

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

SHARON MEYER, Individually and on Behalf of ) All Others Similarly Situated, )  Plaintiff, ) vs. )  ALLIED INTERSTATE, LLC, )  Defendant. )	Case No.: 17-cv-1106  <b>CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT</b>  <b>Jury Trial Demanded</b>
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**INTRODUCTION**

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

**JURISDICTION AND VENUE**

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

**PARTIES**

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

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

5. Defendant Allied Interstate, LLC (“Allied Interstate”) is a Minnesota limited liability company with its principal place of business located at 12755 Hwy 55 Ste 300 Plymouth, MN 55441.

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

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

### **FACTS**

8. On or about October 12, 2016, Allied Interstate mailed a debt collection letter to Plaintiff's regarding an alleged debt owed to "SYNCHRONY BANK" ("Synchrony"). A copy of this letter is attached to this Complaint as Exhibit A.

9. Upon information and belief, the alleged debt referenced in Exhibit A is an alleged credit card account, which Plaintiff opened and used only for personal, family or household purposes.

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

11. Upon information and belief, Exhibit A is a form debt collection letter used by Allied Interstate to attempt to collect alleged debts.

12. Exhibit A is the first letter that Allied Interstate sent to Plaintiff regarding the Synchrony account identified in Exhibit A.

13. Exhibit A contains the following statement:

We are a debt collection company and SYNCHRONY BANK has contracted with us to collect the debt noted above. Please refer to the enclosed Account Listing for detail regarding your account(s).

14. The "enclosed Account Listing," included with Exhibit A, states:

<u>Account Listing</u>							
Client	Principle Balance	Interest			Fees	Collection Costs	Amount Owed
		Placed	Rate	Added			
XXXXXXXXXXXX5544	\$1367.17	\$0.00	0.000 %	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1367.17
Totals	\$1,367.17	\$0.00		\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,367.17

15. The representation in Exhibit A that the “Amount Owed” is the same as the “Principle [*sic*] Balance” is false, misleading and confusing to the unsophisticated consumer.

16. The interest rate is also not “0.000%.”

17. The alleged debt is a credit card account. Upon information and belief, the debt will accrue interest, likely at a default or penalty rate between 20 and 30 percent or possibly more, between the date listed on Exhibit A and the date Plaintiff would make a payment on the alleged debt.

18. Synchrony may also assess late fees on the account.

19. The unsophisticated consumer understands that interest and fees are routinely added to delinquent (allegedly) credit card accounts, and would be confused as to why the interest values in the Account Listing are zero.

20. Exhibit A fails to state the amount of the debt in a non-confusing manner.

21. The unsophisticated consumer could not determine from Exhibit A what the balance on the date of the letter actually is, and would be confused by the representations that no interest is accruing.

22. The unsophisticated consumer could send a check for the balance and would not know whether he had sent enough money to actually resolve the account, due to the possibility that Allied Interstate or Synchrony had added interest or other charges to the settlement amount.

23. Moreover, the Account Listing also falsely indicates that “Collection Costs” may be added to the debt.

24. Any purchases made with a personal credit card account were “consumer credit transactions” under the WCA, Wis. Stat. §§ 421-427.

25. Wis. Stat. § 421.301(10) defines a “consumer credit transaction”:

a consumer transaction between a merchant and a customer in which real or personal property, services or money is acquired on credit and the customer’s obligation is payable in installments or for which credit a finance charge is or may be imposed, whether such transaction is pursuant to an open-end credit plan or is a transaction involving other than open-end credit. The term includes consumer credit sales, consumer loans, consumer leases and transactions pursuant to open-end credit plans.

26. Credit card transactions are, by definition, "transactions pursuant to open-end credit plans." Wis. Stat. § 421.301(27)(a).

27. The WCA specifically prohibits the attachment of collection fees or collection costs and other “default charges” on consumer credit transactions, even if the fee is separately negotiated. Wis. Stat. § 422.413(1) provides:

no term of a writing evidencing a consumer credit transaction may provide for any charges as a result of default by the customer other than reasonable expenses incurred in the disposition of collateral and such other charges as are specifically authorized by chs. 421 to 427.

*See also Patzka v. Viterbo College*, 917 F. Supp. 654, 659 (W.D. Wis. 1996).

28. Neither Wis. Stat. § 422.202, entitled “Additional charges,” nor any other section of the WCA, lists collection costs as a permissible fee a creditor may charge in connection with a consumer credit transaction.

29. Because credit card transactions are consumer credit transactions, Exhibit A falsely states or implies that Allied Interstate has a right to add collection costs to the debt.

