BARSHAY SANDERS, PLLC

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Attorneys for Plaintiff
Our File No.: 113435

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT EASTERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

Dana Olender, individually and on behalf of all others similarly situated,

Plaintiff,

VS.

Genpact Services LLC,

Defendant.

Docket No:

CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT

JURY TRIAL DEMANDED

Dana Olender, individually and on behalf of all others similarly situated (hereinafter referred to as "*Plaintiff*"), by and through the undersigned counsel, complains, states and alleges against Genpact Services LLC (hereinafter referred to as "*Defendant*"), as follows:

INTRODUCTION

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

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

- 2. This Court has federal subject matter jurisdiction pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1331 and 15 U.S.C. § 1692k(d).
- 3. Venue is proper under 28 U.S.C. § 1391(b) because a substantial part of the events or omissions giving rise to the claim occurred in this Judicial District.
- 4. At all relevant times, Defendant conducted business within the State of New York.

PARTIES

- 5. Plaintiff Dana Olender is an individual who is a citizen of the State of New York residing in Suffolk County, New York.
 - 6. Plaintiff is a "consumer" as defined by 15 U.S.C. § 1692a(3).
- 7. On information and belief, Defendant Genpact Services LLC, is a New York Limited Liability Company with a principal place of business in New York County, New York.
- 8. Defendant is regularly engaged, for profit, in the collection of debts allegedly owed by consumers.
 - 9. Defendant is a "debt collector" as defined by 15 U.S.C. § 1692a(6).

ALLEGATIONS

- 10. Defendant alleges Plaintiff owes a debt ("the Debt").
- 11. The Debt was primarily for personal, family or household purposes and is therefore a "debt" as defined by 15 U.S.C. § 1692a(5).
- 12. Sometime after the incurrence of the Debt, Plaintiff fell behind on payments owed.
- 13. Thereafter, at an exact time known only to Defendant, the Debt was assigned or otherwise transferred to Defendant for collection.
- 14. In its efforts to collect the debt, Defendant contacted Plaintiff by letter ("the Letter") dated February 9, 2017. ("Exhibit 1.")
 - 15. The Letter was the initial communication Plaintiff received from Defendant.
 - 16. The Letter is a "communication" as defined by 15 U.S.C. § 1692a(2).
- 17. The Letter states, "The total account balance as of the date of this letter is shown above. Your account balance may increase because of interest or other charges, if so provided in your agreement with your creditor."
- 18. The Letter fails to indicate the minimum amount Plaintiff owed at the time of the Letter.
- 19. The Letter fails to provide information that would allow the least sophisticated consumer to determine the minimum amount he or she owes at the time of the Letter.
- 20. The Letter fails to provide information that would allow Plaintiff to determine what Plaintiff will need to pay to resolve the debt at any given moment in the future.

- 21. The Letter fails to provide information that would allow the least sophisticated consumer to determine what he or she will need to pay to resolve the debt at any given moment in the future.
- 22. The Letter fails to provide information that would allow the least sophisticated consumer to determine the amount of interest owed.
 - 23. For instance, the Letter fails to indicate the applicable interest rate.
 - 24. For instance, the Letter fails to indicate the date of accrual of interest.
- 25. For instance, the Letter fails to indicate the amount of interest during any measurable period.
- 26. The Letter fails to provide information that would allow the least sophisticated consumer to determine the amount of "other charges" owed.
- 27. For instance, the Letter fails to indicate the date such "other charges" will be added.
- 28. For instance, the Letter fails to indicate the amount of "other charges" during any measurable period.
- 29. The Letter fails to contain an explanation, understandable by the least sophisticated consumer, of any fees, costs, interest, or "other charges" that may cause the amount stated to increase.
 - 30. The Letter fails to state whether interest, fees and costs are accruing.
- 31. The Letter fails to state that the creditor will accept payment of the amount set forth in full satisfaction of the debt if payment is made by a specified date.
- 32. The Letter, because of the aforementioned failures, would render the least sophisticated consumer unable to determine the minimum amount owed at the time of the Letter.
- 33. The Letter, because of the aforementioned failures, would render the least sophisticated consumer unable to determine what she will need to pay to resolve the debt at any given moment in the future.
- 34. The Letter, because of the aforementioned failures, would render the least sophisticated consumer unable to determine the amount of his or her debt.
- 35. The Letter, because of the aforementioned failures, would render the least sophisticated consumer unable to determine the amount of her debt because the consumer would not know whether interest and fees would continue to accrue, or whether the amount of the debt

was static.

