmatic Display strategy leads through testing, campaign optimizations and budget allocations

Develop and manage all CRM touch points including; direct marketing, email marketing (customer lists exceeding 2MM), retention strategies, and new customer acquisition initiatives via Hubspot

Lead and spearhead the redesigned of Big Picture Loans Website, hands-on built landing pages, designed and sourced digital assets, photo selections and architected all UX/Conversion Optimization strategy

Establish and manage all Social Media channel presence, including identifying and targeting audience segmentation, reporting, budget recommendations and content publishing

Create, manage, source and publish all digital content in a variety of shareable and downloadable formats

Build, manage and report on all cross-channel digital marketing efforts through various campaign strategies and performance metrics

https://www.linkedin.com/in/mike-richardson-9048204/ (last visited June 27, 2018).

- 88. Upon information and belief, none of Ascension Technologies' employees, referenced above, are members of the Tribe.
- 89. Nearly all of the activities of Ascension Technologies are performed by these non-tribal members who are located off the reservation.

## C. Defendants' Lending Practices Violated Georgia Law

- 90. Defendants were aware that Georgia law prohibits unlicensed lenders from making loans for less than \$3,000 at interest rates exceeding eight percent.
- 91. Based on information and belief, Defendants knew that their lending practices were at interest rates that greatly exceeded the maximum interest rates as set by state usury laws and payday lending laws.
- 92. Through advertising and marketing, Defendants targeted Georgia consumers for their lending practices, including the loans to Plaintiffs.
- 93. Martorello and Gravel chose Georgia as a place where loans and collection efforts would ensue, and they participated in and knew of the actions of the other Defendants in Georgia.
- 94. Martorello and Gravel knew the subject loans were illegal under Georgia law, but they pursued the scheme anyway through Big Picture Loans and Bellicose.
- 95. In order to qualify for Defendants' loan product, Georgia consumers were required to electronically sign a form contract created by Defendants—not created by the Tribe.
- 96. Under the terms of the standard loan agreement, the interest rates charged were significantly greater than the maximum legal rate that can be charged under Georgia law.

- 97. For example, Defendants loaned \$800 to Victoria Renee McKoy with interest at an annual percentage rate ("APR") of 556.63%, and they loaned \$300 to Desiree Wright Lovins at an APR of 591.46%.
- 98. At all times relevant to this litigation, none of the Defendants had a consumer finance license permitting them to make loans in Georgia. *See* Ga. Code Ann §§ 7-3-5, 7-3-6, 7-3-8. The Tribe also did not have a consumer finance license in Georgia.
- 99. Based on information and belief, the Defendants have never attempted to obtain a license to become a lender under Georgia law.
- 100. Accordingly, Defendants' loans to Georgia residents are null and void, and it was unlawful for Defendants or any of their affiliated entities to collect or receive any principal or interest on the loans, including the amounts paid by Plaintiffs.  $See \P 44-65$ , supra.
  - D. Defendants' Loan Agreements, Including Choice-of-Law, Dispute Resolution, and Class Action Waiver Provisions, Are Void and/or Unenforceable
- 101. Because the loans were made and collected without a consumer finance license and charged an interest rate in excess of the maximum rate permitted under Georgia law, the agreements are void and unenforceable.
- 102. Defendants' loan agreement not only violates Georgia's Payday Lending Act, its Industrial Loan Act, and the public policy against usurious loans,

but it also contains unconscionable and unenforceable choice of law and forum selection provisions that seek to disclaim laws and legal rights and ultimately deprive consumers of their day in court.

103. For example, Defendants' Loan Agreement with Plaintiffs provides:

GOVERNING LAW AND FORUM SELECTION: This Agreement will be governed by the laws of the Lac Vieux Desert Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians ("Tribal law"), including but not limited to the Code as well as applicable federal law. All disputes shall be solely and exclusively resolved pursuant to the Tribal Dispute Resolution Procedure set forth in Section 9 of the Code and summarized below for Your convenience.

**SOVEREIGN IMMUNITY**: This Agreement and all related documents are being submitted by You to Big Picture Loans, LLC at its office on Tribal land. The Lender is an economic development instrumentality, and limited liability company wholly owned and operated by the Tribe. The Tribe is a federally recognized Indian Tribe and is generally immune from suit as a sovereign nation unless such immunity is waived by the Tribe in accordance with Tribal law or abrogated by applicable federal law ("tribal sovereign immunity"). Because the Tribe and Lender are entitled to tribal sovereign immunity, You will be limited in what claims, if any, You may be able to assert against both the Tribe and Us. To encourage resolution of consumer complaints as well as provide an authorized method of dispute resolution for consumers, pursuant to Section 9 of the Code, all complaints lodged, filed, or otherwise submitted by You or on Your behalf must follow the Tribal Dispute Resolution Procedure, as described herein.

PRESERVATION OF SOVEREIGN IMMUNITY: It is the express intention of the Tribe and Lender, operating as an economic arm-of-the-tribe, to fully preserve, and not waive either in whole or in part, exclusive jurisdiction, sovereign immunity, and any other rights, titles, privileges, and immunities, to which they are entitled including the tribal sovereign immunity of the Tribe and Lender. To protect and preserve the rights of the parties, no person may assume a waiver of immunity exists except by express written resolution of the Tribe's Tribal Council specifically authorizing such a waiver as required by Article XIII of the Tribe's Constitution specifically for the matter in question.

TRIBAL DISPUTE RESOLUTION PROCEDURE: The Tribe has established a Tribal Dispute Resolution Procedure (the "Procedure") to review and consider any and all types of complaints made by you or on your behalf relating to or arising from this Agreement. . . . The Tribe and Lender intend and require, to the extent permitted by Tribal law, that any complaint lodged, filed, or otherwise submitted by You or on Your behalf to follow the Procedure. Under the Procedure, if You in the course of Your otherwise lawful and proper use of Lender's business believe Yourself to be harmed by some aspect of the operation of any part of Lender's business, You must direct Your concerns or dispute to Lender in writing. Your complaint to the Lender shall be considered similar in nature to a petition for redress submitted to a sovereign government, without waiver of tribal sovereign immunity and exclusive jurisdiction, and does not create any binding procedural or substantive rights for a petitioner. The Lender will investigate the complaint and respond as soon as reasonably practicable, but no later than thirty (30) days from the receipt of Your written complaint. In the event are dissatisfied with the You Lender's determination, You may initiate Formal Dispute Resolution by requesting an administrative review of Lender's determination by submitting such request in writing to the Tribal Financial Services Regulatory Authority ("Authority"), P.O. Box 249, Watersmeet, MI 49969, no later than ninety (90) days after receiving Lender's determination. The Authority may hold an administrative review hearing, if requested by You or Us, which will occur within sixty (60) days after the Authority receives Your written request. The Authority will send notice to You and Us when a request for a hearing is granted or denied. At any such hearing, You may be represented by legal counsel at Your own expense. You may appeal an Authority decision and order by filing a written petition for review with the Tribal Court within ninety (90) days after the Authority issued its decision and order.

(McKoy Loan Agreement, attached as Exh. 1, at 4–5; Lovins Loan Agreement, attached as Exh. 2, at 4-5.)

- 104. Upon information and belief, the governing law and forum selection clauses were template language included in all loan agreements involving Big Picture Loans.
- 105. The foregoing provisions are illegal under Georgia law. GA. CODE ANN. §§ 7-3-29(e), 9-11-23, 16-17-2(c)(1), 16-17-2(c)(2).
- 106. Defendants' loan agreement contains unconscionable and unenforceable choice-of-law and forum selection provisions that seek to disclaim federal and state laws in favor of Tribal law.
- 107. Defendants' choice-of-law provision is unenforceable as a matter of federal law because it purports to disclaim all federal law.

- 108. Defendants' choice-of-law provision is unenforceable as a matter of Georgia law because it purports to disclaim the application of any state law.
- 109. Likewise, the forum selection clause is also unenforceable because it deprives Georgia borrowers of *any* forum to bring state or federal law claims.
- 110. The loan agreement disclaims that Plaintiffs and the Class have any right to pursue either litigation or arbitration by a neutral third party. (March 6, 2018 Loan Agreement, attached as Exh. 1, at 5. ("NO LITIGATION OR ARBITRATION IS AVAILABLE") (emphasis in original).)
- 111. Instead, the Tribal Dispute Resolution Procedure only purports to allow consumers to follow a "Formal Dispute Resolution" with the Tribal Financial Services Regulatory Authority and the Tribal Court. (*Id.*)
- 112. The Tribal Dispute Resolution Procedure states that consumers do not have "any binding procedural or substantive rights" against Big Picture Loans. (*Id.*)
- 113. The Formal Dispute Resolution is a sham because the Tribal Financial Services Regulatory Authority does not have subject matter jurisdiction to consider: (1) any claims brought under state or federal law or (2) claims regarding the legality of the debt. Tribal Fin. Servs. Auth. Comm'n Regs., Reg. 1.1(B)(4), available at http://www.lvdtribal.com/pdf/TFSRA-Regulations.pdf (last visited June 27, 2018).

- 114. Specifically, the Regulations indicate that the Tribal Financial Services Regulatory Authority will not "grant the consumer an opportunity be heard" if the only allegation is that the loan "is illegal in a jurisdiction outside the jurisdiction of the Tribe." *Id.*, Reg. 1.1(B)(4)(b).
- 115. Further, the Regulations only provide that the Tribal Financial Services Regulatory Authority may "resolve the dispute in favor of the consumer upon a finding that the [tribal entity] *violated a law or regulation of the Tribe.*" *Id.*, Reg. 1.1(B)(4)(c) (emphasis added).
- 116. Defendants' loan agreement violates Tribal law, which requires that the following provisions must be conspicuous: "Governing Law and Forum Selection," "Sovereign Immunity," and "Preservation of Sovereign Immunity." Specifically, under Tribal law, each of these paragraphs must be included "in bold or all caps and conspicuously placed." Tribal Cons. Fin. Servs. Reg. Code § 7.2(a); Tribal Fin. Servs. Auth. Comm'n Regs., Reg. 1.5(B) (emphasis added), available at http://www.lvdtribal.com/pdf/TFSRA-Regulations.pdf (last visited June 27, 2018). None of the provisions were conspicuous in the subject loan.
- 117. Defendants' governing law clause is unenforceable because it violates public policy concerns in Georgia and was procured through fraud and misrepresentations, including that Big Picture Loans was "wholly owned and operated by the Tribe."

- 118. These statements were false, misleading, and designed to create the appearance that consumers were doing business with a neutral, government-like entity.
- 119. In reality, the loans were owned and/or operated by non-tribal members, including Ascension Technologies, who funded the loans, controlled the underwriting, and handled the day-to-day operations of the businesses, including the interactions with consumers and collections.
- 120. Through the Tribal regulatory code and class action waiver provision, Defendants also seek to deprive borrowers of any just and cost-effective means of seeking redress for Defendants' wrongful acts.
- 121. The Tribal regulatory code prohibits an award of attorneys' fees or costs to the borrower, if she were to prevail in the Tribe's formal dispute resolution procedure. Tribal Cons. Fin. Servs. Regulatory Code § 9.3(i). Big Picture Loans, on the other hand, is permitted to recover attorneys' fees and reasonable costs for the collection of a debt. *Id.*, § 7.2(c).
- 122. Similarly, the loan agreement seeks to strip Plaintiffs of the opportunity to pursue their claims as a class action. (McKoy Loan Agreement, attached as Exh. 1, at 5; Lovins Loan Agreement, attached as Exh. 2, at 5 ("All disputes including any Representative Claims against Us and related third parties shall be resolved by the TRIBAL DISPUTE RESOLUTION PROCEDURE only on

an individual basis with You as provided for pursuant to Tribal law.") (emphasis in original).)

- 123. Defendants' class-action waiver is unenforceable under Georgia law.

  GA. CODE ANN. §§ 7-3-29(e), 9-11-23, 16-17-2(c)(1).
- 124. In essence, Defendants use the forum selection and choice of law clauses to convert the terms of the loan agreement into "a choice of no law clause." *Hayes v. Delbert Servs. Corp.*, 811 F.3d 666, 675 (4th Cir. 2016).

## E. Class Definitions

125. Plaintiffs bring this action on their own behalf and as a class action pursuant to Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 23 for the following Class:

All persons: (1) who executed a loan with Big Picture Loans, (2) when they resided or were located in Georgia, (3) where the loan was originated and/or any payment was made on or after July 3, 2014.

126. **Numerosity**. Fed. R. Civ. P. 23(a)(1). Upon information and belief, Plaintiffs allege that the Class members are so numerous that joinder of all is impractical. The names and addresses of the Class members are identifiable through the internal business records maintained by Defendants, and the Class members may be notified of the pendency of this action by published and/or mailed notice.

- 127. **Predominance of Common Questions of Law and Fact**. Fed. R. Civ. P. 23(a)(2) & (b)(3). Common questions of law and fact exist as to all members of the Class. These questions predominate over the questions affecting only individual Class members. These common questions include, as to the Class:
  - (a) whether the choice-of-law, forum selection, dispute resolution, and class action waiver provisions in Defendants' loan agreement violate Georgia law, offend public policy interests, and should be deemed unenforceable;
  - (b) whether the Defendants were licensed to make loans to Georgia residents;
  - (c) whether the failure to obtain the license renders the loans to Plaintiffs and the class members void and/or unenforceable;
  - (d) whether the loans made by Defendants violated the Payday Lending Act, as previously alleged. Ga. Code Ann. §§ 17-16-1, et seq.;
  - (e) whether the loans made by Defendants violated the Georgia Industrial Loan Act, as previously alleged. Ga. Code Ann. §§ 7-3-1, et seq.;
  - (f) whether the Defendants participated in an enterprise under RICO;

- (g) whether the loans to Georgia residents included interest rates at more than twice the legal maximum APR, in violation of Georgia usury laws;
- (h) whether Plaintiffs and the class members conferred a benefit on Defendants because of their payments of principal and interest on Defendants' void and unenforceable loans;
- (i) whether Defendants knew or should have known of the benefit conferred;
- (j) whether Defendants retained an unjust benefit because the loan was void;
- (k) whether the Defendants violated the elements of 18 U.S.C. § 1962(c), as previously alleged;
- (l) whether the Defendants entered into a series of agreements to violate § 1962(c); and
- (m) what is the proper recovery for Plaintiffs and the Class members against each Defendant.
- 128. **Typicality**. Fed. R. Civ. P. 23(a)(3). Plaintiffs' claims are typical of the claims of each Class member. In addition, Plaintiffs are entitled to relief under the same causes of action as the other members of the Class. All are based on the same facts and legal theories.

- adequate representatives of the Class because their interests coincide with, and are not antagonistic to, the interests of the members of the Class they seek to represent; they have retained counsel competent and experienced in such litigation; and they have and intend to continue to prosecute the action vigorously. Plaintiffs and their counsel will fairly and adequately protect the interests of the members of the Class. Neither Plaintiffs nor their counsel have any interests which might cause them not to vigorously pursue this action.
- 130. **Superiority**. Fed. R. Civ. P. 23(b)(3). Questions of law and fact common to the Class members predominate over questions affecting only individual members, and a class action is superior to other available methods for fair and efficient adjudication of the controversy. Litigating the validity and enforceability of each loan agreement would prove burdensome and expensive. It would be virtually impossible for members of the Class individually to effectively redress the wrongs done to them. Even if the members of the Class themselves could afford such individual litigation, it would be an unnecessary burden on the Courts. Furthermore, individualized litigation presents a potential for inconsistent or contradictory judgments and increases the delay and expense to all parties and to the court system presented by the legal and factual issues raised by Defendants' conduct. By contrast, the class action device will result in substantial benefits to

the litigants and the Court by allowing the Court to resolve numerous individual claims based upon a single set of proof in a case.

