UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT EASTERN DISTRICT OF WISCONSIN MILWAUKEE DIVISION

Michael Parajecki on behalf of himself and all others similarly situated,

Case No.: 18-cv-1167

Plaintiff,

CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT

1 10/11101

V.

JURY TRIAL DEMANDED

National Credit Adjusters, LLC

Defendant.

PRELIMINARY STATEMENT

This is a consumer class action brought on behalf of Wisconsin consumers subjected to
Defendant's violations of the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, 15 U.S.C. § 1692, et seq.
("FDCPA"). This law prohibits debt collectors from engaging in misleading and unfair
collection practices.

JURISDICTION

- 2. Jurisdiction of this Court arises out of events emanating from this District and this Court has jurisdiction pursuant to 15 U.S.C. § 1692 *et seq.* and 28 U.S.C § 1331.
- 3. Venue is proper in this District pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1391(b) because the conduct at issue occurred in this District, Plaintiff resides in this District, and Defendant conducts business in this district.

PARTIES

4. Plaintiff Michael Parajecki (hereinafter "Mr. Parajecki") is a natural person who resides in the County of Waukesha, State of Wisconsin, and is a "consumer" as that term is defined by 15 U.S.C. § 1692a(3).

- 5. Defendant National Credit Adjusters, LLC (hereinafter "Defendant NCA") is a business with offices located at 327 W. 4th Street, Hutchinson, Kansas, 67504, and a registered agent of Corporation Service Company, 8040 Excelsior Drive, Suite 400, Madison, WI 53717.
- 6. Defendant NCA is a "debt collector" as that term is defined by the FDCPA, 15 U.S.C. § 1692a(6).

FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS AS TO PLAINTIFF

- 7. In 2015, Mr. Parajecki incurred a consumer debt as that term is defined at 15 U.S.C. § 1692a(5) to "Cash Central."
- 8. This debt was for a personal extension of consumer credit.
- 9. Later, Cash Central sold the debt to a third party called "Reviver Financial, LLC."
- 10. Reviver Financial, LLC then retained Defendant NCA to collect the debt from Plaintiff.
- 11. Defendant NCA then sent Plaintiff several collection letters that contained the following paragraph"

This letter is to confirm that you and National Credit Adjusters were not able to agree to a payment arrangement on the account referenced above during our most recent communication. If for any reason there is a misunderstanding, and it is your wish to resolve the delinquency through means satisfactory to both parties, please contact National Credit Adjusters at 1-877-824-9372 and an NCA account manager will assist you.

- 12. A true and correct copy of the letter is attached as Exhibit A.
- 13. Defendant NCA and Plaintiff had never had a "communication" related to a "payment arrangement" for the debt.
- 14. The language used in the collection letter appears to be a template collection letter used by Defendant NCA in their collection attempts from consumers. The letter was generated by computer, and with the information specific to Plaintiff inserted by computer.

- 15. Defendant NCA sent the letter with actual (or constructive) knowledge that no such communications or conversations related to payment arrangements had occurred.
- 16. Defendant NCA sent the letters to Plaintiff in an attempt to collect funds from Plaintiff, and were designed to induce Plaintiff to make a payment or to call Defendant NCA.
- 17. The template collection letters used by Defendant were objectively confusing, false, and misleading to an unsophisticated consumer.
- 18. Defendant NCA's letter to Plaintiff illegally attempts to collect a debt from Plaintiff in violation of 15 USC §§ 1692d, 1692e, 1692e(2), 1692e(10), and 1692f.
- 19. The letter caused Plaintiff anxiety, concern, fear and worry that someone other than himself was communicating about his alleged debt with Defendant and/or that he was the victim of identity theft and Defendant may be providing confidential personal and private identifying information about him to others.

CLASS ALLEGATIONS

20. Plaintiff brings this action individually and as a class action, pursuant to Rules 23(a) and 23(b) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, on behalf of the following class:
CONSISTING OF (A) ALL NATURAL PERSONS IN THE STATE OF WISCONSIN (B)
WHO WERE SENT A COLLECTION LETTER IN THE FORM REPRESENTED BY
EXHIBIT A, (C) SEEKING TO COLLECT A DEBT FOR PERSONAL, FAMILY OR
HOUSEHOLD PURPOSES, (D) WITHIN ONE (1) YEAR PRIOR TO THE FILING OF
THIS COMPLAINT (E) THAT WAS NOT RETURNED BY THE POSTAL SERVICE.
Upon information and belief, the class is so numerous that joinder of all members is impracticable. The precise number of Class members is known only to Defendant, but is believed to be above 100.