- 36. The Letter, because of the aforementioned failures, did not convey "the amount of the debt" clearly from the perspective of the least sophisticated consumer.
- 37. The Letter, because of the aforementioned failures, did not convey "the amount of the debt" accurately from the perspective of the least sophisticated consumer.
- 38. The Letter, because of the aforementioned failures, did not convey "the amount of the debt" without ambiguity from the perspective of the least sophisticated consumer.
- 39. The Letter, because of the aforementioned failures, violates 15 U.S.C. §§ 1692e and 1692g. See Carlin v. Davidson Fink, LLP, 852 F.3d 207 (2d Cir. 2017); Avila v. Riexinger & Associates, LLC, 817 F.3d 72 (2d Cir. 2016); Balke v. Alliance One Receivables Management, Inc., No. 16-CV-5624(ADS)(AKT), 2017 WL 2634653 (E.D.N.Y. June 19, 2017).

CLASS ALLEGATIONS

- 40. Plaintiff brings this action individually and as a class action on behalf of all persons similarly situated in the State of New York from whom Defendant attempted to collect a consumer debt by sending a collection letter which stated, "The total account balance as of the date of this letter is shown above. Your account balance may increase because of interest or other charges, if so provided in your agreement with your creditor," without providing information sufficient to allow the least sophisticated consumer to determine the actual amount of the debt as required by the FDCPA, from one year before the date of this Complaint to the present.
- 41. This action seeks a finding that Defendant's conduct violates the FDCPA, and asks that the Court award damages as authorized by 15 U.S.C. § 1692k.
 - 42. Defendant regularly engages in debt collection.
- 43. The Class consists of more than 35 persons from whom Defendant attempted to collect delinquent consumer debts by sending a collection letter which stated, "The total account balance as of the date of this letter is shown above. Your account balance may increase because of interest or other charges, if so provided in your agreement with your creditor," without providing information sufficient to allow the least sophisticated consumer to determine the actual amount of the debt as required by the FDCPA
- 44. Plaintiff's claims are typical of the claims of the Class. Common questions of law or fact raised by this class action complaint affect all members of the Class and predominate over

any individual issues. Common relief is therefore sought on behalf of all members of the Class. This class action is superior to other available methods for the fair and efficient adjudication of this controversy.

- 45. The prosecution of separate actions by individual members of the Class would create a risk of inconsistent or varying adjudications with respect to the individual members of the Class, and a risk that any adjudications with respect to individual members of the Class would, as a practical matter, either be dispositive of the interests of other members of the Class not party to the adjudication, or substantially impair or impede their ability to protect their interests. Defendant has acted in a manner applicable to the Class as a whole such that declaratory relief is warranted.
- 46. Plaintiff will fairly and adequately protect and represent the interests of the Class. The management of the class action proposed is not extraordinarily difficult, and the factual and legal issues raised by this class action complaint will not require extended contact with the members of the Class, because Defendant's conduct was perpetrated on all members of the Class and will be established by common proof. Moreover, Plaintiff has retained counsel experienced in actions brought under consumer protection laws.

JURY DEMAND

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

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff respectfully requests judgment as follows:

- a. Certify this action as a class action; and
- b. Appoint Plaintiff as Class Representative of the Class, and Plaintiff's attorneys as Class Counsel; and
- c. Find that Defendant's actions violate the FDCPA; and
- d. Grant damages against Defendant pursuant to 15 U.S.C. § 1692k; and
- e. Grant Plaintiff's attorneys' fees pursuant to 15 U.S.C. § 1692k; and

- f. Grant Plaintiff's costs; together with
- g. Such other relief that the Court determines is just and proper.