**Injunctive Relief Appropriate for the Class**. Fed. R. Civ. P. 23(b)(2). Class certification is also appropriate because Defendants have acted on grounds generally applicable to the Class, making appropriate equitable, injunctive relief with respect to Plaintiffs and the Class members. Plaintiffs and the Class seek an injunction prohibiting Defendants from collecting any further amounts from Georgia consumers in connection with their loans, requiring Defendants to provide notice to consumers that the loans are unenforceable, and requiring Defendants to delete any derogatory reporting on tradelines to the credit bureaus or other consumer reporting agencies, as well as ordering Defendants to divest themselves of any interest in any enterprise pled herein, including the receipt of racketeering profits; prohibiting Defendants from continuing to engage in any enterprise pled herein; and ordering the dissolution of each Defendant that has engaged in any enterprise pled herein.

## VI. CAUSES OF ACTION

## COUNT ONE - DECLARATORY JUDGMENT

132. Plaintiffs incorporate each of the allegations in the preceding paragraphs as if restated here.

- 133. Defendants' loan agreement contains illegal and unconscionable choice of law, forum selection, class action waiver, and dispute resolution provisions that violate Georgia law and are void and unenforceable for public policy concerns.
- 134. The dispute is a justiciable matter that is not speculative, and a resolution by this Court will determine the rights and interests of the parties to the Loan Agreement as well as the validity, if any, of the choice of law, forum selection, class action waiver, and dispute resolution provisions.
- 135. Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 2201, there is an actual justiciable controversy, and a declaratory judgment is the appropriate mechanism for resolving the validity and enforceability of the Loan Agreement.
- 136. Accordingly, Plaintiffs, on behalf of themselves and all others similarly situated, seek a declaratory judgment that the choice of law, forum selection, class action waiver, and dispute resolution provisions are void and unenforceable as to Georgia residents because such terms (a) violate Georgia law, and (b) are unconscionable and contrary to matters of public policy.

## COUNT TWO - VIOLATIONS OF GEORGIA LENDING LAWS

137. Plaintiffs incorporate each of the allegations in the preceding paragraphs as if restated here.

- 138. In their loans to Georgia consumers, Defendants charged and collected interest at a rate greater than the maximum legal rate of interest under Georgia law.
- 139. Defendants made loans to Georgia consumers even though they are not licensed to make loans in the State of Georgia.
- 140. In their loans to Georgia residents, including Plaintiffs and Class members, Defendants violated the Payday Lending Act. GA. CODE ANN. §§ 16-17-1, et seq.
- 141. In their loans to Georgia residents, including Plaintiffs and Class members, Defendants violated the Georgia Industrial Loan Act. GA. CODE ANN. §§ 7-3-1, et seq.
- 142. Plaintiffs and the Class Members seek a declaratory judgment that the loans are void and unenforceable as a matter of law. GA. CODE ANN. § 16-17-2. The dispute is a justiciable matter that is not speculative, and a resolution by this Court will determine the rights and interests of the parties to the loan agreement. Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 2201, there is an actual justiciable controversy, and a declaratory judgment is the appropriate mechanism for resolving the validity and enforceability of the Loan Agreement.
- 143. Because the loans at issue are void and unenforceable, Plaintiffs and the Class request that the Court enter judgment against the Defendants jointly and

severally for the recovery of all principal and interest paid to the Defendants under the terms of the illegal loans and award damages equal to three times the amount of any interest paid by the borrowers arising out Defendants' loan transactions.

GA. CODE ANN. §§ 16-17-2, 16-17-3. Plaintiffs further seek the recovery of attorneys' fees and costs as well as all other relief which may be due and owing under Georgia law.

- 144. Additionally, Plaintiffs and the Class request that the Court permanently enjoin Defendants from violating the provisions of the Payday Lending Act, including but not limited to:
  - 1. engaging in any business, in whatever form transacted, including but not limited to by mail, electronic means, the Internet, or telephonic means, that consists in whole or in part of making, offering, arranging, or acting as an agent in the making of loans of \$3,000.00 or less in the State of Georgia;
  - 2. advertising, marketing, or soliciting in the State of Georgia for a business that consists in whole or in part of making, offering, arranging, or acting as an agent in the making of loans of \$3,000.00 or less through any media, including but not limited to the Internet, television, print, and radio;
  - 3. collecting or attempting to collect payment of interest or principal pursuant to any loan agreement with any person in the State of Georgia;
  - 4. enforcing or attempting to enforce any loan agreement with any person in the State of Georgia in any court or other tribunal, including but not limited to the Tribal

- authority of the Lac Vieux Desert Band of Lake Chippewa Indians; and
- 5. selling or assigning any agreement for a non-mortgage loan of \$3,000.00 or less between Defendants and any person residing in the State of Georgia to any third party.
- 145. Plaintiffs further request the Court enter an injunction prohibiting Defendants from collecting any further amounts from Georgia consumers in connection with their loans, requiring Defendants to provide notice to consumers that the loans are unenforceable, and requiring Defendants to delete any derogatory reporting on tradelines to the credit bureaus or other consumer reporting agencies.

## COUNT THREE - VIOLATIONS OF RICO, 18 U.S.C. § 1962(c)

- 146. Plaintiffs incorporate each of the allegations in the preceding paragraphs as if restated here.
- 147. At all relevant times, Big Picture Loans, LLC, Ascension Technologies, LLC f/k/a Bellicose Capital, LLC, Matt Martorello, and Daniel Gravel were members and associates of an internet payday lending enterprise, whose members and associates engaged in the collection of unlawful debt.
- 148. The Defendants, including their leadership, membership, and associates, constitute an "enterprise" as that term is defined in 18 U.S.C. § 1961(4) that is, a group of individuals and entities associated in fact.

- 149. The enterprise is engaged in, and its activities affect, interstate commerce. The Defendants' leadership is based in Atlanta, Georgia, Denver, Colorado, Chattanooga, Tennessee, and other locations as addressed in preceding paragraphs. Defendants' enterprise operates throughout the United States, including the Northern District of Georgia, as well as in Puerto Rico and the Philippines. Additionally, Defendants claim to do business on Tribal lands.
- 150. The Defendants work together as an ongoing organization whose members function as a continuing unit for a common purpose of achieving the enterprise's objectives, namely the enrichment of the Defendants through the advancement and collection of unlawful, usurious loans to desperate, unsophisticated borrowers.
- 151. As alleged above, Defendants, along with other participants not yet known to Plaintiffs, violated § 1962(c) of RICO through the "collection of unlawful debt." 18 U.S.C. § 1962(c).
- 152. RICO defines "unlawful debt" as a debt which was incurred in connection with "the business of lending money or a thing of value at a rate usurious under State or Federal law, where the usurious rate is at least twice the enforceable rate." 18 U.S.C. § 1961(6).
- 153. The means and methods by which the Defendants and other members and associates conducted and participated in the conduct of the affairs of the

enterprise was and continues to be the operation, direction, and control of the payday loan company in the business of lending money at usurious rates under the laws of numerous states, including Georgia, where the usurious rates charged were at least twice the enforceable rate. Defendants were directly and materially involved in this intentional misconduct. They knew the subject loans were illegal under Georgia law, but they actively participated in the solicitation of borrowers and the illegal lending enterprise anyway.

- 154. All of the loans made to Georgia residents and collected by Defendants included an interest rate far in excess of twice the enforceable rate in Georgia.
- 155. In operating and conducting the affairs of the enterprise, the Defendants used proceeds from the collection of unlawful debt to further the operations and objectives of the enterprise.
- 156. The predicate acts of collection of unlawful debt are described herein and in particular in paragraphs 20-42 and 67-105 herein. The debts incurred by Plaintiffs and all other members of the Class are unlawful and unenforceable.
- 157. The Defendants' leadership, management, and participation in the enterprise began at some point as early as 2011, following the formation of Red Rock Tribal Lending, LLC, continued with the formation of Defendant Big Picture

Loans in 2014, continues to date, and will occur repeatedly in the future to the detriment of Georgia consumers.

158. Plaintiffs and the Class members were injured as a result of Defendants' violations of 18 U.S.C. § 1962(c). In particular, Plaintiffs and the Class have been deceived, coerced, and harassed to pay extortionate and usurious interest, as well as the principal, on unlawful debts. Accordingly, as a direct and proximate cause of their violations of RICO, Defendants are jointly and severally liable to Plaintiffs and the putative members of the Class for their actual damages, treble damages, costs, and attorneys' fees pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1964(c).

## COUNT FOUR - VIOLATIONS OF RICO, 18 U.S.C. § 1962(d)

- 159. Plaintiffs incorporate each of the allegations in the preceding paragraphs as if set forth here.
- 160. Beginning as early as 2011, Defendants, as persons employed by and associated with the aforementioned payday lending enterprise, along with other participants not yet known to Plaintiffs, violated 18 U.S.C. § 1962(d) by willfully and knowingly conspiring and entering into a series of agreements to violate § 1962(c) and Georgia's usury laws—that is, to conduct and participate, directly and indirectly, in the collection of unlawful debt. In addition, Defendants knowingly entered into agreements to facilitate the development and management of the

enterprise and engaged in overt acts to further the business interests of the enterprise.

Defendants, along with other participants not yet known to Plaintiffs, violated § 1962(d) of RICO by entering into a series of agreements to violate 18 U.S.C. § 1962(c). These agreements, include, inter alia: (a) agreements between and among Defendants, including their predecessors in interest, Red Rock Tribal Lending, LLC and Bellicose Capital, to create the necessary legal frameworks and entities to conduct the affairs of the lending enterprise; (b) agreements between and among Defendants to provide the necessary funds to conduct and expand the affairs of the lending enterprise; (c) agreements between and among Defendants to investigate and solicit investors in furtherance of the affairs of the lending enterprise; (d) agreements between and among Defendants to generate highinterest loans to desperate borrowers, including residents of Georgia; (e) agreements between and among Defendants to refinance the lending enterprise, including the agreement for the acquisition of Bellicose Capital and the continued payments to Martorello; and (f) agreements between and among the Defendants and unknown third parties to further conduct the affairs of the Defendants' lending enterprise.

- 162. Each of the agreements identified in the preceding paragraph contemplated that a conspirator would commit at least one collection of unlawful debt in the conduct and furtherance of the affairs of the enterprise.
- 163. As a result of Defendants' participation in the enterprise and violations of RICO, Defendants are jointly and severally liable to Plaintiffs and the Class members for their actual damages, treble damages, costs, and attorneys' fees pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1964(c).

## COUNT FIVE - VIOLATIONS OF GEORGIA RICO ACT GA CODE ANN. § 16-14-4(a)

164. Plaintiffs incorporate each of the allegations in the preceding paragraphs as if restated here.

## A. Georgia RICO Act

- 165. The Georgia RICO Act was enacted by the state legislature to impose criminal penalties against those engaged in an "interrelated pattern of criminal activity motivated by or the effect of which is pecuniary gain or economic or physical threat or injury," GA. CODE ANN. § 16-14-2(b).
- 166. Under Georgia's RICO statute, it is "unlawful for any person, through a pattern of racketeering activity or proceeds derived therefrom, to acquire or maintain, directly or indirectly, any interest in or control of any enterprise, real property, or personal property of any nature, including money." GA. CODE ANN. § 16–14–4(a).

- 167. "Racketeering activity," also known as a "predicate act," includes the commission of, or the attempt to commit, violations of the Georgia Payday Lending Act. GA. CODE ANN. § 16–14–3(9)(A)(xxxviii).
- 168. A "pattern of racketeering activity" means that there have been at least two acts of racketeering activity that are interrelated and that were done "in furtherance of one or more incidents, schemes, or transactions." GA. CODE ANN. § 16–14–3(8)(A).
- 169. Conspiracy and/or endeavoring to violate the substantive provisions of Georgia's RICO Act is a separate violation of the statute. GA. CODE ANN. § 16–14–4(c).

## B. Pattern of Racketeering Activity

- 170. Defendants have engaged in acts that constitute a repeated and systematic violation of the Georgia Payday Lending Act, specifically GA. CODE ANN. § 16-17-2, as described above in paragraphs 20-105. GA. CODE ANN. §§ 16-17-2.
- 171. As detailed in the preceding paragraphs, Defendants knowingly entered into agreements to facilitate the development and management of their payday lending enterprise and engaged in overt acts to further the business interests of the enterprise in knowing violation of the Georgia Payday Lending Act. when Defendants, as persons employed by and associated with the

aforementioned payday lending enterprise, along with other participants not yet known to Plaintiffs, willfully and knowingly conspired and entered into a series of agreements to violate Georgia's Payday Lending Act.

- 172. Defendants are liable for their participation in the Georgia RICO conspiracy because they knowingly and willfully joined a conspiracy which itself contains a common plan or purpose to commit two or more predicate acts.
- 173. Each of the agreements identified in paragraph 166 contemplated that Defendants would conspire or endeavor to commit at least one collection of unlawful debt in violation of the Georgia Payday Lending Act and in furtherance of the affairs of the enterprise.
- 174. This pattern of racketeering commenced as early as 2011 and continues to the present.
- 175. The victims of Defendants' illegal conduct include the Plaintiffs as well as all other persons who executed a loan with Big Picture Loans when they resided or were located in Georgia.
- 176. Therefore, Defendants have engaged in a pattern of racketeering activity, as defined under GA. CODE ANN. §§ 16–14–3(8)(A), 16–14–3(9)(A)(xxxviii).

## C. Defendants are an Enterprise

177. Defendants Big Picture Loans and Ascension Technologies are "enterprises" as that term is defined under GA. CODE ANN. § 16-14-3(6).

- 178. Additionally, as individuals "associated in fact," Defendants Martorello and Gravel planned, conspired, organized, and/or operated the corporate Defendants (and their predecessors in interest) with the intent of charging and collecting illegal and usurious interest rates from desperate Georgia consumers.
- 179. Defendants and other parties currently unknown to Plaintiffs acted in concert to authorize and/or engage in conduct that violated the Georgia RICO Act while conducting affairs of the corporations, Big Picture Loans and Ascension Technologies. The corporate Defendants operated as an enterprise through their respective board of directors and/or managerial agent acting on behalf of the corporation.
- 180. As participants in the illegal lending enterprise, the Defendants had

  (a) a purpose to charge and collect illegal and usurious interest from desperate,
  unsophisticated Georgia consumers; (b) relationships among those associated
  with the enterprise, as specified above; and (c) longevity sufficient to permit the
  RICO Defendants to pursue and accomplish the enterprise's purpose.

## D. Substantive Violations of the Georgia RICO Act

181. In violation of GA. CODE ANN. § 16-14-4(b), Defendants have conducted or participated, directly or indirectly, in an enterprise through a pattern of racketeering activity.

182. In violation of GA. CODE ANN. § 16-14-4(c), Defendants conspired to violate the provisions of GA. CODE ANN. § 16-14-4(b).

## E. Injury and Remedy under the Georgia RICO Act

- 183. Plaintiffs and the Class members were injured as a result of Defendants' violation of GA. CODE ANN. § 16-4-4. In particular, Plaintiffs and the Class have been deceived, coerced, and harassed to pay extortionate and usurious interest, as well as the principal, on unlawful debts. Accordingly, as a direct and proximate cause of their violations of the Georgia RICO Act and the Payday Lending Act, Defendants are jointly and severally liable to Plaintiffs and the putative members of the Class for their actual damages, treble damages, punitive damages, investigation and litigation costs, and attorneys' fees pursuant to GA. CODE ANN. § 16-4-6(c).
- 184. For the prevention of future criminal activity, the Court should enjoin Defendants from further misconduct in order to best serve the public interest. Specifically, in accordance with the authority granted under section 16-14-6 of the Georgia Code, the Court should enjoin further violations of the Georgia RICO Act (and undue financial losses to Georgia residents) by issuing appropriate orders and judgments including, but not limited to:
  - (a) Ordering Defendants to divest themselves of any interest in any enterprise, real property, or personal property;

- (b) Prohibiting Defendants from engaging in the same type of payday lending enterprises that are the subject of this litigation;
- (c) Ordering the Defendants' dissolution or reorganization; and
- (d) Ordering the revocation of the certificate authorizing Defendant Ascension Technologies to conduct business within this State.