- 21. There are questions of law and fact common to the Class that predominate over any questions affecting only individual Class members. The predominant common question is whether the Defendant complied with 15 U.S.C. §§ 1692d, 1692e, 1692e(2), 1692e(10), and 1692f.
- 22. Plaintiff's claims are typical of the claims of the Class, which all arise from the same operative facts and are based on the same legal theories.
- 23. Plaintiff will fairly and adequately protect the interests of the Class. Plaintiff is committed to vigorously litigating this matter and has retained counsel experienced in handling class actions and claims involving unlawful collection practices. Neither Plaintiff nor her counsel has any interests which might cause her not to vigorously pursue this claim.
- 24. This action should be maintained as a class action because the prosecution of separate actions by individual members of the Class would create a risk of inconsistent or varying adjudications with respect to individual members which would establish incompatible standards of conduct for the parties opposing the Class, as well as a risk of adjudications with respect to individual members which would as a practical matter be dispositive of the interests of other members not parties to the adjudications or substantially impair or impede their ability to protect their interests.
- 25. A class action is a superior method for the fair and efficient adjudication of this controversy. The interest of Class members in individually controlling the prosecution of separate claims against Defendants is slight because the maximum statutory damages are limited to \$1,000.00 under the FDCPA. Management of the Class claims is likely to present significantly fewer difficulties than those presented in many individual claims.

- The identities of the Class members may be obtained from Defendant's records.
- 26. This Class Action seeks statutory damages for the class based on the common injuries sustained by Plaintiff and the putative class.

CAUSES OF ACTION

COUNT I. VIOLATIONS OF THE FAIR DEBT COLLECTION PRACTICES ACT

- 27. Plaintiff incorporates by reference as if fully set forth herein the allegations contained in the preceding paragraphs of this Complaint.
- 28. Exhibit A seeks to collect from Plaintiff by falsely implying or stating that a prior settlement or payment discussion had occurred.
- 29. 15 U.S.C. § 1692d prohibits, in relevant part, the use of: "unfair or unconscionable means to collect or attempt to collect any debt."
- 30. 15 U.S.C. § 1692e prohibits, in relevant part: "any false, deceptive, or misleading representation or means in connection with the collection of any debt."
- 31. 15 U.S.C. § 1692e(2) prohibits, in relevant part: "The false representation of (A) the character, amount, or legal status of any debt."
- 32. 15 U.S.C. § 1692e(10) prohibits: "The use of any false representation or deceptive means to collect or attempt to collect any debt or to obtain information concerning a consumer."
- 33. 15 U.S.C. § 1692f prohibits, in relevant part: "any conduct the natural consequence of which is to harass, oppress, or abuse any person in connection with the collection of a debt."
- 34. By sending a letter stating that a prior (failed) discussion to settle or establish payment arrangements had occurred, Defendant NCA violated 15 U.S.C. §§ 1692d, 1692e,

1692e(2), 1692e(10), and 1692f and caused Plaintiff actual damages in the form of emotional distress and mental anguish.

TRIAL BY JURY

35. Plaintiff is entitled to and hereby demands a trial by jury. U.S. Const. Amend. 7; Fed. R. Civ. Pro. 38.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff respectfully prays that relief be granted as follows:

- That judgment be entered against Defendant for actual and statutory damages pursuant to 15 U.S.C. § 1692k(a)(2)(A) and (B);
- That the Court award costs and reasonable attorneys' fees, pursuant to 15 U.S.C. § 1692k(a)(3);
- That an order be entered certifying the proposed Class under Rule 23 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure and appointing Plaintiff and her counsel to represent the Class;
- That the Court grant declaratory and injunctive relief, in the form of finding Defendant's conduction to violate the law and prohibiting them from continuing their collection practices; and
- That the Court grants such other and further relief as may be just and proper.