30. Even if a provision of any agreement between Plaintiff and the original creditor would purport to permit Allied Interstate to impose a collection fee, the WCA prohibits such charges. Wis. Stat. § 421.106(1) (“Except as otherwise provided in chs. 421 to 427, a customer may not waive or agree to forego rights or benefits under chs. 421 to 427.”); *See also Lox v. CDA, Ltd.*, 689 F.3d. 818 (7th Cir. 2012) (false representation that attorney fees would be added when they could not be, violated 1692e).

31. Plaintiff was confused by Exhibit A.

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

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

34. The FDCPA creates substantive rights for consumers; violations cause injury to consumers, and such injuries are concrete and particularized. *Bock v. Pressler & Pressler, LLP*, No. 11-7593, 2017 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 81058 \*21 (D.N.J. May 25, 2017) (“through [s]ection 1692e of the FDCPA, Congress established ‘an enforceable right to truthful information concerning’ debt collection practices, a decision that ‘was undoubtedly influenced by congressional awareness that the intentional provision of misinformation’ related to such practices, ‘contribute[s] to the number of personal bankruptcies, to marital instability, to the loss of jobs, and to invasions of individual privacy,’”); *Quinn v. Specialized Loan Servicing, LLC*, No. 16 C 2021, 2016 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 107299 \*8-13 (N.D. Ill. Aug. 11, 2016) (rejecting challenge to Plaintiff’s standing based upon alleged FDCPA statutory violation); *Lane v. Bayview Loan Servicing, LLC*, No. 15 C 10446, 2016 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 89258 \*9-10 (N.D. Ill. July 11, 2016)

(“When a federal statute is violated, and especially when Congress has created a cause of action for its violation, by definition Congress has created a legally protected interest that it deems important enough for a lawsuit.”); *Church v. Accretive Health, Inc.*, No. 15-15708, 2016 U.S. App. LEXIS 12414 \*7-11 (11th Cir. July 6, 2016) (same); *see also Mogg v. Jacobs*, No. 15-CV-1142-JPG-DGW, 2016 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 33229, 2016 WL 1029396, at \*5 (S.D. Ill. Mar. 15, 2016) (“Congress does have the power to enact statutes creating legal rights, the invasion of which creates standing, even though no injury would exist without the statute,” (quoting *Sterk v. Redbox Automated Retail, LLC*, 770 F.3d 618, 623 (7th Cir. 2014))). For this reason, and to encourage consumers to bring FDCPA actions, Congress authorized an award of statutory damages for violations. 15 U.S.C. § 1692k(a).

35. Moreover, Congress has explicitly described the FDCPA as regulating “abusive practices” in debt collection. 15 U.S.C. §§ 1692(a) – 1692(e). Any person who receives a debt collection letter containing a violation of the FDCPA is a victim of abusive practices. *See* 15 U.S.C. §§ 1692(e) (“It is the purpose of this subchapter to eliminate abusive debt collection practices by debt collectors, to insure that those debt collectors who refrain from using abusive debt collection practices are not competitively disadvantaged, and to promote consistent State action to protect consumers against debt collection abuses”).

36. 15 U.S.C. § 1692e generally prohibits “any false, deceptive, or misleading representation or means in connection with the collection of any debt.”

37. 15 U.S.C. § 1692e(2)(a) specifically prohibits “The false representation of— the character, amount, or legal status of any debt.

38. 15 U.S.C. § 1692e(10) specifically prohibits: “The threat to take any action that cannot legally be taken or that is not intended to be taken.”

39. 15 U.S.C. § 1692e(10) specifically prohibits the “use of any false representation or deceptive means to collect or attempt to collect any debt.”

40. 15 U.S.C. § 1692f generally prohibits “unfair or unconscionable means to collect or attempt to collect any debt.”

41. 15 U.S.C. § 1692g(a) requires a debt collector to disclose in the first written communication with the consumer, among other things, a non-confusing statement of the amount of the debt. 15 U.S.C. § 1692g(a)(1).

### **COUNT I – FDCPA**

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

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

44. The amount of the debt in Exhibit A is confusing.

45. There is no explanation as to why the interest rate on an alleged credit card account would be zero.

46. The unsophisticated consumer would not understand why Defendant and Synchrony were stating that no interest was being added to Plaintiff’s account when Synchrony had recently been adding interest to the account at the contractual, default rate.