GA. CODE ANN. § 16-4-6 (noting that no showing of special or irreparable damage to the Plaintiffs is required prior to the Court's entry of this injunctive relief, including a temporary restraining order and/or a preliminary injunction).

## COUNT SIX - UNJUST ENRICHMENT

- 185. Plaintiffs incorporate each of the allegations in the preceding paragraphs as if restated here.
- 186. The loans made by Defendants to Plaintiffs and the Class members were void and illegal.
- 187. Plaintiffs and the Class members conferred a benefit on Defendants when they repaid principal and interest on the void loans; Defendants knew of the benefit; and Defendants have been unjustly enriched through their receipt of any amounts in connection with the unlawful loans.
- 188. Accordingly, Plaintiffs seeks to recover from Defendants, jointly and severally, all principal and interest repaid on Defendants' loans by Plaintiffs and the Class members.

## VII. PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, Plaintiffs request that the Court enter judgment on behalf of themselves and the Class they seek to represent against Defendants for:

- (a) Certification for this matter to proceed as a class action;
- (b) Declaratory relief, injunctive relief, actual damages, treble damages, and punitive damages, as pled herein;
- (c) Attorney's fees, investigation and litigation expenses, and costs of suit; and
- (d) Such other and further relief as the Court deems proper.

## VIII. DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL

Plaintiffs demand a trial by jury on all claims so triable.

This 3rd day of July, 2018.

McRAE BERTSCHI & COLE LLC

Suite 200, 1350 Center Drive Dunwoody, Georgia 30338

Counsel for Plaintiff

/s/ Craig E. Bertschi

Craig E. Bertschi Georgia Bar No. 055739 <u>ceb@mcraebertschi.com</u>

678.999.1102

Charles J. Cole Georgia Bar No. 176704 cjc@mcraebertschi.com 678.999.1105

## Of Counsel, pro hac vice forthcoming:

Michael A. Caddell Cynthia B. Chapman John B. Scofield, Jr. Amy E. Tabor CADDELL & CHAPMAN 628 East 9th Street Houston, Texas 77007

Counsel for Plaintiff

# EXHIBIT 1

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SCROLL DOWN AND READ THROUGH CONSENT TO ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS:

You must consent to transact business with Big Picture Loans, LLC, a duly licensed Financial Services Licensee of the Lac Vieux Desert Tribal Financial Services Regulatory Authority, an independent regulatory body of the Lac Vieux Desert Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians, through electronic communications in order for us to process your loan application. The following terms and conditions govern electronic communications in connection with your loan application, Loan Agreement (if approved) and any communications regarding your account with us (the "Consent").

By checking the indicated box below, you are electronically signing this Consent, and are confirming that you have agreed to the terms and conditions of the Consent and that you have downloaded or printed a copy of this Consent for your records.

You agree that:

- Any disclosure, notice, record or other type of information that is provided to you in connection with your transaction with us, including but not limited to, the Loan
  Agreement, this Consent, the Truth in Lending disclosures set forth in the Loan Agreement, Privacy Policy, change-in-terms notices, fee and transaction information,
  statements, delayed disbursement fetters, notices of adverse action, and other applicable brochures and disclosures (collectively, "Communications"), may be sent to
  you electronically by posting the information at our website, www.BigPictureLoans.com, or by sending it to you by email from us or any vendor contracted through us
  at any time.
- . We will not be obligated to provide any Communication to you in paper form unless you specifically request us to do so.
- You may obtain a copy of any Communication by contacting us at Support@BigPictureLoans.com or by calling us at 1.800.584.4880.
- You agree to provide us with your current email address for Communications, if your email address changes, you must notify us of your new email address at least five
   (5) days before the change to ensure that you continue to receive timely Communications about your loan.
- In order to receive electronic communications in connection with this transaction, you will need a working connection to the Internet. Your browser must support the
  Secure Sockets Layer (SSL) protocol and (at least) 128 bit encryption, SSL provides a secure channel to send and receive data over the Internet through HS
  encryption capabilities, Microsoft Internet Explorer 10 or above, Mozilla Firefox 28 or higher, or equivalent software support this feature. You will also need a printer
  connected to your computer to print disclosures/notices. We do not provide ISP services. You must have your own Internet Service Provider.
- . We may amend (add to, delete or change) the terms of this Consent by providing you with advance notice.
- You agree that you are able to view and/or electronically store the information presented at this website. You also agree to print and retain a copy of this Consent for your records.

You are free to withdraw your Consent at any time and at no charge, If at any time you wish to withdraw your Consent, you can send us your written request by mail to Big Picture Loans, LLC, P.O. Box 704, Watersmeet, MI 49969 with the details of such request. If you decide to withdraw your Consent, the legal effectiveness, validity, and enforceability of prior electronic Disclosures will not be affected.

By electronically signing this Consent, you are confirming that: (1) your system meets the requirements set forth above; (2) you agree to receive Communications electronically; and (3) you are able to access and print or store information presented at this website.

YOUR ELECTRONIC SIGNATURE: You acknowledge and agree that when you check the indicated box below, you are providing your electronic signature on this document that is fully enforceable against you. By electronically signing this document, you are agreeing to all the terms and conditions set forth in the Consent and certifying that all information you have provided in connection with this transaction is complete and accurate. You agree that your electronic signature shall have the same force and effect, and shall bind you to this Consent in the same manner and to the true extent as a physical signature would do, in accordance the Electronic Signatures in Global and National Commerce Act ("ESIGN") to the extent applicable. You also agree that this Consent and all related documents are electronic records and that, as such, they may be transferred, authenticated, stored, and transmitted by electronic means.

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## SCROLL DOWN AND READ THROUGH CONSUMER INSTALLMENT LOAN AGREEMENT

Loan No.: 2703844 Application Date: January 21, 2018 Final Maturity Date: July 27, 2018 Effective Date: January 25, 2018 (You may get funds prior to this date) Big Picture Loans, LLC Borrower Name: Victoria Renee McKoy Borrower Address: P.O. Box 704 Address: Buford, GA 30519 Watersmeet, MI 49969 Phone: 1-800-584-4880 Phone: 404 Mobile Phone: 404 Email address: Support@BlgPlctureLoans.com @gmail.com Email address:

IMPORTANT NOTICE: This Loan Agreement (hereinafter, the "Agreement") is governed by the laws of the Lac Vieux Desert Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians. There will be no binding contract formed between You and Us until this Agreement is electronically signed by You and then is received and verified by Us on the Lac Vieux Desert Reservation. Our loans should be used for short-term financial needs only, not as a long-term financial solution. Individuals with credit difficulties should seek credit counseling.

In this Agreement the words "You," "Your" and "I" mean the borrower who has electronically signed it. The words "We," "Us," "Our," and "Lender" mean Big Picture Loans, LLC. Lender is a wholly owned subsidiary of Tribal Economic Development Holdings, LLC, a wholly owned and operated economic arm and instrumentality of the Lac Vieux Desert Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians ("Tribe"), created for the benefit of the Triba and operating pursuant to Tribal law. Lender is licensed and regulated by the Tribal Financial Services Regulatory Authority, an independent regulatory body of the Triba. Lender operates in accordance with the Lac Vieux Desert Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians Tribal Consumer Financial Services Regulatory Code ("Code"). A complete copy of the Code can be found at <a href="http://www.lvdtribal.com/pdf/2015-11-03-Tribal-Consumer-Financial-Services-Regulatory-Code.pdf">http://www.lvdtribal.com/pdf/2015-11-03-Tribal-Consumer-Financial-Services-Regulatory-Code.pdf</a>

In order to complete Your transaction with Us, You must electronically sign this Agreement by clicking the Submit button below. Once You sign and submit this Agreement, We will confirm Your Information and either approve or deny Your loan request from Our office located on tribal land in Watersmeet, Michigan. If approved, Your signature on this Agreement authorizes Us to use commercially reasonable efforts to initiate a credit entry of the loan proceeds into the Bank Account listed below on or before the Effective Date above. We rely on the representations made by You in determining the Effective Date. Despite Our best efforts, unavoidable delays as a result of bank holidays, the processing schedule of Your individual bank, the untimely receipt of information recessary to verify Your account or other details necessary to fund Your loan (if required), inadvertent processing errors, "acts of God", and/or "acts of terror" may extend the time for the deposit. If We are unable to verify Your Information by the Effective Date Your loan request will not be approved, We will not fund the loan, and You will not incur a finance charge or any fees.

## SCROLL DOWN AND READ THROUGH CONSUMER INSTALLMENT LOAN AGREEMENT

#### TRUTH-IN-LENDING DISCLOSURES

Contract of the State of the St	FINANCE CHARGE The dollar amount the credit will cost You.		Total of Payments The amount You will have paid after You have made all payments as scheduled.
556.6386% (e)	\$1,657.82	\$800.00	\$2,457.82

Itemization of amount financed; Amount given to You directly: \$800.00, Amount paid on loan N/A with Us: N/A

Your Payment Schedule will be:

Number of Payments	Amount of Payments	When Payments Are Due
_1	\$189.08	February 9, 2018
1	\$189.08	February 23, 2018
1	\$189.08	March 9, 2018
1	\$189.08	March 23, 2018
1	\$189.08	April 6, 2018
1	\$189.08	April 20, 2018
1	\$189.08	May 4, 2018
1	\$189.08	May 18, 2018
1	\$189.08	June 1, 2018
1	\$189.08	June 15, 2018
1	\$189.08	June 29, 2018
1	\$189.08	July 13, 2018
1	\$188.86	July 27, 2018

Security: You agree that We may take a security interest in:

**ACH Credit** 

ACH Debit Authorization (if selected as a payment option)

Remotely-Created Check Authorization

Payment Authorization Upon Default or Demand

Demand Feature: This obligation has a demand feature.

Late Charge: If Your scheduled payment is late more than fifteen (15) days after its due date, You may incur a late charge not to exceed \$30 for leach occurrence.

Returned Payment Fee: If Your scheduled payment is returned, You may incur a returned payment fee not to exceed \$20 for each occurrence.
This returned payment fee will only be assessed once per scheduled payment.

Prepayment: If You prepay Your loan, You will reduce the Finance Charges owed under this Agreement. See the terms of this Agreement for any additional information about default and prepaying Your loan.

## Case 1:18-cv-03217-MHC Document 1-1 Filed 07/03/18 Page 4 of 7 Contract reference: See the terms of this Agreement for any additional information about nonpayment, default, and prepaying Your loan.

(e) means estimate based on Your actual effective date.

PROMISE TO PAY; You promise to pay Us or any assignee of this Agreement the Total of Payments set forth above in the Truth-in-Lending Disclosures. The Total of Payments includes a principal sum of \$800,00 plus a Finance Charge in the amount of \$1,657.82. You promise to pay the Total of Payments in the amounts and on the due dates listed in the Payment Schedule above ("Due Date(s)"). If the Due Date falls on a weekend or bank holiday, then such payment shall be considered timely paid if paid on the following business day. You also promise to pay any other fees provided for under this Agreement to Us or any assignee. In calculating Your Truth-in-Lending Disclosures, We have assumed You will make each payment as scheduled and Finance Charges begin to accrue on the Effective Date. You also promise to pay upon Our demand in accordance with the "Demand Feature" paragraph below.

FINANCE CHARGE; Finance Charges accrue daily on the outstanding principal balance. The daily interest rate for your loan is 1.53425%. The total Finance Charge disclosed above is based on all payments being made as scheduled. You will reduce the total Finance Charges owed under this Agreement as set forth in the "Prepayment" paragraph below if You choose to make a Prepayment.

CALCULATION OF FINANCE CHARGES AND PAYMENTS: The Finance Charges on Your loan are calculated using the simple interest method. The Finance Charges on Your loan accrue by multiplying the outstanding principal balance by the daily rate. To calculate the amount of interest that will accrue over a number of days, multiply the outstanding principal balance by the daily rate and then multiply that result by that number of days, All payments shall be first applied to the accrued Finance Charges and the balance to principal upon the basis that You will pay all payments on the scheduled Due Dates, Finance Charges are not payable in advance or compounded.

PREPAYMENT: If You pay more than the scheduled payment, You will reduce the total Finance Charges owed under this Agreement, You can make additional payments (minimum payment of \$5.00) toward Your account balance up to Your full account balance at any time without penalty. If You pay less than a scheduled payment, You will pay additional Finance Charges and may incur late fees, You must provide Us with a separate electronic debit authorization to make a prepayment. If We accelerate Your loan in accordance with the "Default" and/or "Demand Feature" paragraphs below and obtain payment in full, then the Finance Charges You owe under this Agreement will be reduced. To prepay Your loan please contact Us, If You don't contact Us to prepay Your loan, the payments are due in the amounts and on the dates specified in the Payment Schedule of Your Agreement.

RIGHT TO RESCIND/CANCEL: YOU MAY CANCEL THIS LOAN, WITHOUT FINANCE CHARGES OR ANY COSTS, NO LATER THAN 5:00 PM CENTRAL STANDARD TIME ON THE SECOND (2ND) BUSINESS DAY IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE EFFECTIVE DATE ("CANCELLATION DEADLINE") BY EMAILING SUPPORT(BELOWING THE EFFECTIVE DATE ("CANCELLATION DEADLINE"). BY CALLING 1:800-584-4880 OR BY FAX TO 1:800-688-8706, IN THE EVENT THAT WE RECEIVE YOUR NOTICE OF CANCELLATION BEFORE THE LOAN PROCEEDS HAVE BEEN PROCESSED TO BE CREDITED TO YOUR BANK ACCOUNT, BOTH YOUR OBLIGATIONS AND OUR OBLIGATIONS UNDER THIS AGREEMENT WILL BE CANCELLED. IN THE EVENT THAT WE RECEIVE YOUR NOTICE OF CANCELLATION ON OR BEFORE THE CANCELLATION DEADLINE BUT AFTER THE LOAN PROCEEDS HAVE BEEN PROCESSED TO BE CREDITED TO YOUR BANK ACCOUNT, THEN YOU AUTHORIZE US TO EFFECT A DEBIT ENTRY TO YOUR BANK ACCOUNT FOR THE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF YOUR LOAN SUBJECT TO THE FOLLOWING: (1) IF WE RECEIVE THE PAYMENT OF THE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT BY THE DEBIT ENTRY TO YOUR BANK ACCOUNT, THEN BOTH YOUR OBLIGATIONS AND OUR OBLIGATIONS UNDER THIS AGREEMENT WILL BE CANCELED, OR (2) IF WE DO NOT RECEIVE PAYMENT OF THE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF YOUR LOAN BY DEBIT ENTRY TO YOUR BANK ACCOUNT, THEN THIS AGREEMENT WILL BECANCELED, OR (2) IF WE DO NOT RECEIVE PAYMENT OF THE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF YOUR LOAN BY DEBIT ENTRY TO YOUR BANK ACCOUNT, THEN THIS AGREEMENT WILL REMAIN IN FULL FORCE AND EFFECT.

PAYMENT METHODS: If You elect to make Your payments by ACH debit or Remotely-Created Check, then Your payments will be automatically initiated by Us in accordance with this Agreement. If You elect to mail Your payments by certified check or money order (i) all payments must be mailed to. Big Picture Loans, i.L.C, P.O. Box 704, Watersmeet, MI 49969 and (ii) payment must reach this address by the scheduled Due Date. Please contact Us at 1-800-584-4880 for other payment methods that may be available. Payments will be applied first to any missed payments, accrued Finance Charges, fees and then principal.