Dated this 30th day of July, 2018

Respectfully submitted,

By: s/ Nathan E. DeLadurantey
Nathan E. DeLadurantey, (WI #1063937)
DELADURANTEY LAW OFFICE, LLC
330 S. Executive Drive, Suite 109
Brookfield, WI 53005
Telephone: (414) 377-0515
Facsimile: (414) 755-0860

Facsimile: (414) 755-0860 Nathan@dela-law.com

Thomas J. Lyons, Jr., Esq. (MN #249646) CONSUMER JUSTICE CENTER, P.A. 367 Commerce Court Vadnais Heights, MN 55127 Telephone: (651) 770-9707 Facsimile: (651) 704-0907

tommycjc@aol.com

ATTORNEYS FOR PLAINTIFF

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.

the civil docket sheet. (SEE IN			1 Division		
Place an "X" in the appropri	riate box:	/ Division 🗡 Milwau	kee Division		
I. (a) PLAINTIFFS Michael Parajecki			DEFENDANTS National Credit A	djusters, LLC	
(b) County of Residence	of First Listed Plaintiff WAXCEPT IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CA	/aukesha ^{SES)}	County of Residence	of First Listed Defendant (IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES OF LAND CONDEMNATION CONDEMNATI	ASES, USE THE LOCATION OF
(c) Attomeys (Firm Name, DeLadurantey Law Off 330 S. Executive Drive			Attorneys (If Known)		
II. BASIS OF JURISD	ICTION (Place an "X"	in One Box Only)	I. CITIZENSHIP OF P. (For Diversity Cases Only)	RINCIPAL PARTIES	(Place an "X" in One Box for Plaintiff) and One Box for Defendant)
□ 1 U.S. Government Plaintiff	X 3 Federal Question (U.S. Government?)	Not a Party)	P	TF DEF 1	PTF DEF incipal Place
☐ 2 U.S. Government Defendant	☐ 4 Diversity (Indicate Citizenshi	p of Parties in Item III)	Citizen of Another State	2	_
			Citizen or Subject of a Foreign Country	3	□ 6 □ 6
IV. NATURE OF SUIT	•	* /			
CONTRACT		RTS	FORFEITURE/PENALTY	BANKRUPTCY	OTHER STATUTES
□ 110 Insurance □ 120 Marine □ 130 Miller Act □ 140 Negotiable Instrument □ 150 Recovery of Overpayment	PERSONAL INJURY 310 Airplane 315 Airplane Product Liability 320 Assault, Libel & Slander 330 Federal Employers' Liability 340 Marine 345 Marine Product Liability 350 Motor Vehicle Product Liability 360 Other Personal Injury 362 Personal Injury - Med. Malpractice CIVIL RIGHTS 440 Other Civil Rights 441 Voting 442 Employment 443 Housing/ Accommodations 445 Amer. w/Disabilities - Employment 446 Amer. w/Disabilities - Other 448 Education	PERSONAL INJURY 365 Personal Injury - Product Liability 367 Health Care/ Pharmaceutical Personal Injury Product Liability 368 Asbestos Personal Injury Product Liability PERSONAL PROPERTY 370 Other Fraud 371 Truth in Lending 380 Other Personal Property Damage 385 Property Damage 385 Property Damage Product Liability PRISONER PETITIONS 510 Motions to Vacate Sentence Habeas Corpus: 530 General 535 Death Penalty 540 Mandamus & Other 550 Civil Rights 555 Prison Condition 560 Civil Detainee - Conditions of Confinement	□ 625 Drug Related Seizure of Property 21 USC 881 □ 690 Other □ 710 Fair Labor Standards Act □ 720 Labor/Mgmt. Relations □ 740 Railway Labor Act □ 751 Family and Medical Leave Act □ 790 Other Labor Litigation □ 791 Empl. Ret. Inc. Security Act □ IMMIGRATION □ 462 Naturalization Application □ 463 Habeas Corpus - Alien Detainee (Prisoner Petition) □ 465 Other Immigration Actions	□ 422 Appeal 28 USC 158 □ 423 Withdrawal 28 USC 157 PROPERTY RIGHTS □ 820 Copyrights □ 840 Trademark SOCIAL SECURITY □ 861 HIA (1395ff) □ 862 Black Lung (923) □ 863 DIWC/DIW W (405(g)) □ 864 SSID Title XVI □ 865 RSI (405(g)) FEDERAL TAX SUITS □ 870 Taxes (U.S. Plaintiff or Defendant) □ 871 IRS—Third Party 26 USC 7609	□ 375 False Claims Act □ 400 State Reapportionment □ 410 Antitrust □ 430 Banks and Banking □ 450 Commerce □ 460 Deportation □ 470 Racketeer Influenced and □ Corrupt Organizations ▼ 480 Consumer Credit □ 490 Cable/Sat TV □ 850 Securities/Commodities/ □ Exchange □ 890 Other Statutory Actions □ 891 Agricultural Acts □ 893 Environmental Matters □ 895 Freedom of Information □ Act □ 896 Arbitration □ 899 Administrative Procedure □ Act/Review or Appeal of □ Agency Decision □ 950 Constitutionality of □ State Statutes
☑ 1 Original ☐ 2 Re	ON Cite the U.S. Civil Starts 15 U.S.C. § 1692 Brief description of car Violation of the F	Appellate Court utute under which you are f uuse: air Debt Collection Pr IS A CLASS ACTION	Reinstated of Sanothe Reopened (specifiling (Do not cite jurisdictional storage)	atutes unless diversity):	if demanded in complaint:
VIII. RELATED CASI	E(S) (See instructions):	JUDGE		DOCKET NUMBER	
DATE 07/30/2018		signature of attor s/ Nathan E. DeL			
FOR OFFICE USE ONLY					