47. Defendant violated 15 U.S.C. §§ 1692e, 1692e(2)(a), 1692e(5), 1692e(10), 1692f and 1692g(a).

### **COUNT II -- FDCPA**

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

49. The references in Exhibit A to “Collection Costs” are false, misleading and confusing.

50. Allied Interstate threatened to add collection costs to Plaintiff's debts when neither Allied Interstate nor the creditor is entitled to collection costs. The WCA prohibits Allied Interstate from adding collection costs to the debt.

51. Allied Interstate's misrepresentation of the amounts it would attempt to collect is an unfair and/or unconscionable method by which to try and collect an alleged debt.

52. As these statements are threatening and/or confusing to the unsophisticated consumer recipient so as to falsely imply that the creditor is entitled to receive a collection fee, they are an unfair and/or unconscionable method for attempting to collect a debt.

53. The unsophisticated consumer would be confused by the nebulous references in Allied Interstate's letter to “Fees,” and “Non-Interest Charges” and would have no idea what those charges are, potentially could be, or whether they would be legitimate.

54. Allied Interstate violated 15 U.S.C. §§ 1692e, 1692e(5), 1692e(10), 1692f and 1692f(1).

### **CLASS ALLEGATIONS**

55. Plaintiff brings this action on behalf of a Class consisting of (a) all natural persons in the State of Wisconsin, (b) who were sent collection letters in the form represented by Exhibit A to the complaint in this action, (c) in which the “interest rate” was stated as “0.000%” and (d) no interest was in the “Placed” or “Added” columns, (e) seeking to collect a personal credit card account debt (f) incurred for personal, family or household purposes (g) between August 9, 2016 and August 9, 2017, inclusive, (h) that was not returned by the postal service.



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

57. There are questions of law and fact common to the members of the class, which common questions predominate over any questions that affect only individual class members. The predominant common question is whether Exhibit A violates the FDCPA.

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

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

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

#### **JURY DEMAND**

61. Plaintiff hereby demands a trial by jury.

#### **PRAYER FOR RELIEF**

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

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

Dated: August 9, 2017

**ADEMI & O'REILLY, LLP**

By: /s/ John D. Blythin  
Shpetim Ademi (SBN 1026973)  
John D. Blythin (SBN 1046105)

Mark A. Eldridge (SBN 1089944)  
3620 East Layton Avenue  
Cudahy, WI 53110  
(414) 482-8000  
(414) 482-8001 (fax)  
sademi@ademilaw.com  
jblythin@ademilaw.com  
meldridge@ademilaw.com

# **EXHIBIT A**

# AlliedInterstate

LLC

877-236-1115

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10/12/2016

SHARON MEYER  
11528 W Coldspring Rd  
Milwaukee, WI 53228

Re: BP  
Creditor: SYNCHRONY BANK  
Amount Owed: \$1,367.17  
Allied Interstate Account No.: [REDACTED] 2686

SHARON MEYER:

We are a debt collection company and SYNCHRONY BANK has contracted with us to collect the debt noted above. Please refer to the enclosed Account Listing for detail regarding your account(s).

To make a payment, please call us at 877-236-1115 between the hours of Mon-Fri 8am-10pm ET and Sat 8am-4pm ET or mail your payment using the coupon on the reverse side of this letter. We process some checks electronically and if we do your checking account will be debited on the day we receive your payment. Your check will not be returned.

Unless you notify us within 30 days after receiving this letter that you dispute the validity of this debt or any portion thereof, we will assume that this debt is valid. If you notify us in writing within 30 days after receiving this letter that you dispute the validity of this debt, or any portion thereof, we will obtain and mail to you verification of the debt or a copy of a judgment. If you request of us in writing within 30 days after receiving this letter, we will provide you with the name and address of the original creditor, if different from the current creditor.

We are a debt collector attempting to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose.

We look forward to assisting you in resolving this matter.

Sincerely,  
Allied Interstate LLC

7525 West Campus Road, New Albany, OH 43054  
(Do not send payments or correspondence to this address.)

If you have a question or comment, please (i) write us at P.O. Box 361774, Columbus, OH 43236; (ii) email us at: [advocacygroup@allied-interstate.com](mailto:advocacygroup@allied-interstate.com); or, (iii) call us toll-free at (800) 811-4214 between 9:00 AM Eastern Time and 6:00 PM Eastern Time Monday through Friday.

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This collection agency is licensed by the Division of Banking in the Wisconsin Department of Financial Institutions, [www.wdfi.org](http://www.wdfi.org).

IRWS / 4101 / 759001634469

641 / 000000210 / 000000001

Correspond with Allied (other than payments) at: Allied Interstate LLC, PO Box 361774 Columbus OH 43236

(Detach and return with payment.)