DATED: January 2, 2018

BARSHAY SANDERS, PLLC

By: _/s/ Craig B. Sanders _

Craig B. Sanders, Esq. 100 Garden City Plaza, Suite 500 Garden City, New York 11530

Tel: (516) 203-7600 Fax: (516) 706-5055

csanders@barshaysanders.com

Attorneys for Plaintiff Our File No.: 113435 PO BOX 1969 SOUTHGATE, MI 48195-0969 Genpact Services LLC

February 09, 2017

իներլումիկերկին ներիր իրդին ներությունը կին

Dana Olender 53 Long Tree Ln Apt 8 Moriches, NY 11955

Dear Dana Olender,

Account Information

Creditor: Synchrony Bank

Reference: AEO, Inc. Credit Card Account

Account: XXXXXXXXXXXXXX3305 Reference: 1069

Balance Due: \$414.00 Amount Now Due: \$182.00

Your account has been referred to our office for collections by Synchrony Bank.

Please mail the balance in full to the payment address listed below. If you are experiencing financial difficulties, please call our office and a representative will assist you in negotiating a suitable payment arrangement.

The total account balance as of the date of this letter is shown above. Your account balance may increase because of interest or other charges, if so provided in your agreement with your creditor.

Telephone: 1-877-704-2256
08:00 AM ET to 12:00 AM ET Monday - Friday
08:00 AM ET to 05:00 PM ET Saturday - Sunday

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

This communication is from a debt collector. This communication is an attempt to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose.

NOTICE OF IMPORTANT RIGHTS

The State of New York requires that this office advise you that:

Debt collectors, in accordance with the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, 15 U.S.C. § 1692 et seq., are prohibited from engaging in abusive, deceptive, and unfair debt collection efforts, including but not limited to:

- 1. the use or threat of violence;
- 2. the use of obscene or profane language; and
- 3. repeated phone calls made with the intent to annoy, abuse, or harass.

The State of New York requires that this office advise you that:

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

- 1. Supplemental security income (SSI);
- 2. Social security;
- 3. Public assistance (welfare);
- 4. Spousal support, maintenance (alimony) or child support;

Zip

- 5. Unemployment benefits;
- 6. Disability

City

State

Tel Home_ Tel Work __ Cell Phone

- 7. Workers' compensation benefits;
- 8. Public or private benefits;
- Veterans' benefits;
- 10. Federal student loans, federal student grants, and federal work study funds; and
- 11. Ninety percent of your wages or salary earned in the last sixty days.

New York City Department of Consumer Affairs License Number: #1193653

& provide the new information below Address	Ամիլիորդեղիկյիսեմիկիցյուրվեսեսորկյորդիկիի						
Check here if your address or phone number has changed	Make Payment To:						
You can also pay online at: <u>www.ae.com</u>							
Amount Paid: \$	Account: XXXXXXXXXXXX3305 Reference: 1069						
Balance Due: \$414.00 Amount Now Due: \$182.00	Creditor: Synchrony Bank Reference: AEO, Inc. Credit Card Account						
☐ Personal Check ☐ Cashier's Check ☐ Money Order	Account Information						
Please select form of payment:	GEN001_NY						
	OPE PROVIDED TO ENSURE PROPER CREDIT TO YOUR ACCOUNT						
	243031887702 0000123\0001						