RECEIPT # AMOUS



DEPT 835 5228577118066
PO BOX 4115
CONCORD CA 94524

June 14, 2018

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

The state of the s

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL MICHAEL PARAJECKI

W253S10960 HUNTERS RUN MUKWONAGO WI 53149-8864



PO Box 3023 - 327 W 4th St. Hutchinson, KS 67504-3023 Toll Free: 1-877-824-9372 Fax: 620-664-5947 www.ncaks.com

NCA Acct #

Current Balance:

\$7,308.51

Original Creditor:

Cash Central

Original Acct #:

6998942

Current Owner:

Reviver Financial, LLC

Serviced By:

National Credit Adjusters, LLC

Dear MICHAEL PARAJECKI,

This letter is to confirm that you and National Credit Adjusters were not able to agree to a payment arrangement on the account referenced above during our most recent communication. If for any reason there is a misunderstanding, and it is your wish to resolve the delinquency through means satisfactory to both parties, please contact National Credit Adjusters at 1-877-824-9372 and an NCA account manager will assist you.

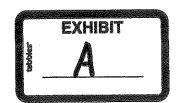
If you wish to resolve this account without speaking to an NCA account manager, please go online to www.NCAKS.com/pay-online.htm and enter your NCA account number (along with your five digit zip code printed on this letter. This online service is available 24 hours a day.

If you have secured prior arrangements with NCA before receipt of this letter, and the arrangements are still active, please disregard this notice.

This communication is from a debt collector attempting to collect a debt. All information obtained will be used for that purpose.

Sincerely,

National Credit Adjusters 1-877-824-9372 Toll Free



UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

for the Eastern District of Wisconsin

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Michael Pa)
Plaintif	f(s))
V.) Civil Action No. 18-cv-1167
)
)
National Credit A	djusters, LLC,)
Defenda	nt(s))
		The A. Course of
	SUMMONS	IN A CIVIL ACTION
To: (Defendant's name and address)	National Credit Adjusters, 327 W. 4th Street Hutchinson, KS 67504	LLC
A lawsuit has been fil	ed against you.	
the United States or a United 12(a)(2) or (3) – you must se	States agency, or an offi erve on the plaintiff an an	
If you fail to respond You also must file your answe		be entered against you for the relief demanded in the complaint.
		STEPHEN C. DRIES, CLERK OF COURT
Date:		
		Signature of Clerk or Deputy Clerk

Civil Action No. 18-cv-1167

PROOF OF SERVICE

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

ceived by me on (date)	·		
☐ I personally served t	the summons and the attached con	applaint on the individual at (place):	
		on (date)	; or
☐ I left the summons a	and the attached complaint at the i	ndividual's residence or usual place of a	abode with
	, a <u>r</u>	erson of suitable age and discretion wh	o resides t
on (date)	, and mailed a copy	to the individual's last known address;	or
☐ I served the summon	ns and the attached complaint on (name of individual)	
who is designated by lav	w to accept service of process on 1	pehalf of (name of organization)	
\mathcal{C}	w to accept service of process on t		
	w to decept service of process on t	on (date)	; or
		on (date)	; or
☐ I returned the summ	ons unexecuted because	On (date)	; or
☐ I returned the summ		On (date)	; or
☐ I returned the summ ☐ Other (specify):	ons unexecuted because	On (date)	; or
☐ I returned the summ ☐ Other (specify): My fees are \$	ons unexecuted because	on (date) for services, for a total of \$; or
☐ I returned the summ ☐ Other (specify): My fees are \$	for travel and \$	on (date) for services, for a total of \$; or
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☐ I returned the summ ☐ Other (specify): My fees are \$ I declare under penalty of	for travel and \$	on (date) for services, for a total of \$ rue. Server's signature	; or

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: National Credit Adjusters Accused of FDCPA Violations in Lawsuit