VERIFICATION: You certify that information given in connection with this Agreement is true and correct. You authorize Us to verify all of the information that You gave Us such as any past and/or present employment history, military status, income and bank account details as may be necessary to process Your request for a loan, determine Due Dates, and administer Your account with Us. You specifically authorize Us or Our servicers and agents to use information You provided Us, including Your social security number and/or bank account number, to verify information related to Your Bank Account or military status through telephone, electronic databases, or other electronically initiated bank records. You also give Us consent to obtain information about You from consumer reporting agencies or other sources. You represent that You are not a debtor under any proceeding in bankruptcy and have no intention to file a petition for relief under any chapter of the United States Bankruptcy Code or state statute authorizing similar debt relief.

CONSUMER REPORTS: You authorize Us to obtain consumer reports about You in connection with Your request for credit, and at any time that You owe Us money under this or any Agreement.

REPORT OF NEGATIVE PAYMENT INFORMATION: We may report information about Your account to credit bureaus, Late payments, missed payments, or other defaults on Your loan may be reflected in Your credit report.

ACH CREDIT AND DEBIT AUTHORIZATION: You hereby agree that We will initiate a credit entry to Your Bank Account for an amount consistent with this Agreement on or before the Effective Date. If You revoke this authorization before We credit the loan proceeds, then We will not be able to deposit the loan proceeds into Your Bank Account.

If You elect to make payments by ACH debit, then You authorize Us, and Our successors and assigns, to initiate recurring ACH debits for payments from Your Bank Account as identified below (Your "Bank Account") in accordance with this Agreement:

Bank Routing Number: and Bank Account Number:

You also agree that We will initiate ACH debit entries on each scheduled payment date, subject to Your bank's process (which is out of Our control), or thereafter for the scheduled amount, or any lesser amount You owe. You further authorize Us to initiate a separate ACH debit entry to Your Bank Account for any applicable returned payment and late fees in the amounts set forth in this Agreement, You authorize Us to re-initiate any ACH debit up to two (2) additional times for the same amount if the ACH debit is dishonated.

You may revoke this authorization by contacting Us in writing at <u>Support@BicPictureLoans.com</u> or by phone at 1-800-584-4880 or by fax to 1-800-688-8706. Revocations will be processed in the order in which they are received. The Company cannot stop a payment in process. Revocations must be received at least three (3) business days prior to when You wish to terminate the authorization to allow for sufficient processing time.

You have the right to receive notice of all ACH debits varying in amount from Your scheduled payment. You acknowledge that You elect to not receive notice for a specified range of amounts stated below for the recurring ACH debiting (in lieu of providing the notice of transfers in varying amount). The amount of any ACH debit will range from (i) the payment amount provided in this Agreement (which may be less than a scheduled payment if partial prepayments have been made), to (ii) an amount equal to the scheduled payment plus as applicable, any returned payment charges and any late fees You may owe under this Agreement. For any recurring ACH debit outside of this specified range, We will send You a notice. Therefore, by selecting this repayment method and agreeing to the terms herein You choose to only receive notice when a recurring ACH debit amount exceeds the range specified. You also authorize Us to verify all of the information that You have provided, including past and current information from whatever source. You agree that the ACH debit entries authorized herein are voluntary, and that certain entries will recur as defined in this Agreement at substantially regular intervals. If there is any missing or erroneous information in or with Your loan application regarding Your Bank Account, then You authorize Us to verify and correct such information. If any payment cannot be obtained by ACH debit, You acknowledge and agree that You remain responsible for such payment and any resulting fees under this Agreement.

PAYMENT BY CHECK OR MONEY ORDER: If You elect to mail Your payments by certified check or money order (i) all payments must be mailed to: Big Picture Loans, LLC, P.O. Box 704, Watersmeet, MI 49969 and (ii) payment must reach this address by the scheduled Due Date. Please contact Us at 1-800-584-4880 for other payment methods that may be available.

REMOTELY-CREATED CHECK AUTHORIZATION: If (1) You specifically elect to make Your payments by Remotely-Created Check, (2) We are unable to process Your payments by ACH for any reason, or (3) You have defaulted on a payment, then by electronically signing this Agreement You authorize Us to create checks bearing Your typed name and other information as may be required under applicable law, rather than Your handwritten signature, drawn on Your Bank Account, and to submit each check for payment to Your Bank or financial institution in the amount of each payment out us under this Agreement on or after each scheduled payment date ("Remotely Created").

Case 1:18-cv-03217-MHC Document 1-1 Filed 07/03/18 Page 5 of 7 Check"), otherwise known as a demand draft, telecheck, preauthorized draft or paper draft. If a Remotely Created Check is returned unpaid by Your Bank or financial

Check'), otherwise known as a demand draft, telecheck, preauthorized draft or paper draft. If a Remotely Created Check is returned unpaid by Your Bank or financial institution, then You authorize Us to create and submit a Remotely Created Check for any late fees, or other amounts accrued pursuant to this Agreement. You agree that Your typed name or other designation mandated by applicable law will constitute Your authorized signature fully reflecting Your intent to authenticate any such Remotely Created Check. If You believe We charged Your Bank Account in a manner not contemplated by this authorization, then please contact Us. You authorize Us to vary the amount of any preauthorized payment by Remotely Created Check as needed to repay amounts owing, as modified by any partial prepayments. This Remotely Created Check authorization is only effective if You specifically elect to make Your payments by Remotely Created Check, We are unable to process Your payments by ACH debit for any reason, or You defaulted on a payment. If You would like to dispute a payment related to a Remotely Created Check, determine whether a payment was genuine, withhold payment of a Remotely Created Check, revoke authorization of Remotely Created Check or obtain re-crediting of amounts We obtained via a Remotely Created Check, contact Us by calling: 1-800-584-4880 or emailing Support@BioPictureLoans.com.

ELECTRONIC CHECK RE-PRESENTMENT POLICY: In the event You pay with a check and the check is returned unpaid for insufficient or uncollected funds. We may represent the check electronically as described in the Check Conversion Notification below. In the ordinary course of business, your original check will not be available for receipt with Your bank statement, but a copy of the electronic check can be retrieved by contacting Your financial institution.

CHECK CONVERSION NOTIFICATION: If You provide a check as payment, You authorize Us, Our servicers or agents 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 funds transfer, funds may be withdrawn from Your account as soon as the same day We receive Your payment, and You will not receive Your original check back from Your financial institution.

RETURNED PAYMENT FEE; You agree to pay a returned payment fee of \$20 if Your payment is returned unpaid. You authorize Us to make a one-time withdrawal from Your Bank Account to collect this returned payment fee, We may only impose this fee once per scheduled payment.

LATE FEE: If Your scheduled payment is late more than fifteen (15) days after the Due Date, You may incur a late fee not to exceed \$30 for each occurrence. You authorize Us to make a one-time withdrawal from Your Bank Account to collect this late fee.

DEFAULT: You will be in default under this Agreement if: (a) You provide Us false or misleading information about yourself, Your financial condition (including Your Bank Account), or any other matter prior to entering this Agreement, (b) You fail to make a payment by the scheduled Due Date or if Your payment is returned to Us unpaid for any reason, (c) You agree to make alternative payment arrangements and fail to make those payment(s), or (d) any of the following things occur: appointment of a committee, receiver, or other custodian of any of Your property, or the commencement of a case under the United States, Federal Bankruptcy Code or similar laws by or against You as a debtor.

CONSEQUENCES OF DEFAULT: If You are in default of any provision of this Agreement, You agree that We may take one or more of the following actions to the extent allowed by applicable law: (a) accelerate the maturity of this loan and require You to immediately pay Us everything You owe Us and initiate the Payment Authorization Upon Default or Demand set forth below, (b) continue to collect each scheduled payment and payments will be applied first to any missed payments, accrued Finance Charges, fees and then principal and (c) pursue all legally available means to collect what You owe Us. We may decide not to use any of the methods described above to get back the money that You owe Us. If so, We do not waive Our right to pursue such action at a later date.

DEMAND FEATURE: We may demand payment, at any time, and from time to time, in Our sole and absolute discretion, whether or not a default has occurred. If We demand payment, then We will accelerate Your obligation under this Loan Agreement and initiate an ACH debit in accordance with the "Payment Authorization Upon Default or Demand" paragraph below.

PAYMENT AUTHORIZATION UPON DEFAULT OR DEMAND: In the event of Your default or Our demand, You separately authorize Us, and Our successors and assigns, to initiate a one-time automatic debit entry to Your Bank Account in the amount of the entire outstanding balance, including any fees, under this Agreement. You agree that We will initiate the single ACH debit only for the outstanding amount owing at the time of acceleration, and within a reasonable time after default or demand. You authorize Us to re-initiate the debit entry up to two (2) additional times if the ACH debit is returned unpaid in accordance with your ACH Credit and ACH Debit Authorization. You authorize Us to verify all of the Information that You have provided to Us relating to Your Bank Account. If there is any missing or erroneous information in or with Your loan application regarding Your Bank Account, then You authorize Us to verify and correct such information. You may revoke the ACH Credit and ACH Debit Authorization by contacting Us in writing at Support@BlaPctureLoans.com or by phone at 1-800-584-4880 by fax at 1-800-688-8706. You must contact Us at least three (3) business days prior to when You wish the ACH Credit and Debit Authorization above in the amount of the entire outstanding balance.

NO WAIVER: No failure to exercise, or delay in exercising, any right, power or privilege hereunder shall operate as a waiver thereof, nor shall any single or partial exercise thereof preclude any other or further exercise thereof or the exercise of any other right, power or privilege.

COVERED BORROWER STATEMENT: Federal law provides important protections to members of the Armed Forces and their dependents relating to extensions of consumer credit. In general, the cost of consumer credit to a member of the Armed Forces and his or her dependent may not exceed an annual percentage rate of 36 percent. This rate must include, as applicable to the credit transaction or account: The costs associated with credit insurance premiums; fees for ancillary products sold in connection with the credit transaction; any application fee charged (other than certain application fees for specified credit transactions or accounts); and any participation fee charged (other than certain application fees for a credit card account).

By electronically signing this Agreement, You represent and warrant that YOU ARE NOT a regular or reserve member of the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force or Coast Guard ("Service Member") serving on active duty under a call or order that does not specify a period of thirty (30) days or fewer, or a dependent of such Service Member. You understand that We will be making this loan in reliance on the truth of this statement.

ASSIGNMENT AND EXECUTION: We may assign or transfer this Agreement or any of Our rights hereunder in Our sole and absolute discretion. If this Agreement is consummated, then You agree that the electronically signed Agreement We receive from You will be considered the original executed Agreement, which is binding and enforceable as to both parties upon approval by Us, which takes place at Our office on Tribal land in Watersmeet, Michigan.

WRITTEN DOCUMENTS/CALL RECORDINGS: While You acknowledge and agree that You have previously agreed to electronic communications, You understand that if You would like to request a physical document be mailed to You. You may do so by written request to Big Picture Loans, LLC, P.O. Box 704, Watersmeet, MI 49969. You also acknowledge that calls between You and Lender may be recorded for quality and training purposes and that Lender has no requirement or obligation to provide copies of these recordings to You or Your designee. If Your email address or mailing address change during the term of this Agreement, You agree to notify Us as soon as possible to ensure that you continue to receive timely electronic communications and requested written communications about your loan.

GOVERNING LAW AND FORUM SELECTION: This Agreement will be governed by the laws of the Lac Vieux Desert Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians ("Tribal law"), including but not limited to the Code as well as applicable federal law. All disputes shall be solely and exclusively resolved pursuant to the Tribal Dispute Resolution Procedure set forth in Section 9 of the Code and summarized below for Your convenience.

SOVEREIGN IMMUNITY: This Agreement and all related documents are being submitted by You to Big Picture Loans, LLC at its office on Tribal land. The Lender is an economic development arm, instrumentality, and limited liability company wholly owned and operated by the Tribe. The Tribe is a federally-recognized Indian Tribe and is generally immune from suit as a sovereign nation unless such immunity is waived by the Tribe in accordance with Tribal law or abrogated by applicable federal law ("tribal sovereign immunity"). Because the Tribe and Lender are entitled to tribal sovereign immunity, You will be limited in what claims, if any, You may be able to assert against both the Tribe and Us. To encourage resolution of consumer complaints as well as provide an authorized method of dispute resolution for consumers, pursuant to Section 9 of the Code, all complaints lodged, filed, or otherwise submitted by You or on Your behalf must follow the Tribal Dispute Resolution Procedure, as described herein.

PRESERVATION OF SOVEREIGN IMMUNITY: It is the express intention of the Tribe and Lender, operating as an economic arm-of-the-tribe, to fully preserve, and not waive either in whole or in part, exclusive jurisdiction, sovereign immunity, and any other rights, titles, privileges, and immunities, to which they are entitled including the tribal sovereign immunity of the Tribe and Lender. To protect and preserve the rights of the parties, no person may assume a waiver of immunity exists except by express written resolution of the Tribe's Tribal Council specifically authorizing such a waiver as required by Article XIII of the Tribe's Constitution specifically for the matter in question.

TRIBAL DISPUTE RESOLUTION PROCEDURE: The Tribe has established a Tribal Dispute Resolution Procedure (the "Procedure") to review and consider any and all types of complaints made by You or on Your behalf relating to or arising from this Agreement. The Procedure is found at Section 9 of the Code. You can find the Code at Our website, <a href="http://www.biopictureLoans.com">www.biopictureLoans.com</a>, at <a href="http://www.lvdtribal.com/odf/2015-11-03-Tribal-Consumer-Financial-Services-Regulatory-Code.pdf">http://www.lvdtribal.com/odf/2015-11-03-Tribal-Consumer-Financial-Services-Regulatory-Code.pdf</a>, or You may request a physical copy by written request mailed along with a self-addressed postage paid return envelope to the Tribal Financial Services Regulatory Authority, P.O. Box 249, Watersmeet, Michigan

Case 1:18-cv-03217-MHC Document 1-1 Filed 07/03/18 Page 6 of 7 49969. The Tribe and Lender intend and require, to the extent permitted by Tribal law, that any complaint todged, filed, or otherwise submitted by You or on Your behalf to follow the Procedure. Under the Procedure, if You, in the course of Your otherwise lawful and proper use of Lender's business believes Yourself to be harmed by some aspect of the operation of any part of Lender's business, You must direct Your concerns or dispute to Lender in writing. Your complaint to the Lender will be considered similar in nature to a petition for redress submitted to a sovereign government, without waiver of tribal sovereign immunity and exclusive jurisdiction, and does not create any binding procedural or substantive rights for a petitioner. The Lender will investigate the complaint and respond as soon as reasonably practicable, but no later than thirty (30) days from the receipt of Your written complaint. In the event that You are dissatisfied with the Lender's determination, You may intitate Formal Dispute Resolution by requesting an administrative review of Lender's determination by submitting such request in writing to the Tribal Financial Services Regulatory Authority ("Authority"), P.O. Box 249, Watersmeet, Mt 49969,

The Authority may hold an administrative review hearing, if requested by You or Us, which will occur within sixty (60) days after the Authority receives Your written request, The Authority will send notice to You and Us when a request for a hearing is granted or denied.

At any such hearing, You may be represented by legal counsel at Your own expense,

no later than ninety (90) days after receiving Lender's determination.

You may appeal an Authority decision and order by filing a written petition for review with the Tribal Court within ninety (90) days after the Authority issued its decision and order

For important information about the specific procedures that You must follow in order to request review by the Authority of an Lender determination, and to appeal a decision and order of the Authority to the Tribal Court, please review the Code at Our website, www.BigPictureLoans.com, or <a href="http://www.lvdtribal.com/tfsra.htm">http://www.lvdtribal.com/tfsra.htm</a> or request a physical copy by written request mailed along with a self-addressed postage paid return envelope to Tribal Consumer Financial Services Code Request, Attn: Regulatory Agent, P.O. Box 249, Watersmeet, Michigan 49969.