Synchrony Bank/AEO, Inc. PO Box 530942 Atlanta, GA 30353-0942

provided by local rules of court.	This form, approved by the cket sheet. (SEE INSTRUC	ne Judicial Conference of the CTIONS ON NEXT PAGE (he United OF THIS	States in Septemb <i>FORM</i> .)	per 19	74, is require	d for the use of	the Clerk of Co	urt for the	9
I. (a) PLAINTIFFS				DEFENDANTS						
DANA OLENDER (b) County of Residence of First Listed Plaintiff SUFFOLK (EXCEPT IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES)				GENPACT	SER	VICES LLO	2			
			-	NOTE: IN LAND	ty of Residence of First Listed Defendant NEW YORK (IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES ONLY) E: IN LAND CONDEMNATION CASES, USE THE LOCATION OF THE TRACT OF LAND INVOLVED.					
(c) Attorneys (Firm Name, A BARSHAY SAND 100 Garden City P (516) 203-7600	-			Attorneys (If Kno	own)					
II. BASIS OF JURISDI	CTION (Place an "X" in 0	One Box Only)	III. CIT	IZENSHIP O	F PR	INCIPAI	PARTIES	(Place an "X" in	One Box for	r Plaintiff
O 1 U.S. Government Plaintiff			(For Div	CITIZENSHIP OF PRINCIPAL PARTIES (Place an "X" in One Box for Plaintiff (For Diversity Cases Only) PTF DEF Citizen of This State O 1 O 1 Incorporated or Principal Place O 4 O 4 of Business In This State						
O 2 U.S. Government O 4 Diversity Defendant (Indicate Citizenship of Parties in Item III)		Citizen	of Another State	O 2	2 0 2	Incorporated and I of Business In A	-	O 5	O 5	
W. NATVIDE OF GUYE				or Subject of a eign Country	O 3	O 3	Foreign Nation		0 6	O 6
IV. NATURE OF SUIT CONTRACT		ly) ORTS	FOR	FEITURE/PENAL	TY	BANK	RUPTCY	OTHER	STATUT	ES
Enforcement of Judgment O 151 Medicare Act O 152 Recovery of Defaulted Student Loans (Excludes Veterans) O 153 Recovery of Overpayment of Veteran's Benefits O 160 Stockholders' Suits O 190 Other Contract O 195 Contract Product Liability O 196 Franchise REAL PROPERTY O 210 Land Condemnation O 220 Foreclosure O 230 Rent Lease & Ejectment O 240 Torts to Land O 245 Tort Product Liability O 290 All Other Real Property	PERSONAL INJURY O 310 Airplane O 315 Airplane Product Liability O 320 Assault, Libel & Slander O 330 Federal Employers' Liability O 340 Marine O 345 Marine Product Liability O 340 Motor Vehicle O 355 Motor Vehicle Product Liability O 360 Other Personal Injury Medical Malpractice CIVIL RIGHTS O 440 Other Civil Rights O 441 Voting O 442 Employment O 443 Housing/ Accommodations O 445 Amer. w/Disabilities - Employment O 446 Amer. w/Disabilities - Other O 448 Education	PERSONAL INJURY O 365 Personal Injury - Product Liability O 367 Health Care/ Pharmaceutical Personal Injury Product Liability O 368 Asbestos Personal Injury Product Liability PERSONAL PROPERT O 370 Other Fraud O 371 Truth in Lending O 380 Other Personal Property Damage O 385 Property Damage Product Liability PRISONER PETITIONS Habeas Corpus: O 463 Alien Detainee O 510 Motions to Vacate Sentence O 530 General O 535 Death Penalty Other: O 540 Mandamus & Other O 550 Civil Rights O 555 Prison Condition O 560 Civil Detainee Conditions of Confinement	O 690 C O 710 F O 740 R O 751 F O 790 C O 791 E I	LABOR air Labor Standards Act abor/Management Relations tailway Labor Act amily and Medical Leave Act bither Labor Litigatio imployee Retirement ncome Security Act IMMIGRATION faturalization Applica 55 Other Immigration	n ation	O 820 Copyris O 830 Patent O 840 Tradent SOCIAL O 861 HIA (1: O 862 Black I O 863 DIWC/ O 864 SSID T O 865 RSI (40	ry RIGHTS thts thts tark SECURITY 395ff) ung (923) DIWW (405(g)) title XVI 5(g)) L TAX SUITS U.S. Plaintiff endant) hird Party	OTHER STATUTES O 375 False Claims Act O 400 State Reapportionment O 410 Antitrust O 430 Banks and Banking O 450 Commerce O 460 Deportation O 470 Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations • 480 Consumer Credit O 490 Cable/Sat TV O 850 Securities/Commodities/ Exchange O 890 Other Statutory Actions O 891 Agricultural Acts O 893 Environmental Matters O 895 Freedom of Information Act O 896 Arbitration O 899 Administrative Procedure Act/Review or Appeal of Agency Decision O 950 Constitutionality of State Statutes		
V. ORIGIN (Place an "X" in 1 Original Proceeding O 2 Remo	oved from State O 3 Ren	urt	4 Reinstate Reopen	ed Anot	ther Di cify)	strict	O 6 Multidistrict Litigation – Transfer	L D	Iultidistrict itigation – irect File	
VI. CAUSE OF ACTIO		atute under which you are use: 15 USC §1692 Fa		not cite jurisdiction			ersity): 15 USC	§1692		
VII. REQUESTED IN COMPLAINT:	• CHECK IF THIS I UNDER RULE 2	S A CLASS ACTION 3, F.R.Cv.P.	DEN	MAND \$			CHECK YES on Y DEMAND:	-	_	nt:
VIII. RELATED CASE IF ANY	G(S)	(See Instructions) JUDGE				DOCK	ET NUMBER_			
DATE		SIGNATURE OF ATTO								
January 5, 2018 FOR OFFICE USE ONLY		/s Crai	ig B. S	anuers						
RECEIPT #AM	IOUNT	APPLYING IFP		JUDO	GE		MAG. JU	DGE		