RETURN MAIL ONLY

P. O. Box 1954  
Southgate, MI 48195-0954

██████████ 2686



SHARON MEYER  
11528 W Coldspring Rd  
Milwaukee, WI 53228-2501



Allied Interstate LLC  
PO Box 361774  
Columbus, OH 43236

Account Listing

Client	Principle Balance	Interest			Fees	Collection Costs	Amount Owed
		Placed	Rate	Added			
XXXXXXXXXXXX5544	\$1367.17	\$0.00	0.000 %	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1367.17
Totals	\$1,367.17	\$0.00		\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,367.17



# CIVIL COVER SHEET

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

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

### I. (a) PLAINTIFFS

**SHARON MEYER**

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

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

### DEFENDANTS

**ALLIED INTERSTATE, LLC**

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

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

Attorneys (If Known)

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

- 1 U.S. Government Plaintiff
- 3 Federal Question (U.S. Government Not a Party)
- 2 U.S. Government Defendant
- 4 Diversity (Indicate Citizenship of Parties in Item III)

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

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

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

CONTRACT	TORTS	FORFEITURE/PENALTY	BANKRUPTCY	OTHER STATUTES
<input type="checkbox"/> 110 Insurance	<b>PERSONAL INJURY</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> 610 Agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> 422 Appeal 28 USC 158	<input type="checkbox"/> 400 State Reapportionment
<input type="checkbox"/> 120 Marine	<input type="checkbox"/> 310 Airplane	<input type="checkbox"/> 620 Other Food & Drug	<input type="checkbox"/> 423 Withdrawal 28 USC 157	<input type="checkbox"/> 410 Antitrust
<input type="checkbox"/> 130 Miller Act	<input type="checkbox"/> 315 Airplane Product Liability	<input type="checkbox"/> 625 Drug Related Seizure of Property 21 USC 881	<b>PROPERTY RIGHTS</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> 430 Banks and Banking
<input type="checkbox"/> 140 Negotiable Instrument	<input type="checkbox"/> 320 Assault, Libel & Slander	<input type="checkbox"/> 630 Liquor Laws	<input type="checkbox"/> 820 Copyrights	<input type="checkbox"/> 450 Commerce
<input type="checkbox"/> 150 Recovery of Overpayment & Enforcement of Judgment	<input type="checkbox"/> 330 Federal Employers' Liability	<input type="checkbox"/> 640 R.R. & Truck	<input type="checkbox"/> 830 Patent	<input type="checkbox"/> 460 Deportation
<input type="checkbox"/> 151 Medicare Act	<input type="checkbox"/> 340 Marine	<input type="checkbox"/> 650 Airline Regs.	<input type="checkbox"/> 840 Trademark	<input type="checkbox"/> 470 Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations
<input type="checkbox"/> 152 Recovery of Defaulted Student Loans (Excl. Veterans)	<input type="checkbox"/> 345 Marine Product Liability	<input type="checkbox"/> 660 Occupational Safety/Health	<b>SOCIAL SECURITY</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 480 Consumer Credit
<input type="checkbox"/> 153 Recovery of Overpayment of Veteran's Benefits	<input type="checkbox"/> 350 Motor Vehicle	<input type="checkbox"/> 690 Other	<input type="checkbox"/> 861 HIA (1395ff)	<input type="checkbox"/> 490 Cable/Sat TV
<input type="checkbox"/> 160 Stockholders' Suits	<input type="checkbox"/> 355 Motor Vehicle Product Liability	<b>LABOR</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> 862 Black Lung (923)	<input type="checkbox"/> 810 Selective Service
<input type="checkbox"/> 190 Other Contract	<input type="checkbox"/> 360 Other Personal Injury	<input type="checkbox"/> 710 Fair Labor Standards Act	<input type="checkbox"/> 863 DIWC/DIWW (405(g))	<input type="checkbox"/> 850 Securities/Commodities/Exchange
<input type="checkbox"/> 195 Contract Product Liability	<b>PRISONER PETITIONS</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> 720 Labor/Mgmt. Relations & Disclosure Act	<input type="checkbox"/> 864 SSID Title XVI	<input type="checkbox"/> 875 Customer Challenge 12 USC 3410
<input type="checkbox"/> 196 Franchise	<input type="checkbox"/> 441 Voting	<input type="checkbox"/> 730 Labor/Mgmt. Reporting & Disclosure Act	<input type="checkbox"/> 865 RSI (405(g))	<input type="checkbox"/> 890 Other Statutory Actions
<input type="checkbox"/> 210 Land Condemnation	<input type="checkbox"/> 442 Employment	<input type="checkbox"/> 740 Railway Labor Act	<b>FEDERAL TAX SUITS</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> 891 Agricultural Acts
<input type="checkbox"/> 220 Foreclosure	<input type="checkbox"/> 443 Housing/Accommodations	<input type="checkbox"/> 790 Other Labor Litigation	<input type="checkbox"/> 870 Taxes (U.S. Plaintiff or Defendant)	<input type="checkbox"/> 892 Economic Stabilization Act
<input type="checkbox"/> 230 Rent Lease & Ejectment	<input type="checkbox"/> 444 Welfare	<input type="checkbox"/> 791 Empl. Ret. Inc. Security Act	<input type="checkbox"/> 871 IRS—Third Party 26 USC 7609	<input type="checkbox"/> 893 Environmental Matters
<input type="checkbox"/> 240 Torts to Land	<input type="checkbox"/> 445 Amer. w/Disabilities - Employment	<b>IMMIGRATION</b>		<input type="checkbox"/> 894 Energy Allocation Act
<input type="checkbox"/> 245 Tort Product Liability	<input type="checkbox"/> 446 Amer. w/Disabilities - Other	<input type="checkbox"/> 462 Naturalization Application		<input type="checkbox"/> 895 Freedom of Information Act
<input type="checkbox"/> 290 All Other Real Property	<input type="checkbox"/> 440 Other Civil Rights	<input type="checkbox"/> 463 Habeas Corpus - Alien Detainee		<input type="checkbox"/> 900 Appeal of Fee Determination Under Equal Access to Justice
		<input type="checkbox"/> 465 Other Immigration Actions		<input type="checkbox"/> 950 Constitutionality of State Statutes