WAIVER OF JURY TRIAL: The Tribal Dispute Resolution Procedure has been created by the Tribe as a courtesy to consumers and is the sole and exclusive dispute resolution mechanism for disputes and claims related to or arising under this Agreement. THEREFORE, YOU ACKNOWLEDGE AND AGREE AS FOLLOWS:

- 1. For purposes of this Waiver of Jury Trial provision and Tribal Dispute Resolution Procedure provision above, the words "dispute" and "disputes" are given the broadest possible meaning and include, without limitation, (a) all claims, disputes, or controversies involving the parties to this Agreement and Our employees, servicers and agents, including but not limited to consultants, banks, payment processors, software providers, data providers and credit bureaus; (b) all claims, disputes, or controversies arising from or relating directly or indirectly to Your application, this Agreement, the validity and scope of these provisions and any claim or attempt to set aside these provisions; (c) all Tribal and U.S. federal or state law claims, disputes or controversies, arising from or relating directly or indirectly to Your application, this Agreement, the information You gave Us before entering into this Agreement, including the customer information application, and any past Agreement or Agreements between You and Us; (d) all counterclaims, cross-claims and third-party claims; (e) all common law claims, based upon contract, tort, fraud, or other intentional torts; (f) all claims based upon a violation of any Tribal, state or U.S. federal constitution, statute, regulation or ordinance; (g) all claims asserted by Us against You, Including claims for money damages to collect any sum We claim You owe Us; (h) all claims asserted by You individually against Us and any of Our employees, agents, directors, officers, shareholders, governors, managers, members, parent company or affiliated entitles (hereinafter collectively referred to as "related third parties"), including claims for money damages and/or equitable or injunctive relief; (i) all claims asserted on Your behalf by another person; (j) all claims asserted by You as a private attorney general, as a representative and member of a class of persons, or in any other representative capacity, against Us and/or related third parties (hereinafter referred to as "Representative Claims"); (k) all claims arising from or relating directly or indirectly to the disclosure by Us or related third parties of any nonpublic personal information about You; (I) all claims related to or arising from loan extensions or payment plans; (m) all claims related to collections, privacy, and customer information; and (n) all claims related to setting aside the Walver of Jury Trial provision or the Tribal Dispute Resolution Procedure provision, including claims about such provisions' validity and scope.
- 2. You acknowledge and agree that by agreeing to this Waiver of Jury Trial provision:
  - 1. YOU ARE GIVING UP YOUR RIGHT TO HAVE A TRIAL BY JURY TO RESOLVE ANY DISPUTE ALLEGED AGAINST US OR RELATED THIRD PARTIES;
  - 2. YOU CONSENT TO THE JURISIDCTION OF THE TRIBE AND HAVE READ AND AGREE TO BE SOUND SOLELY BY THE TRIBAL DISPUTE RESOLUTIOON PROCEDURE FOUND IN THE CODE; and
  - 3. YOU ARE GIVING UP YOUR RIGHT TO SERVE AS A REPRESENTATIVE, AS A PRIVATE ATTORNEY GENERAL, OR IN ANY OTHER REPRESENTATIVE CAPACITY, AND/OR TO PARTICIPATE AS A MEMBER OF A CLASS OF CLAIMANTS, IN ANY LAWSUIT FILED AGAINST US AND/OR RELATED THIRD PARTIES.
- 3. All disputes including any Representative Claims against Us and related third parties shall be resolved by the TRIBAL DISPUTE RESOLUTION PROCEDURE only on an individual basis with You as provided for pursuant to Tribal law. THEREFORE, NO LITIGATION OR ARBITRATION IS AVAILABLE AND NO JUDGE OR ARBITRATOR SHALL CONDUCT CLASS PROCEEDINGS; THAT IS, YOU SHALL BE INELIGIBLE TO SERVE AS A CLASS ACTION REPRESENTATIVE, AS A PRIVATE ATTORNEY GENERAL, OR IN ANY OTHER REPRESENTATIVE CAPACITY FOR OTHERS IN LITIGATION OR ARBITRATION.
- 4. All disputes arising out of, relating to, or in connection with this Agreement shall be finally settled under the Tribal Dispute Resolution Procedure.
- 5. This Waiver of Jury Trial provision and Tribal Dispute Resolution Procedure provision are binding upon and benefit You, Your respective heirs, successors and assigns. This Waiver of Jury Trial provision and Tribal Dispute Resolution Procedure provision are binding upon and benefit Us, Our successors and assigns, and related third parties. Both provisions continue in full force and effect, even if Your obligations have been paid or discharged through bankruptcy. Both provisions survive any cancellation, termination, amendment, expiration or performance of any transaction between You and Us and continues in full force and effect unless You and We otherwise agree in writing.

Your right to file suit against Us for any claim or dispute arising from or relating to this Agreement is limited by the WAIVER OF JURY TRIAL AND THE TRIBAL DISPUTE RESOLUTION PROCEDURE provisions.

TELEPHONE COMMUNICATIONS/MESSAGING CONSENT: You authorize Us, Our assigns, successors, successors in interest and Our servicing agents (collectively hereinafter "Agents") to contact You at any telephone number You provided in the loan agreement and application for non-marketing, account management purposes, including collection of any outstanding debt You may have with Us. If You provided You mobile phone number in the application process, You hereby agree that You authorized Us and Our Agents to contact You at the mobile phone number You provided in the loan application for non-marketing, account management purposes, including collection of any outstanding debt You may have with Us, which may include communications to You at Your mobile phone number using an automatic telephone dialing system, artificial or prerecorded voice, or text messaging. You agree that these phone calls may come from Us or Our Agents, but these calls will only be in connection with the Loan You are receiving in accordance with this Agreement. Telephone numbers You authorize Us and Our Agents to text message will include the mobile phone You provided Us on the loan application as well as any numbers provided to Us or Our Agents at a later time with Your permission. You agree to pay any fee(s) or charge(s) that You may incur for incoming and outgoing messages from or to Us or Our Agents, without reimbursement from Us or them.

ADVERTISING/MARKETING TELEPHONE COMMUNICATIONS/MESSAGING CONSENT: If You agree to the Messaging Consent authorization below, then You agree that You authorize Us and Our Agents to contact You in any manner (including text messages, robocalls/robotexts or auto-dialed calls) at Your phone number(s) You provided in the loan agreement and application, to provide information on special sales or marketing offers as well as reminders, notices, suspected fraud or identity theft, obtaining information necessary for Us to service Your account, collecting on Your account, notifying You as to important issues regarding Your account, notifying You of promotions, providing coupons or other marketing materials, and any other lawful purpose ("Messaging"). You further understand that this consent is not required in order to obtain a loan from the Lender. You also understand that You may withdraw Your Messaging Consent at any time by calling Us at 1-800-584-4880. We will not impose any fee to process the withdrawal of Your consent. Any withdrawal of Your consent will be effective only after We have a reasonable period of time to process Your withdrawal. For the purpose of this section, telephone numbers You authorize Us and Our Agents to text message will include the mobile phone You provided Us on the loan application and agreement as well as any numbers provided to Us or Our Agents at a later time with Your permission. You agree to pay any fee(s) or charge(s) that You may incur for incoming and outgoing messages from or to Us or Our Agents, without reimbursement from Us or them.

#### Other Important Terms:

- 1. Additionally, You agree that We may send Messaging through Your communication service provider in order to deliver them to You. You agree to provide a valid mobile phone number for these Messaging services. You further agree to indemnify, defend and hold Us harmless from and against any and all claims, losses, liability, cost and expenses (including reasonable attorneys' fees) arising from Your provision of a mobile phone number that is not Your own or Your violation of applicable U.S. federal, state or local law, regulation or ordinance. Your obligation under this paragraph shall survive termination of the Agreement. Messaging notifications are provided for Your convenience only.
- We will not be liable for losses or damages arising from any delay in delivery or disclosure of account information to third parties by Your communication service provider.
- 3. We may modify or terminate Our Messaging services from time to time, for any reason, and without notice, without liability to You, any other user or a third party.

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Please review the Privacy Policy from time to time so that You are timely notified of any changes. You can do so by bookmarking and visiting the following link where the Privacy Policy is listed and may be amended: <a href="http://www.BigPictureLoans.com/privacy-policy">http://www.BigPictureLoans.com/privacy-policy</a>.

#### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON TEXT MESSAGING:

If You provided Us with authorization to send You text messages, it is Your responsibility to provide Us with a true, accurate and complete mobile number and to maintain and update promptly any changes in this information. You can update Your mobile number by calling Us at 1-800-584-4880 or through email at <a href="mailto:Support@BigPictureLoans.com">Support@BigPictureLoans.com</a>.

How to UNSUBSCRIBE to SMS Text Message - You may also withdraw Your consent to receive text messaging only by texting STOP to the text message You receive or by calling Us at 1-800-584-4880. At Our option, We may treat Your provision of an invalid mobile phone number, or the subsequent malfunction of a previously valid mobile phone number, as a withdrawal of Your consent to receive text messaging.

For HELP on text messaging - To request additional information, text HELP to the message You receive or contact Us by telephone at 1-800-584-4880,

PRIVACY POLICY: By signing this Agreement, You acknowledge that You have reviewed and agree to Big Picture Loans, LLC Privacy Policy as stated at the following link; https://www.BigPictureLoans.com/privacy-policy.

#### IMPORTANT ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:

You acknowledge and agree that this Agreement is subject solely and exclusively to the Tribal law, as well as applicable federal law, and the exclusive jurisdiction of the Lac Vieux Desert Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians.

You acknowledge and agree that the Tribal Dispute Resolution Procedure is the sole and exclusive method for resolving disputes and/or claims arising from or relating to this Agreement.

You acknowledge and agree to the Waiver of Jury Trial provision. You acknowledge and understand that You selected Your loan repayment method during the application process and that Your loan was not conditioned on repayment of Your loan by ACH debit or ACH credit.

BY CLICKING THE SUBMIT BUTTON YOU HAVE ELECTRONICALLY SIGNED THIS AGREEMENT. YOU AGREE THAT YOUR ELECTRONIC SIGNATURE HAS THE FULL FORCE AND EFFECT OF YOUR PHYSICAL SIGNATURE AND THAT IT BINDS YOU TO THIS AGREEMENT IN THE SAME MANNER AS A PHYSICAL SIGNATURE. YOU CERTIFY THAT THE INFORMATION GIVEN IN CONNECTION WITH THIS AGREEMENT IS TRUE AND CORRECT. YOU AUTHORIZE US TO VERIFY THE INFORMATION GIVEN IN CONNECTION WITH THIS AGREEMENT AND GIVE US CONSENT TO OBTAIN INFORMATION ABOUT YOU FROM CONSUMER REPORTING AGENCIES OR OTHER SERVICES, YOU ACKNOWLEDGE THAT:

1. YOU HAVE READ, UNDERSTAND, AND AGREE TO ALL OF THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THIS AGREEMENT INCLUDING THE WAIVER OF JURY TRIAL AND PROCEDURE PROVISIONS AS WELL AS THE PRIVACY POLICY, (8) THIS AGREEMENT CONTAINS NO BLANKS AND WAS FILLED IN BY YOU BEFORE YOU SIGNED IT, AND (C) THAT YOU HAVE PRINTED OR DOWNLOADED A COMPLETED COPY OF THIS AGREEMENT FOR YOUR RECORDS. YOU FURTHER ACKNOWLEDGE THAT THIS AGREEMENT IS APPROVED OR DENIED ON TRIBAL LAND AT OUR OFFICE LOCATED IN WATERSMEET, MICHIGAN AND IS SUBJECT TO FINAL DETERMINATION BY US.

Lender: Big Picture Loans, LLC

Borrower Name: Victoria Renee McKoy Date: 1/21/2018 4:29:08 PM IP:

Signed: | Agree

# EXHIBIT 2

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SCROLL DOWN AND READ THROUGH CONSENT TO ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS:

You must consent to transact business with Big Picture Loans, LLC, a duly licensed Financial Services Licensee of the Lac Vieux Desert Tribal Financial Services Regulatory Authority, an independent regulatory body of the Lac Vieux Desert Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians, through electronic communications in order for us to process your loan application. The following terms and conditions govern electronic communications in connection with your loan application, Loan Agreement (if approved) and any communications regarding your account with us (the "Consent").

By checking the indicated box below, you are electronically signing this Consent, and are confirming that you have agreed to the terms and conditions of the Consent and that you have downloaded or printed a copy of this Consent for your records.

You agree that:

- Any disclosure, notice, record or other type of information that is provided to you in connection with your transaction with us, including but not limited to, the Loan
  Agreement, this Consent, the Truth in Lending disclosures set forth in the Loan Agreement, Privacy Policy, change-in-terms notices, fee and transaction information,
  statements, delayed disbursement letters, notices of adverse action, and other applicable brochures and disclosures (collectively, "Communications"), may be sent to
  you electronically by posting the information at our website, www.BigPictureLoans.com, or by sending it to you by email from us or any vendor contracted through us
  at any time.
- . We will not be obligated to provide any Communication to you in paper form unless you specifically request us to do so.
- You may obtain a copy of any Communication by contacting us at Support@BigPictureLoans.com or by calling us at 1.800.584.4880.
- You agree to provide us with your current email address for Communications. If your email address changes, you must notify us of your new email address at least five
   (5) days before the change to ensure that you continue to receive timely Communications about your loan.
- In order to receive electronic communications in connection with this transaction, you will need a working connection to the Internet. Your browser must support the
  Secure Sockets Layer (SSL) protocol and (at least) 128 bit encryption, SSL provides a secure channel to send and receive data over the Internet through HS
  encryption capabilities, Microsoft Internet Explorer 10 or above, Mozilla Firefox 28 or higher, or equivalent software support this feature. You will also need a printer
  connected to your computer to print disclosures/notices, We do not provide ISP services. You must have your own Internet Service Provider.
- We may amend (add to, delete or change) the terms of this Consent by providing you with advance notice.
- You agree that you are able to view and/or electronically store the information presented at this website. You also agree to print and retain a copy of this Consent for your records.

You are free to withdraw your Consent at any time and at no charge, if at any time you wish to withdraw your Consent, you can send us your written request by mail to Big Picture Loans, LLC, P.O. Box 704, Watersmeet, MI 49969 with the details of such request, if you decide to withdraw your Consent, the legal effectiveness, validity, and enforceability of prior electronic Disclosures will not be affected.

By electronically signing this Consent, you are confirming that: (1) your system meets the requirements set forth above; (2) you agree to receive Communications electronically; and (3) you are able to access and print or store information presented at this website.

YOUR ELECTRONIC SIGNATURE: You acknowledge and agree that when you check the indicated box below, you are providing your electronic signature on this document that is fully enforceable against you. By electronically signing this document, you are agreeing to all the terms and conditions set forth in the Consent and certifying that all information you have provided in connection with this transaction is complete and accurate, You agree that your electronic signature shall have the same force and effect, and shall bind you to this Consent in the same manner and to the true extent as a physical signature would do, in accordance the Electronic Signatures in Global and National Commerce Act ("ESIGN") to the extent applicable. You also agree that this Consent and all related documents are electronic records and that, as such, they may be transferred, authenticated, stored, and transmitted by electronic means.

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## SCROLL DOWN AND READ THROUGH CONSUMER INSTALLMENT LOAN AGREEMENT

Application Date: December 30, 2017	Loan No.: 2622763
Effective Date: January 5, 2018 (You may get funds prior to this date)	Final Maturity Date: October 1, 2018
Big Picture Loans, LLC	Borrower Name: Desiree Wright
P.O. Box 704	Borrower Address:
Watersmeet, MI 49969	Address: Valdosta, GA 31602
Phone: 1-800-584-4880	Phone: 850
Email address: Support@BigPictureLoans.com	Mobile Phone: 850
	Email address: @gmail.com

IMPORTANT NOTICE: This Loan Agreement (hereinafter, the "Agreement") is governed by the laws of the Lac Vieux Desert Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians. There will be no binding contract formed between You and Us until this Agreement is electronically signed by You and then is received and verified by Us on the Lac Vieux Desert Reservation. Our loans should be used for short-term financial needs only, not as a long-term financial solution. Individuals with credit difficulties should seek credit counseling.