CERTIFICATION OF ARBITRATION ELIGIBILITY

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

is inelig	ig B. Sanders, counsel for Plaintiff, do hereby certify that the above captioned civil action gible for compulsory arbitration for the following reason(s): monetary damages sought are in excess of \$150,000, exclusive of interest and costs, the complaint seeks injunctive relief, the matter is otherwise ineligible for the following reason			
DISCLOSURE STATEMENT - FEDERAL RULES CIVIL PROCEDURE 7.1				
	Identify any parent corporation and any publicly held corporation that owns 10% or more or its stocks:			
	RELATED CASE STATEMENT (Section VIII on the Front of this Form)			
provides because t the same the civil of to the por	that "A civil case is "related" to another civil case for purposes of this guideline when, because of the similarity of facts and legal issues or the cases arise from the same transactions or events, a substantial saving of judicial resources is likely to result from assigning both cases to judge and magistrate judge." Rule 50.3.1 (b) provides that "A civil case shall not be deemed "related" to another civil case merely because case: (A) involves identical legal issues, or (B) involves the same parties." Rule 50.3.1 (c) further provides that "Presumptively, and subject wer of a judge to determine otherwise pursuant to paragraph (d), civil cases shall not be deemed to be "related" unless both cases are still before the court."			
	NY-E DIVISION OF BUSINESS RULE 50.1(d)(2)			
1.	Is the civil action being filed in the Eastern District removed from a New York State Court located in Nassau or Suffolk County: NO			
2.	If you answered "no" above: a) Did the events or omissions giving rise to the claim or claims, or a substantial part thereof, occur in Nassau or Suffolk County? YES			
	b) Did the events or omissions giving rise to the claim or claims, or a substantial part thereof, occur in the Eastern District? YES			
	c) If this is a Fair Debt Collection Practice Act case, specific the County in which the offending communication was received:SUFFOLK			
Suffolk	nswer to question 2 (b) is "No," does the defendant (or a majority of the defendants, if there is more than one) reside in Nassau or County, or, in an interpleader action, does the claimant (or a majority of the claimants, if there is more than one) reside in Nassau lk County? Yes No			
	(Note: A corporation shall be considered a resident of the County in which it has the most significant contacts).			
	BAR ADMISSION			
I am cur	rently admitted in the Eastern District of New York and currently a member in good standing of the bar of this court. Yes No			
Are you	currently the subject of any disciplinary action (s) in this or any other state or federal court? Yes (If yes, please explain) No			
I certify	the accuracy of all information provided above.			
Signatur	e: /s Craig B. Sanders			

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

for the	e
EASTERN DISTRICT	Γ OF <u>NEW YORK</u>
Dana Olender, individually and on behalf of all others similarly situated Plaintiff(s) V. Genpact Services LLC Defendant(s)))) Civil Action No.))
SUMMONS IN A C	CIVIL ACTION
60 days if you are the United States, or a United States States described in Fed. R. Civ. P. 12 (a)(2) or (3) – you	ou must serve on the plaintiff an answer to the
attached complaint or a motion under Rule 12 of the F motion must be served on the plaintiff or plaintiff's att	
BARSHAY SAN 100 GARDEN CITY P GARDEN CITY	LAZA, SUITE 500
If you fail to respond, judgment by default will the complaint. You also must file your answer or moti	be entered against you for the relief demanded in on with the court.
	CLERK OF COURT
Data	

Signature of Clerk or Deputy Clerk

ClassAction.org

This complaint is part of ClassAction.org's searchable class action lawsuit database and can be found in this post: <u>Suit Claims Genpact Services Left Debt Information Out of Collection Letter</u>