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

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

### VI. CAUSE OF ACTION

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

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

### VII. REQUESTED IN COMPLAINT:

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

### VIII. RELATED CASE(S) IF ANY

(See instructions): JUDGE \_\_\_\_\_ DOCKET NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_

DATE \_\_\_\_\_ SIGNATURE OF ATTORNEY OF RECORD \_\_\_\_\_

August 9, 2017 s/ John D. Blythin

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

RECEIPT # \_\_\_\_\_ AMOUNT \_\_\_\_\_ APPLYING IFF \_\_\_\_\_ JUDGE \_\_\_\_\_ MAG. JUDGE \_\_\_\_\_



## INSTRUCTIONS FOR ATTORNEYS COMPLETING CIVIL COVER SHEET FORM JS 44

### Authority For Civil Cover Sheet

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Brief Description: Unauthorized reception of cable service

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

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

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

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

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

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT**

for the

Eastern District of Wisconsin

SHARON MEYER

*Plaintiff*

v.

ALLIED INTERSTATE, LLC

*Defendant*

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)

Civil Action No. 17-cv-1106

**SUMMONS IN A CIVIL ACTION**

To: *(Defendant's name and address)* ALLIED INTERSTATE, LLC  
c/o C T CORPORATION SYSTEM  
301 S. Bedford St. Suite 1  
Madison, WI 53703

A lawsuit has been filed against you.

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

John D. Blythin  
Ademi & O'Reilly, LLP  
3620 East Layton Avenue  
Cudahy, WI 53110  
(414) 482-8000-Telephone

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

*CLERK OF COURT*

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Signature of Clerk or Deputy Clerk*

Civil Action No. 17-cv-1106

**PROOF OF SERVICE**

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

This summons for *(name of individual and title, if any)* \_\_\_\_\_  
was received by me on *(date)* \_\_\_\_\_.

I personally served the summons on the individual at *(place)* \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ on *(date)* \_\_\_\_\_; or

I left the summons at the individual's residence or usual place of abode with *(name)* \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_, a person of suitable age and discretion who resides there,  
on *(date)* \_\_\_\_\_, and mailed a copy to the individual's last known address; or

I served the summons on *(name of individual)* \_\_\_\_\_, who is  
designated by law to accept service of process on behalf of *(name of organization)* \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ on *(date)* \_\_\_\_\_; or

I returned the summons unexecuted because \_\_\_\_\_; or

Other *(specify):* \_\_\_\_\_

My fees are \$ \_\_\_\_\_ for travel and \$ \_\_\_\_\_ for services, for a total of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ 0.00 \_\_\_\_\_.

I declare under penalty of perjury that this information is true.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Server's signature*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Printed name and title*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Server's address*

Additional information regarding attempted service, etc:

# ClassAction.org

This complaint is part of ClassAction.org's searchable class action lawsuit database and can be found in this post: [Allied Interstate Hit with Debt Collection Lawsuit](#)

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