In this Agreement the words "You," "Your" and "I" mean the borrower who has electronically signed it. The words "We," "Us," "Our," and "Lender" mean Big Picture Loans, LLC, Lender is a wholly owned subsidiary of Tribal Economic Development Holdings, LLC, a wholly owned and operated economic arm and instrumentality of the Lac Vieux Desert Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians ("Tribe"), created for the benefit of the Tribe and operating pursuant to Tribal law. Lender is licensed and regulated by the Tribal Financial Services Regulatory Authority, an independent regulatory body of the Tribe. Lender operates in accordance with the Lac Vieux Desert Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians Tribal Consumer Financial Services Regulatory Code ("Code"). A complete copy of the Code can be found at <a href="http://www.lvdtribal.com/odf/2015-11-03-Tribal-Consumer-Financial-Services-Regulatory-Code.odf">http://www.lvdtribal.com/odf/2015-11-03-Tribal-Consumer-Financial-Services-Regulatory-Code.odf</a>

In order to complete Your transaction with Us, You must electronically sign this Agreement by clicking the Submit button below. Once You sign and submit this Agreement, We will confirm Your Information and either approve or deny Your loan request from Our office located on tribal land in Watersmeet, Michigan, if approved, Your signature on this Agreement authorizes Us to use commercially reasonable efforts to initiate a credit entry of the loan proceeds into the Bank Account listed below on or before the Effective Date above. We rely on the representations made by You in determining the Effective Date. Despite Our best efforts, unavoidable delays as a result of bank holidays, the processing schedule of Your individual bank, the untimely receipt of information necessary to verify Your account or other details necessary to fund Your loan (if required), inadvertent processing errors, "acts of God", and/or "acts of terror" may extend the time for the deposit. If We are unable to verify Your information by the Effective Date Your loan request will not be approved, We will not fund the loan, and You will not incur a finance charge or any fees.

## SCROLL DOWN AND READ THROUGH CONSUMER INSTALLMENT LOAN AGREEMENT

#### TRUTH-IN-LENDING DISCLOSURES

	FINANCE CHARGE The dollar amount the credit will cost You.	The amount of credit provided to	Total of Payments The amount You will have paid after You have made all payments as scheduled.
591.4685% (e)	\$1,005.84	\$300.00	\$1,305.84

Itemization of amount financed: Amount given to You directly: \$300.00, Amount paid on loan N/A with Us: N/A

Your Payment Schedule will be:

Number of Payments	Amount of Payments	When Payments Are Due
1	\$145,12	February 1, 2018
1	\$145.12	March 1, 2018
1	\$145.12	March 30, 2018
1	\$145.12	May 1, 2018
1	\$145.12	June 1, 2018
1	\$145.12	June 29, 2018
1	\$145.12	August 1, 2018
1	\$145.12	August 31, 2018
1	\$144.88	October 1, 2018

Security: You agree that We may take a security interest in:

**ACH Credit** 

ACH Debit Authorization (if selected as a payment option)

Remotely-Created Check Authorization

Payment Authorization Upon Default or Demand

Demand Feature: This obligation has a demand feature.

Late Charge: If Your scheduled payment is late more than fifteen (15) days after its due date, You may incur a late charge not to exceed \$30 for each occurrence.

Returned Payment Fee: If Your scheduled payment is returned, You may incur a returned payment fee not to exceed \$20 for each occurrence.
This returned payment fee will only be assessed once per scheduled payment.

Prepayment: If You prepay Your loan, You will reduce the Finance Charges owed under this Agreement. See the terms of this Agreement for any additional information about default and prepaying Your loan.

Contract reference: See the terms of this Agreement for any additional information about nonpayment, default, and prepaying Your loan.

(e) means estimate based on Your actual effective date.

Case 1:18-cv-03217-MHC Document 1-2 Filed 07/03/18 Page 4 of 7 PROMISE TO PAY: You promise to pay Us or any assignee of this Agreement the Total of Payments set forth above in the Truth-in-Lending Disclosures. The Total of Payments includes a principal sum of \$300.00 plus a Finance Charge in the amount of \$1,005.84. You promise to pay the Total of Payments in the amounts and on the due dates listed in the Payment Schedule above ("Due Date(s)"). If the Due Date falls on a weekend or bank holiday, then such payment shall be considered timely paid if paid on the following business day. You also promise to pay any other fees provided for under this Agreement to Us or any assignee. In calculating Your Truth-in-Lending Disclosures, We have assumed You will make each payment as scheduled and Finance Charges begin to accrue on the Effective Date. You also promise to pay upon Our demand in accordance with the "Demand Feature" paragraph below.

FINANCE CHARGE: Finance Charges accrue daily on the outstanding principal balance. The daily interest rate for your loan is 1.6411%. The total Finance Charge disclosed above is based on all payments being made as scheduled. You will reduce the total Finance Charges owed under this Agreement as set forth in the "Prepayment" paragraph below if You choose to make a Prepayment.

CALCULATION OF FINANCE CHARGES AND PAYMENTS: The Finance Charges on Your toan are calculated using the simple interest method. The Finance Charges on Your loan accrue by multiplying the outstanding principal balance by the daily rate. To calculate the amount of interest that will accrue over a number of days, multiply the outstanding principal balance by the daily rate and then multiply that result by that number of days. All payments shall be first applied to the accrued Finance Charges and the balance to principal upon the basis that You will pay all payments on the scheduled Due Dates. Finance Charges are not payable in advance or compounded.

PREPAYMENT: If You pay more than the scheduled payment, You will reduce the total Finance Charges owed under this Agreement. You can make additional payments (minimum payment of \$5,00) toward Your account balance up to Your full account balance at any time without penalty. If You pay less than a scheduled payment, You will pay additional Finance Charges and may incur late fees. You must provide Us with a separate electronic debit authorization to make a prepayment. If We accelerate Your loan in accordance with the "Default" and/or "Demand Feature" paragraphs below and obtain payment in full, then the Finance Charges You owe under this Agreement will be reduced. To prepay Your loan please contact Us. If You don't contact Us to prepay Your loan, the payments are due in the amounts and on the dates specified in the Payment Schedule of Your Agreement.

RIGHT TO RESCINDICANCEL: YOU MAY CANCEL THIS LOAN, WITHOUT FINANCE CHARGES OR ANY COSTS, NO LATER THAN 5:00 PM CENTRAL STANDARD TIME ON THE SECOND (2ND) BUSINESS DAY IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE EFFECTIVE DATE ("CANCELLATION DEADLINE") BY EMAILING Support@BigPictureLoans.com, BY CALLING 1-800-584-4880 OR BY FAX TO 1-800-688-8706. IN THE EVENT THAT WE RECEIVE YOUR NOTICE OF CANCELLATION BEFORE THE LOAN PROCEEDS HAVE BEEN PROCESSED TO BE CREDITED TO YOUR BANK ACCOUNT, BOTH YOUR OBLIGATIONS AND OUR OBLIGATIONS UNDER THIS AGREEMENT WILL BE CANCELED. IN THE EVENT THAT WE RECEIVE YOUR NOTICE OF CANCELLATION ON OR BEFORE THE CANCELLATION DEADLINE BUT AFTER THE LOAN PROCEEDS HAVE BEEN PROCESSED TO BE CREDITED TO YOUR BANK ACCOUNT, THEN YOU AUTHORIZE US TO EFFECT A DEBIT ENTRY TO YOUR BANK ACCOUNT FOR THE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF YOUR LOAN SUBJECT TO THE FOLLOWING: (1) IF WE RECEIVE THE PAYMENT OF THE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT BY THE DEBIT ENTRY TO YOUR BANK ACCOUNT, THEN BOTH YOUR OBLIGATIONS AND OUR OBLIGATIONS UNDER THIS AGREEMENT WILL BE CANCELED, OR (2) IF WE DO NOT RECEIVE PAYMENT OF THE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF YOUR LOAN BY DEBIT ENTRY TO YOUR BANK ACCOUNT, THEN THIS AGREEMENT WILL REMAIN IN FULL FORCE AND EFFECT.

PAYMENT METHODS: If You elect to make Your payments by ACH debit or Remotely-Created Check, then Your payments will be automatically initiated by Us in accordance with this Agreement. If You elect to mail Your payments by certified check or money order (i) all payments must be mailed to: Big Picture Loans, LLC, P.O. Box 704, Watersmeet, MJ 49969 and (ii) payment must reach this address by the scheduled Due Date. Please contact Us at 1-800-584-4880 for other payment methods that may be available. Payments will be applied first to any missed payments, accrued Finance Charges, fees and then principal.

VERIFICATION: You certify that information given in connection with this Agreement is true and correct. You authorize Us to verify all of the information that You gave Us such as any past and/or present employment history, military status, income and bank account details as may be necessary to process Your request for a loan, determine Due Dates, and administer Your account with Us. You specifically authorize Us or Our servicers and agents to use information You provided Us, including Your social security number and/or bank account number, to verify information related to Your Bank Account or military status through telephone, electronic databases, or other electronically initiated bank records. You also give Us consent to obtain information about You from consumer reporting agencies or other sources. You represent that You are not a debtor under any proceeding in bankruptcy and have no intention to file a petition for relief under any chapter of the United States Bankruptcy Code or state statute authorizing similar debt relief.

CONSUMER REPORTS: You authorize Us to obtain consumer reports about You in connection with Your request for credit, and at any time that You owe Us money under this

REPORT OF NEGATIVE PAYMENT INFORMATION: We may report information about Your account to credit bureaus. Late payments, missed payments, or other defaults on Your loan may be reflected in Your credit report.

ACH CREDIT AND DEBIT AUTHORIZATION: You hereby agree that We will initiate a credit entry to Your Bank Account for an amount consistent with this Agreement on or before the Effective Date. If You revoke this authorization before We credit the loan proceeds, then We will not be able to deposit the loan proceeds into Your Bank Account.

If You elect to make payments by ACH debit, then You authorize Us, and Our successors and assigns, to Initiate recurring ACH debits for payments from Your Bank Account as identified below (Your "Bank Account") in accordance with this Agreement.

and Bank Account Number Bank Routing Number:

You also agree that We will initiate ACH debit entries on each scheduled payment date, subject to Your bank's process (which is out of Our control), or thereafter for the scheduled amount, or any lesser amount You owe. You further authorize Us to initiate a separate ACH debit entry to Your Bank Account for any applicable returned payment and late fees in the amounts set forth in this Agreement. You authorize Us to re-initiate any ACH debit up to two (2) additional times for the same amount if the ACH debit is

You may revoke this authorization by contacting Us in writing at Support@BioPictureLoans.com or by phone at 1-800-584-4880 or by fax to 1-800-688-8706. Revocations will be processed in the order in which they are received. The Company cannot stop a payment in process. Revocations must be received at least three (3) business days prior to when You wish to terminate the authorization to allow for sufficient processing time.

You have the right to receive notice of all ACH debits varying in amount from Your scheduled payment, You acknowledge that You elect to not receive notice for a specified range of amounts stated below for the recurring ACH debiting (in lieu of providing the notice of transfers in varying amount). The amount of any ACH debit will range from (i) the payment amount provided in this Agreement (which may be less than a scheduled payment if partial prepayments have been made), to (ii) an amount equal to the scheduled payment plus as applicable, any returned payment charges and any late fees You may owe under this Agreement. For any recurring ACH debit outside of this specified range, We will send You a notice. Therefore, by selecting this repayment method and agreeing to the terms herein You choose to only receive notice when a recurring ACH debit amount exceeds the range specified. You also authorize Us to verify all of the information that You have provided, including past and current information from whatever source. You agree that the ACH debit entries authorized herein are voluntary, and that certain entries will recur as defined in this Agreement at substantially regular Intervals. If there is any missing or erroneous information in or with Your loan application regarding Your Bank Account, then You authorize Us to verify and correct such information. If any payment cannot be obtained by ACH debit, You acknowledge and agree that You remain responsible for such payment and any resulting fees under this Agreement.

PAYMENT BY CHECK OR MONEY ORDER: If You elect to mail Your payments by certified check or money order (i) all payments must be mailed to: Big Picture Loans, LLC, P.O. Box 704, Watersmeet, MI 49969 and (ii) payment must reach this address by the scheduled Due Date. Please contact Us at 1-800-584-4880 for other payment methods

REMOTELY-CREATED CHECK AUTHORIZATION: If (1) You specifically elect to make Your payments by Remotely-Created Check, (2) We are unable to process Your payments by ACH for any reason, or (3) You have defaulted on a payment, then by electronically signing this Agreement You authorize Us to create checks bearing Your typed name and other information as may be required under applicable law, rather than Your handwritten signature, drawn on Your Bank Account, and to submit each check for payment to Your Bank or financial institution in the amount of each payment owing to Us under this Agreement on or after each scheduled payment date ("Remotely Created Check"), otherwise known as a demand draft, telecheck, preauthorized draft or paper draft, if a Remotely Created Check is returned unpaid by Your Bank or financial institution, then You authorize Us to create and submit a Remotely Created Check for any late fees, or other amounts accrued pursuant to this Agreement. You agree that Your typed name or other designation mandated by applicable law will constitute Your authorized signature fully reflecting Your intent to authenticate any such Remotely Created Check. If You believe We charged Your Bank Account in a manner not contemplated by this authorization, then please contact Us. You authorize Us to vary the amount of any preauthorized payment by Remotely Created Check as needed to repay amounts owing, as modified by any partial prepayments. This Remotely Created Check authorization is only effective if You specifically elect to make Your payments by Remotely Created Check, We are unable to process Your payments by

Case 1:18-cv-03217-MHC Document 1-2 Filed 07/03/18 Page 5 of 7 ACH debit for any reason, or You defaulted on a payment. If You would like to dispute a payment related to a Remotely Created Check, determine whether a payment was genuine, withhold payment of a Remotely Created Check, revoke authorization of Remotely Created Check or obtain re-crediting of amounts We obtained via a Remotely Created Check, contact Us by calling: 1-800-584-4880 or emailing Support@BigPictureLoans.com.

ELECTRONIC CHECK RE-PRESENTMENT POLICY: In the event You pay with a check and the check is returned unpaid for insufficient or uncollected funds, We may represent the check electronically as described in the Check Conversion Notification below, in the ordinary course of business, your original check will not be available for receipt with Your bank statement, but a copy of the electronic check can be retrieved by contacting Your financial institution.

CHECK CONVERSION NOTIFICATION: If You provide a check as payment, You authorize Us, Our servicers or agents 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 funds transfer, funds may be withdrawn from Your account as soon as the same day We receive Your payment, and You will not receive Your original check back from Your financial

RETURNED PAYMENT FEE: You agree to pay a returned payment fee of \$20 if Your payment is returned unpaid. You authorize Us to make a one-time withdrawal from Your Bank Account to collect this returned payment fee. We may only impose this fee once per scheduled payment.

LATE FEE: If Your scheduled payment is late more than fifteen (15) days after the Due Date, You may incur a late fee not to exceed \$30 for each occurrence. You authorize Us to make a one-time withdrawal from Your Bank Account to collect this late fee,

DEFAULT: You will be in default under this Agreement if: (a) You provide Us false or misleading information about yourself, Your financial condition (including Your Bank Account), or any other matter prior to entering this Agreement, (b) You fail to make a payment by the scheduled Due Date or if Your payment is returned to Us unpaid for any reason, (c) You agree to make alternative payment arrangements and fail to make those payment(s), or (d) any of the following things occur: appointment of a committee, receiver, or other custodian of any of Your property, or the commencement of a case under the United States. Federal Bankruptcy Code or similar laws by or against You as a

CONSEQUENCES OF DEFAULT: If You are in default of any provision of this Agreement, You agree that We may take one or more of the following actions to the extent allowed by applicable law: (a) accelerate the maturity of this loan and require You to immediately pay Us everything You owe Us and initiate the Payment Authorization Upon Default or Demand set forth below, (b) continue to collect each scheduled payment and payments will be applied first to any missed payments, accrued Finance Charges, fees and then principal and (c) pursue all legally available means to collect what You owe Us. We may decide not to use any of the methods described above to get back the money that You owe Us. If so, We do not waive Our right to pursue such action at a later date.

DEMAND FEATURE: We may demand payment, at any time, and from time to time, in Our sole and absolute discretion, whether or not a default has occurred. If We demand payment, then We will accelerate Your obligation under this Loan Agreement and initiate an ACH debit in accordance with the "Payment Authorization Upon Default or Demand" paragraph below.

PAYMENT AUTHORIZATION UPON DEFAULT OR DEMAND: In the event of Your default or Our demand, You separately authorize Us, and Our successors and assigns, to initiate a one-time automatic debit entry to Your Bank Account in the amount of the entire outstanding balance, including any fees, under this Agreement. You agree that We will initiate the single ACH debit only for the outstanding amount owing at the time of acceleration, and within a reasonable time after default or demand. You authorize Us to re-initiate the debit entry up to two (2) additional times if the ACH debit is returned unpaid in accordance with your ACH Credit and ACH Debit Authorization. You authorize Us to verify all of the information that You have provided to Us relating to Your Bank Account. If there is any missing or erroneous information in or with Your loan application regarding Your Bank Account, then You authorize Us to verify and correct such information. You may revoke the ACH Credit and ACH Debit Authorization by contacting Us in writing at Support@BigPictureLoans.com or by phone at 1-800-584-4880 by fax at 1-800-588-8706. You must contact Us at least three (3) business days prior to when You wish the ACH Credit and Debit Authorization to terminate. If You revoke the ACH Credit and ACH Debit Authorization, then You authorize Us to create a check in accordance with the Remotely Created Check Authorization above in the amount of the entire outstanding balance.

NO WAIVER: No failure to exercise, or delay in exercising, any right, power or privilege hereunder shall operate as a waiver thereof, nor shall any single or partial exercise thereof preclude any other or further exercise thereof or the exercise of any other right, power or privilege.

COVERED BORROWER STATEMENT: Federal law provides important protections to members of the Armed Forces and their dependents relating to extensions of consumer credit. In general, the cost of consumer credit to a member of the Armed Forces and his or her dependent may not exceed an annual percentage rate of 36 percent. This rate must include, as applicable to the credit transaction or account. The costs associated with credit insurance premiums; fees for ancillary products sold in connection with the credit transaction; any application fee charged (other than certain application fees for specified credit transactions or accounts); and any participation fee charged (other than certain participation fees for a credit card account).

By efectronically signing this Agreement, You represent and warrant that YOU ARE NOT a regular or reserve member of the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force or Coast Guard ("Service Member") serving on active duty under a call or order that does not specify a period of thirty (30) days or fewer, or a dependent of such Service Member. You understand that We will be making this loan in reliance on the truth of this statement.

ASSIGNMENT AND EXECUTION; We may assign or transfer this Agreement or any of Our rights hereunder in Our sole and absolute discretion. If this Agreement is consummated, then You agree that the electronically signed Agreement We receive from You will be considered the original executed Agreement, which is binding and enforceable as to both parties upon approval by Us, which takes place at Our office on Tribal land in Watersmeet, Michigan.

WRITTEN DOCUMENTS/CALL RECORDINGS: While You acknowledge and agree that You have previously agreed to electronic communications, You understand that if You would like to request a physical document be mailed to You, You may do so by written request to Big Picture Loans, LLC, P.O. Box 704, Watersmeet, MI 49969. You also acknowledge that calls between You and Lender may be recorded for quality and training purposes and that Lender has no requirement or obligation to provide copies of these recordings to You or Your designee, if Your email address or mailing address change during the term of this Agreement, You agree to notify Us as soon as possible to ensure that you continue to receive timely electronic communications and requested written communications about your loan.

GOVERNING LAW AND FORUM SELECTION: This Agreement will be governed by the laws of the Lac Vieux Desert Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians ("Tribat law"). including but not limited to the Code as well as applicable federal law. All disputes shall be solely and exclusively resolved pursuant to the Tribal Dispute Resolution Procedure set forth in Section 9 of the Code and summarized below for Your convenience.

SOVEREIGN IMMUNITY: This Agreement and all related documents are being submitted by You to Big Picture Loans, LLC at its office on Tribal land. The Lender is an economic development arm, instrumentality, and limited liability company wholly owned and operated by the Tribe. The Tribe is a federally-recognized Indian Tribe and Is generally immune from suit as a sovereign nation unless such immunity is waived by the Tribe in accordance with Tribal law or abrogated by applicable federal law ("tribal sovereign immunity"). Because the Tribe and Lender are entitled to tribal sovereign immunity, You will be limited in what claims, if any, You may be able to assert against both the Tribe and Us. To encourage resolution of consumer complaints as well as provide an authorized method of dispute resolution for consumers, pursuant to Section 9 of the Code, all complaints lodged, filed, or otherwise submitted by You or on Your behalf must follow the Tribal Dispute Resolution Procedure, as described herein.

PRESERVATION OF SOVEREIGN IMMUNITY: It is the express intention of the Tribe and Lender, operating as an economic arm-of-the-tribe, to fully preserve, and not waive either in whole or in part, exclusive jurisdiction, sovereign immunity, and any other rights, titles, privileges, and immunities, to which they are entitled including the tribal sovereign immunity of the Tribe and Lender. To protect and preserve the rights of the parties, no person may assume a waiver of immunity exists except by express written resolution of the Tribe's Tribal Council specifically authorizing such a waiver as required by Article XIII) of the Tribe's Constitution specifically for the matter in question.

TRIBAL DISPUTE RESOLUTION PROCEDURE: The Tribe has established a Tribal Dispute Resolution Procedure (the "Procedure") to review and consider any and all types of complaints made by You or on Your behalf relating to or arising from this Agreement. The Procedure is found at Section 9 of the Code. You can find the Code at Our website, www.BioPictureLoans.com, at http://www.hdtribal.com/pdf/2015-11-03-Tribal-Consumer-Financial-Services-Regulatory-Code.pdf, or You may request a physical copy by written request mailed along with a self-addressed postage paid return envelope to the Tribal Financial Services Regulatory Authority, P.O. Box 249, Watersmeet, Michigan 49969. The Tribe and Lender intend and require, to the extent permitted by Tribal law, that any complaint lodged, filed, or otherwise submitted by You or on Your behalf to follow the Procedure, Under the Procedure, if You, in the course of Your otherwise lawful and proper use of Lender's business believes Yourself to be harmed by some aspect of the operation of any part of Lender's business. You must direct Your concerns or dispute to Lender in writing. Your complaint to the Lender will be considered similar in nature to a petition for redress submitted to a sovereign government, without waiver of tribal sovereign immunity and exclusive jurisdiction, and does not create any binding procedural or substantive rights for a petitioner. The Lender will Investigate the complaint and respond as soon as reasonably practicable, but no later than thirty (30) days from the receipt of Your written complaint. In the event that You are dissatisfied with the Lender's determination, You may initiate Formal Dispute Resolution by requesting an administrative

Case 1:18-cv-03217-MHC Document 1-2 Filed 07/03/18 Page 6 of 7 review of Lender's determination by submitting such request in writing to the Tribal Financial Services Regulatory Authority ("Authority"), P.O. Box 249, Watersmeet, MI 49969,

no later than ninety (90) days after receiving Lender's determination.

The Authority may hold an administrative review hearing, if requested by You or Us, which will occur within sixty (60) days after the Authority receives Your written request. The Authority will send notice to You and Us when a request for a hearing is granted or denied.

At any such hearing, You may be represented by legal counsel at Your own expense,

You may appeal an Authority decision and order by filing a written petition for review with the Tribal Court within ninety (90) days after the Authority issued its decision and

For Important information about the specific procedures that You must follow in order to request review by the Authority of an Lender determination, and to appeal a decision and order of the Authority to the Tribal Court, please review the Code at Our website, www.BigPictureLoans.com, or http://www.lvdtribal.com/tfsra.html or request a physical copy by written request malled along with a self-addressed postage paid return envelope to Tribal Consumer Financial Services Code Request, Attn: Regulatory Agent, P.O. Box 249, Watersmeet, Michigan 49969.

WAIVER OF JURY TRIAL: The Tribal Dispute Resolution Procedure has been created by the Tribe as a courtesy to consumers and is the sole and exclusive dispute resolution mechanism for disputes and claims related to or arising under this Agreement. THEREFORE, YOU ACKNOWLEDGE AND AGREE AS FOLLOWS.

- 1. For purposes of this Waiver of Jury Trial provision and Tribal Dispute Resolution Procedure provision above, the words "dispute" and "disputes" are given the broadest possible meaning and include, without limitation, (a) all claims, disputes, or controversies involving the parties to this Agreement and Our employees, servicers and agents, including but not limited to consultants, banks, payment processors, software providers, data providers and credit bureaus; (b) all claims, disputes, or controversies arising from or relating directly or indirectly to Your application, this Agreement, the validity and scope of these provisions and any claim or attempt to set aside these provisions; (c) all Tribal and U.S. federal or state law claims, disputes or controversies, arising from or relating directly or indirectly to Your application, this Agreement, the information You gave Us before entering into this Agreement, Including the customer Information application, and any past Agreement or Agreements between You and Us; (d) all counterclaims, cross-claims and third-party claims; (e) all common law claims, based upon contract, tort, fraud, or other intentional torts; (f) all claims based upon a violation of any Tribal, state or U.S. federal constitution, statute, regulation or ordinance; (g) all claims asserted by Us against You, including claims for money damages to collect any sum We claim You owe Us; (h) all claims asserted by You individually against Us and any of Our employees, agents, directors, officers, shareholders, governors, managers, members, parent company or affiliated entitles (hereinafter collectively referred to as "related third parties"), including claims for money damages and/or equitable or injunctive relief; (i) all claims asserted on Your behalf by another person; (j) all claims asserted by You as a private attorney general, as a representative and member of a class of persons, or in any other representative capacity, against Us and/or related third parties (hereinafter referred to as "Representative Claims"); (k) all claims arising from or relating directly or indirectly to the disclosure by Us or related third parties of any nonpublic personal information about You; (I) all claims related to or arising from loan extensions or payment plans; (m) all claims related to collections, privacy, and customer information; and (n) all claims related to setting aside the Waiver of Jury Trial provision or the Tribal Dispute Resolution Procedure provision, including claims about such provisions' validity and scope.
- You acknowledge and agree that by agreeing to this Waiver of Jury Triat provision:
  - 1. YOU ARE GIVING UP YOUR RIGHT TO HAVE A TRIAL BY JURY TO RESOLVE ANY DISPUTE ALLEGED AGAINST US OR RELATED THIRD PARTIES;
  - 2. YOU CONSENT TO THE JURISIDCTION OF THE TRIBE AND HAVE READ AND AGREE TO BE BOUND SOLELY BY THE TRIBAL DISPUTE RESOLUTIOON PROCEDURE FOUND IN THE CODE; and
  - 3. YOU ARE GIVING UP YOUR RIGHT TO SERVE AS A REPRESENTATIVE, AS A PRIVATE ATTORNEY GENERAL, OR IN ANY OTHER REPRESENTATIVE CAPACITY, AND/OR TO PARTICIPATE AS A MEMBER OF A CLASS OF CLAIMANTS, IN ANY LAWSUIT FILED AGAINST US AND/OR RELATED THIRD PARTIES.
- 3. All disputes including any Representative Claims against Us and related third parties shall be resolved by the TRIBAL DISPUTE RESOLUTION PROCEDURE only on an individual basis with You as provided for pursuant to Tribal law. THEREFORE, NO LITIGATION OR ARBITRATION IS AVAILABLE AND NO JUDGE OR ARBITRATOR SHALL CONDUCT CLASS PROCEEDINGS; THAT IS, YOU SHALL BE INELIGIBLE TO SERVE AS A CLASS ACTION REPRESENTATIVE, AS A PRIVATE ATTORNEY GENERAL, OR IN ANY OTHER REPRESENTATIVE CAPACITY FOR OTHERS IN LITIGATION OR ARBITRATION.
- 4. All disputes arising out of, relating to, or in connection with this Agreement shall be finally settled under the Tribal Dispute Resolution Procedure.
- 5. This Waiver of Jury Trial provision and Tribal Dispute Resolution Procedure provision are binding upon and benefit You, Your respective heirs, successors and assigns. This Waiver of Jury Trial provision and Tribal Dispute Resolution Procedure provision are binding upon and benefit Us. Our successors and assigns, and related third parties. Both provisions continue in full force and effect, even if Your obligations have been paid or discharged through bankruptcy. Both provisions survive any cancellation, termination, amendment, expiration or performance of any transaction between You and Us and continues in full force and effect unless You and We otherwise agree in writing.

Your right to file suit against Us for any claim or dispute arising from or relating to this Agreement is limited by the WAIVER OF JURY TRIAL AND THE TRIBAL DISPUTE RESOLUTION PROCEDURE provisions.

TELEPHONE COMMUNICATIONS/MESSAGING CONSENT: You authorize Us, Our assigns, successors, successors in interest and Our servicing agents (collectively hereinafter "Agents") to contact You at any telephone number You provided in the loan agreement and application for non-marketing, account management purposes, including collection of any outstanding debt You may have with Us. If You provided Your mobile phone number in the application process, You hereby agree that You authorized Us and Our Agents to contact You at the mobile phone number You provided in the loan application for non-marketing, account management purposes, including collection of any outstanding debt You may have with Us, which may include communications to You at Your mobile phone number using an automatic telephone dialing system, artificial or prerecorded voice, or text messaging. You agree that these phone calls may come from Us or Our Agents, but these calls will only be in connection with the Loan You are receiving in accordance with this Agreement. Telephone numbers You authorize Us and Our Agents to text message will include the mobile phone You provided Us on the toan application as well as any numbers provided to Us or Our Agents at a later time with Your permission. You agree to pay any fee(s) or charge(s) that You may incur for incoming and outgoing messages from or to Us or Our Agents, without reimbursement from Us or them.

ADVERTISING/MARKETING TELEPHONE COMMUNICATIONS/MESSAGING CONSENT: If You agree to the Messaging Consent authorization below, then You agree that You authorize Us and Our Agents to contact You in any manner (including text messages, robocalls/robotexts or auto-dialed calls) at Your phone number(s) You provided in the loan agreement and application, to provide information on special sales or marketing offers as well as reminders, notices, suspected fraud or identity theft, obtaining information necessary for Us to service Your account, collecting on Your account, notifying You as to important issues regarding Your account, notifying You of promotions, providing coupons or other marketing materials, and any other lawful purpose ("Messaging"). You further understand that this consent is not required in order to obtain a loan from the Lender. You also understand that You may withdraw Your Messaging Consent at any time by calling Us at 1-800-584-4880. We will not impose any fee to process the withdrawal of Your consent. Any withdrawal of Your consent will be effective only after We have a reasonable period of time to process Your withdrawal. For the purpose of this section, telephone numbers You authorize Us and Our Agents to text message will include the mobile phone You provided Us on the loan application and agreement as well as any numbers provided to Us or Our Agents at a later time with Your permission. You agree to pay any fee(s) or charge(s) that You may incur for incoming and outgoing messages from or to Us or Our Agents, without reimbursement from Us or them.

#### Other Important Terms:

- 1. Additionally, You agree that We may send Messaging through Your communication service provider in order to deliver them to You. You agree to provide a valid mobile phone number for these Messaging services. You further agree to indemnify, defend and hold Us harmless from and against any and all claims, losses, liability, cost and expenses (including reasonable attorneys' fees) arising from Your provision of a mobile phone number that is not Your own or Your violation of applicable U.S. federal, state or tocal law, regulation or ordinance. Your obligation under this paragraph shall survive termination of the Agreement. Messaging notifications are provided for Your convenience only.
- 2. We will not be liable for losses or damages arising from any delay in delivery or disclosure of account information to third parties by Your communication service
- 3. We may modify or terminate Our Messaging services from time to time, for any reason, and without notice, without liability to You, any other user or a third party. Please review the Privacy Policy from time to time so that You are timely notified of any changes. You can do so by bookmarking and visiting the following link where the Privacy Policy is listed and may be amended: <a href="http://www.BigPictureLoans.com/privacy-policy">http://www.BigPictureLoans.com/privacy-policy</a>.

#### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON TEXT MESSAGING:

Case 1:18-cv-03217-MHC Document 1-2 Filed 07/03/18 Page 7 of 7 update promptly any changes in this information. You can update Your mobile number by calling Us at 1-800-584-4880 or through email at <a href="mailto:support@BigPictureLoans.com">Support@BigPictureLoans.com</a>.

How to UNSUBSCRIBE to SMS Text Message - You may also withdraw Your consent to receive text messaging only by texting STOP to the text message You receive or by calling Us at 1-800-584-4880. At Our option, We may treat Your provision of an invalid mobile phone number, or the subsequent malfunction of a previously valid mobile phone number, as a withdrawal of Your consent to receive text messaging.

For HELP on text messaging - To request additional information, text HELP to the message You receive or contact Us by telephone at 1-800-584-4880.

PRIVACY POLICY: By signing this Agreement, You acknowledge that You have reviewed and agree to Big Picture Loans, LLC Privacy Policy as stated at the following link: https://www.BigPictureLoans.com/privacy-policy.

#### IMPORTANT ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:

You acknowledge and agree that this Agreement is subject solely and exclusively to the Tribal law, as well as applicable federal law, and the exclusive jurisdiction of the Lac Vieux Desert Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians.

You acknowledge and agree that the Tribal Dispute Resolution Procedure is the sole and exclusive method for resolving disputes and/or claims arising from or relating to this Agreement.

You acknowledge and agree to the Waiver of Jury Trial provision. You acknowledge and understand that You selected Your loan repayment method during the application process and that Your loan was not conditioned on repayment of Your loan by ACH debit or ACH credit.

BY CLICKING THE SUBMIT BUTTON YOU HAVE ELECTRONICALLY SIGNED THIS AGREEMENT, YOU AGREE THAT YOUR ELECTRONIC SIGNATURE HAS THE FULL FORCE AND EFFECT OF YOUR PHYSICAL SIGNATURE AND THAT IT BINDS YOU TO THIS AGREEMENT IN THE SAME MANNER AS A PHYSICAL SIGNATURE, YOU CERTIFY THAT THE INFORMATION GIVEN IN CONNECTION WITH THIS AGREEMENT IS TRUE AND CORRECT, YOU AUTHORIZE US TO VERIFY THE INFORMATION GIVEN IN CONNECTION WITH THIS AGREEMENT AND GIVE US CONSENT TO OBTAIN INFORMATION ABOUT YOU FROM CONSUMER REPORTING AGENCIES OR OTHER SERVICES, YOU ACKNOWLEDGE THAT:

1. YOU HAVE READ, UNDERSTAND, AND AGREE TO ALL OF THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THIS AGREEMENT INCLUDING THE WAIVER OF JURY TRIAL AND PROCEDURE PROVISIONS AS WELL AS THE PRIVACY POLICY, (B) THIS AGREEMENT CONTAINS NO BLANKS AND WAS FILLED IN BY YOU BEFORE YOU SIGNED IT, AND (C) THAT YOU HAVE PRINTED OR DOWNLOADED A COMPLETED COPY OF THIS AGREEMENT FOR YOUR RECORDS. YOU FURTHER ACKNOWLEDGE THAT THIS AGREEMENT IS APPROVED OR DENIED ON TRIBAL LAND AT OUR OFFICE LOCATED IN WATERSMEET, MICHIGAN AND IS SUBJECT TO FINAL DETERMINATION BY US.

Lender: Big Picture Loans, LLC

Borrower Name: Desiree Wright Date: 12/30/2017 5:14:50 PM

Signed: I Agree

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JS44 (Rev. 6/2017 NDGA)

## **CIVIL COVER SHEET**

The JS44 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 is required for the use of the Clerk of Court for the purpose of initiating the civil docket record. (SEE INSTRUCTIONS ATTACHED)

I. (a) PLAINTIFF(S)		DEFENDANT(S)	
Victoria Renee McKoy and Desiree Wright Lovins		Big Picture Loans, LLC, Matt Martorello, Ascension Technologies, LLC f/k/a Bellicose Capital, LLC and Daniel Gravel.	
(b) COUNTY OF RESIDENCE OF FIRST LISTED PLAINTIFF Gwinnett (EXCEPT IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES)		COUNTY OF RESIDENCE OF FIRST LISTED  DEFENDANT  (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, TELEPHONE NUM E-MAIL ADDRESS)	BER, AND	ATTORNEYS (IF KNOWN)	
Craig E. Bertschi McRae Bertschi & Cole LLC Suite 200, 1350 Center Drive Dunwoody, Georgia 30338 678.999.1102 ceb@mcraebertschi.com		Unknown	
II. BASIS OF JURISDICTION (PLACE AN "X" IN ONE BOX ONLY)		ZENSHIP OF PRINCIPAL PARTIES  N-X" IN ONE BOX FOR PLAINTIFF AND ONE BOX FOR DEFENDANT)  (FOR DIVERSITY CASES ONLY)	
U.S. GOVERNMENT (U.S. GOVERNMENT NOT A PARTY)  2 U.S. GOVERNMENT (INDICATE CITIZENSHIP OF PARTIES IN ITEM III)		PLF DEF  INCORPORATED OR PRINCIPAL PLACE OF BUSINESS IN THIS STATE  INCORPORATED AND PRINCIPAL PLACE OF BUSINESS IN ANOTHER STATE  FIZEN OR SUBJECT OF A  6 FOREIGN NATION	
IV. ORIGIN (PLACE AN "X "IN ONE BOX ONLY)  I ORIGINAL PROCEEDING 2 REMOVED FROM APPELLATE COURT  APPELLATE COURT	4 REINSTATED ( REOPENED	TRANSFERRED FROM MULTIDISTRICT APPEAL TO DISTRICT JUDGE OR S ANOTHER DISTRICT 6 LITIGATION - 7 FROM MAGISTRATE JUDGE (Specify District) TRANSFER JUDGMENT	
MULTIDISTRICT 8 LITIGATION - DIRECT FILE			
V. CAUSE OF ACTION (CITE THE U.S. CIVIL STATUTE U.S.	INDER WHICH YOU	ARE FILING AND WRITE A BRIEF STATEMENT OF CAUSE - DO NOT CITE	
statutes, 18 U.S.C. § 1962(c) and 18 U.S.C. § 1	1962(d), the ( eq., Georgia	Plaintiff asserts claims for violations of the federal RICO Georgia RICO statute, O.C.G.A. § 16-14-4(a), Georgia's 's Industrial Loan Act, O.C.G.A. §§ 7-3-1, et seq., unjust lief	
(IF COMPLEX, CHECK REASON BELOW)			
1. Unusually large number of parties.	6. Prob	lems locating or preserving evidence	
		ding parallel investigations or actions by government.	
4. Greater than normal volume of evidence. 9. Need		iple use of experts.	
		d for discovery outside United States boundaries. tence of highly technical issues and proof.	
— 5. Extended discovery period is needed.	LIV. EXIS	tence of anguly technical issues and proof,	
	ONTINUED	ON REVERSE	
FOR OFFICE USE ONLY  RECEIPT # AMOUNT 5  JUDGE MAG. JUDGE		OF SUIT CAUSE OF ACTION	

(Referral)

#### VI. NATURE OF SUIT (PLACE AN "X" IN ONE BOX ONLY) SOCIAL SECURITY - "0" MONTHS DISCOVERY TRACK CONTRACT - "0" MONTHS DISCOVERY TRACK 150 RECOVERY OF OVERPAYMENT & CIVIL RIGHTS - "4" MONTHS DISCOVERY TRACK 441 VOTING 442 EMPLOYMENT 443 HOUSING ACCO 445 AMERICANS wi 861 HIA (1395ff) ENFORCEMENT OF JUDGMENT 862 BLACK LUNG (923) ☐ 152 RECOVERY OF DEFAULTED STUDENT 863 DIWC (405(g)) 863 DIWW (405(g)) LOANS (Excl. Veterans) 443 HOUSING ACCOMMODATIONS ☐ 153 RECOVERY OF OVERPAYMENT OF 445 AMERICANS with DISABILITIES - Employment 446 AMERICANS with DISABILITIES - Other VETERAN'S BENEFITS 864 SSID TITLE XVI 448 EDUCATION 865 RS1 (405(g)) CONTRACT - \*4\* MONTHS DISCOVERY TRACK 110 INSURANCE FEDERAL TAX SUITS - "4" MONTHS DISCOVERY IMMIGRATION - "0" MONTHS DISCOVERY TRACK 462 NATURALIZATION APPLICATION 465 OTHER IMMIGRATION ACTIONS 120 MARINE 130 MILLER 870 TAXES (U.S. Plaintiff or Defendant) 871 IRS - THIRD PARTY 26 USC 7609 130 MILLER ACT 🔲 140 NEGOTIABLE INSTRUMENT 151 MEDICARE ACT OTHER STATUTES - "4" MONTHS DISCOVERY 160 STOCKHOLDERS' SUITS PRISONER PETITIONS - "0" MONTHS DISCOVERY 190 OTHER CONTRACT 375 FALSE CLAIMS ACT 195 CONTRACT PRODUCT LIABILITY 463 HABEAS CORPUS- Alien Detained 🔲 196 FRANCHISE 510 MOTIONS TO VACATE SENTENCE 376 Oui Tam 31 USC 3729(a) 530 HABEAS CORPUS 400 STATE REAPPORTIONMENT REAL PROPERTY - "4" MONTHS DISCOVERY TRACK 535 HABEAS CORPUS DEATH PENALTY 540 MANDAMUS & OTHER 430 BANKS AND BANKING 210 LAND CONDEMNATION 220 FORECLOSING 450 COMMERCE/ICC RATES/ETC 550 CIVIL RIGHTS - Filed Pro se 555 PRISON CONDITION(S) - Filed Pro se 460 DEPORTATION 470 RACKETEER INFLUENCED AND CORRUPT 230 RENT LEASE & EJECTMENT 560 CIVIL DETAINEE CONDITIONS OF ORGANIZATIONS 480 CONSUMER CREDIT 240 TORTS TO LAND 245 TORT PRODUCT LIABILITY CONFINEMENT 490 CABLE/SATELLITE TV 290 ALL OTHER REAL PROPERTY PRISONER PETITIONS - "4" MONTHS DISCOVERY 890 OTHER STATUTORY ACTIONS 891 AGRICULTURAL ACTS TRACK TORTS - PERSONAL INJURY - "4" MONTHS DISCOVERY TRACK 310 AIRPLANE 315 AIRPLANE PRODUCT LIABILITY 320 ASSAULT, LIBEL & SLANDER 330 FEDERAL EMPLOYERS' LIABILITY 340 MARINE 550 CIVIL RIGHTS - Filed by Counsel 893 ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS 895 FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 555 PRISON CONDITION(S) - Filed by Counsel 899 ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES ACT / FORFEITURE/PENALTY - "4" MONTHS DISCOVERY REVIEW OR APPEAL OF AGENCY DECISION 950 CONSTITUTIONALITY OF STATE STATUTES 625 DRUG RELATED SEIZURE OF PROPERTY OTHER STATUTES - "8" MONTHS DISCOVERY 340 MARINE 345 MARINE PRODUCT LIABILITY 350 MOTOR VEHICLE 355 MOTOR VEHICLE PRODUCT LIABILITY 360 OTHER PERSONAL INJURY 21 USC 881 690 OTHER 410 ANTITRUST LABOR - "4" MONTHS DISCOVERY TRACK 850 SECURITIES / COMMODITIES / EXCHANGE 360 OTHER PERSONAL INJURY 362 PERSONAL INJURY - MEDICAL 710 FAIR LABOR STANDARDS ACT 720 LABOR/MGMT, RELATIONS OTHER STATUTES - "0" MONTHS DISCOVERY 740 RAILWAY LABOR ACT 751 FAMILY and MEDICAL LEAVE ACT MALPRACTICE TRACK 896 ARBITRATION 365 PERSONAL INJURY - PRODUCT LIABILITY 367 PERSONAL INJURY - HEALTH CARE/ 790 OTHER LABOR LITIGATION (Confirm / Vacate / Order / Modify) PHARMACEUTICAL PRODUCT LIABILITY 368 ASBESTOS PERSONAL INJURY PRODUCT 791 EMPL. RET. INC. SECURITY ACT PROPERTY RIGHTS - "4" MONTHS DISCOVERY LIABILITY \* PLEASE NOTE DISCOVERY TORTS - PERSONAL PROPERTY - "4" MONTHS DISCOVERY TRACK 370 OTHER FRAUD 371 TRUTH IN LENDING 820 COPYRIGHTS 840 TRADEMARK TRACK FOR EACH CASE TYPE. SEE LOCAL RULE 26.3 PROPERTY RIGHTS - "8" MONTHS DISCOVERY B30 PATENT B35 PATENT-ABBREVIATED NEW DRUG APPLICATIONS (ANDA) - x/k/2 380 OTHER PERSONAL PROPERTY DAMAGE 385 PROPERTY DAMAGE PRODUCT LIABILITY BANKRUPTCY - "0" MONTHS DISCOVERY TRACK 422 APPEAL 28 USC 158 423 WITHDRAWAL 28 USC 157 VII. REQUESTED IN COMPLAINT: CHECK IF CLASS ACTION UNDER F.R.Civ.P. 23 DEMAND & Unliquidated at this time JURY DEMAND YES NO (CHECK YES ONLY IF DEMANDED IN COMPLAINT) VIII. RELATED/REFILED CASE(S) IF ANY DOCKET NO. CIVIL CASES ARE DEEMED RELATED IF THE PENDING CASE INVOLVES: (CHECK APPROPRIATE BOX) ☐ 1. PROPERTY INCLUDED IN AN EARLIER NUMBERED PENDING SUIT. ■ 2. SAME ISSUE OF FACT OR ARISES OUT OF THE SAME EVENT OR TRANSACTION INCLUDED IN AN EARLIER NUMBERED PENDING SUIT. 3. VALIDITY OR INFRINGEMENT OF THE SAME PATENT, COPYRIGHT OR TRADEMARK INCLUDED IN AN EARLIER NUMBERED PENDING SUIT. ☐ 4. APPEALS ARISING OUT OF THE SAME BANKRUPTCY CASE AND ANY CASE RELATED THERETO WHICH HAVE BEEN DECIDED BY THE SAME BANKRUPTCY JUDGE. 5. REPETITIVE CASES FILED BY PRO SE LITIGANTS. ☐ 6. COMPANION OR RELATED CASE TO CASE(S) BEING SIMULTANEOUSLY FILED (INCLUDE ABBREVIATED STYLE OF OTHER CASE(S)): ☐ 7. EITHER SAME OR ALL OF THE PARTIES AND ISSUES IN THIS CASE WERE PREVIOUSLY INVOLVED IN CASE NO. WITICH WAS DISMISSED. This case 🔲 IS IS NOT (check one box) SUBSTANTIALLY THE SAME CASE. SIGNATURE OF A TORNEY OF RECORD

## **ClassAction.org**

This complaint is part of ClassAction.org's searchable class action lawsuit database and can be found in this post: <u>Big Picture Loans</u>, <u>Ascension Technologies Hit with Class Action in GA Over Alleged 'Rent-a-Tribe' Lending Scheme</u>