UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF FLORIDA WEST PALM BEACH DIVISION

TABITHA PARKER, individually and on behalf of all others similarly situated,

Plaintiff,

v.	Civil No.	
INTERACTIVE DATA, LLC,	JURY TRIAL DEMANDED	
Defendant.	JUNI I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I	

CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT

Named Plaintiff, Tabitha Parker, individually and on behalf of all other similarly situated individuals, for his Class Action Complaint and alleges the following individual and class claims against Interactive Data, LLC ("Defendant" or "IDI"), and in support thereof states as follows:

PRELIMINARY STATEMENT

- 1. Plaintiff brings this action against Defendant for violations of the Fair Credit Reporting Act ("FCRA"), 15 U.S.C. §§ 1681a–x, which imposes several important requirements on consumer reporting agencies ("CRAs"), such as the Defendant, that sell employment-related consumer reports (even if Defendant denies what it sells actually constitutes a "consumer report").
- 2. The Named Plaintiff was denied employment opportunities because of Defendant's actions described herein, resulting in a lost job, lost pay, and lost benefits.
- 3. Defendant is a company that used automated processes to webscrape criminal histories from court websites, or purchased such records in bulk, and assign them to specific

consumers – largely based on name alone. It sold these records to its various customers, including one that issued a report to Plaintiff's former employer.

- 4. Ultimately, Plaintiff lost a job opportunity because of a background check generated by Defendant, and because Defendant has unilaterally (and illegally) decided the reports it sells do not qualify as "consumer reports." Thus, neither Plaintiff nor the putative class members were provided with any of the rights afforded them under the FCRA, not the least of which are the notification requirements mandated by 15 U.S.C. § 1681k(a)(1), where a consumer reporting agency ("CRA") like Defendant must notify consumers when it furnishes derogatory information to be used as part of an employer's hiring process.
- 5. Regardless of the context, anyone that, like Defendant, issues consumer reports must adhere to the FCRA's foundational mandate of having in place reasonable procedures to ensure the maximum possible accuracy of the information they report.
- 6. The FCRA also includes multiple provisions aimed at providing consumers with transparency regarding when information is reported about them, and the substance of that information.
 - 7. Here Plaintiff alleges that Defendant violated the FCRA in several ways.
- 8. First, because it claims not to be governed by the FCRA, when the Plaintiff requested a copy of her full file from Defendant, the Defendant failed to provide all of the information in its file about each requesting consumer (commonly known as a file disclosure), as well as the sources of that information, and to whom Defendant gave any information about Plaintiff.

- 9. Because it claims not to be governed by the FCRA, when the Plaintiff requested a copy of her full file from Defendant, Defendant failed to provide all of the information reported about each requesting consumer (commonly known as a file disclosure).
- 10. As a result, Defendant violated 15 U.S.C. § 1681g(a), which requires that a CRA provide not only "all information", but also "the sources of the information" in the consumer's file, and comprehensive list of everyone, including end-users, to whom the CRA has provided a report about the consumer. 15 U.S.C. § 1681g(a)(1)–(3). *See* Count I (class claim).
- 11. Second, Defendant also violated 15 U.S.C. § 1681k by furnishing consumer reports containing public information likely to have an adverse effect on a consumer's ability to obtain employment but failing to provide at the time notification to the consumer that such information was being reported and to whom it was being reported. *See* Count II (class claim).
- 12. Third, Defendant violates the prohibition on publishing obsolete information in violation of 15 U.S.C. § 1681c(a)(2), including as to the report generated on Plaintiff. *See* Count III (class claim).
- 13. Finally, Defendant failed to follow reasonable procedures required under the FCRA to ensure "maximum possible accuracy" of the information it reported about Plaintiff. 15 U.S.C. § 1681e(b). *See* Count IV (individual claim).

PARTIES

- 14. Plaintiff is a "consumer" as defined by 15 U.S.C. § 1681a.
- 15. Defendant is a limited-liability company with its principal place of business in Boca Raton, Florida, and doing business in in this District.

- 16. Defendant is a "consumer reporting agency," as defined by 15 U.S.C. § 1681a(f), that compiles, sells, furnishes, and uses consumer reports and services in the Southern District of Florida, and throughout the United States.
- 17. Defendant obtains consumer information bearing on consumers' character, general reputation, personal characteristics and mode of living from a myriad of publicly available sources such as criminal and traffic records, social security number information, sex offender registries, etc.
- 18. After acquiring consumer information from its sources, Defendant regularly assembles that information into a report, which it then sells to third parties. In this case, Defendant sold information to Osa Consulting, which was hired by Plaintiff's former employer to do a background check on her relating to her employment.
- 19. The employer in turn used the report that contained the information from Defendant for an employment purpose (to fire Plaintiff).
- 20. Defendant sells such consumer reports to customers throughout the country, using facilities of interstate commerce to transmit such reports, including but not limited to electronic transmission.

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

- 21. The Court has subject matter jurisdiction pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1331 and 15 U.S.C. § 1681p.
- 22. Venue is proper in the Southern District of Florida because Defendant is subject to personal jurisdiction in this District and Division, and sells consumer reports regarding individuals residing in this District from its business located in this District (including on Plaintiff). 28 U.S.C. § 1391(c).

FACTS

A. Defendant is a Consumer Reporting Agency

- 23. Despite the fact that Defendant is a consumer reporting agency and sells consumer reports as defined by the FCRA, it attempts to avoid its obligations under the FCRA by disclaiming FCRA governance in its marketing materials and contracts with third parties.
- 24. Despite its statements to the contrary, Defendant specifically markets itself as a company that provides information and services that are governed by the FCRA.
- 25. For example, one of the services Defendant provides is known as idiCORE reports. According to its website, "[c]omprised of credit header, public record, publicly-available and proprietary data, idiCORE provides intelligent insight into people, businesses, assets, and interrelationships."¹
- 26. Also according to its website, Defendant "[t]hrough proprietary linking technology, advanced systems architecture and a massive data repository, idiCORE provides actionable intelligence to support debt recovery, fraud detection and prevention, investigations, due diligence, identity verification, legislative compliance, and more."²
- 27. But, in a transparent effort to avoid liability for failure to comply with the FCRA, Defendant also includes FCRA-related disclaimers on its website.³

¹ See https://www.ididata.com/solutions/idicore/, last accessed January 21, 2022.

² See id.

³ For example, currently Defendant includes the following disclaimer on its website:

IDI is not a "consumer reporting agency" and its services do not constitute "consumer reports," as these terms are defined by the Fair Credit Reporting Act, 15 U.S.C. § 1681 et seq. ("FCRA"). IDI services may not be used in whole or in part as a factor in establishing an individual's eligibility for credit, insurance, employment nor for any other purpose under the FCRA.

- 28. Further, because Defendant provides information to companies like Osa, which then use the consumer reports for an employment purpose, Defendant has consented to the FCRA's governance of its activities.
- 29. Moreover, Defendant knows or has reason to know that the information it sells to customers like Osa will end up in consumer reports that are used for FCRA purposes and are therefore governed by the Act.
 - 30. Yet, Defendant maintains the charade that the FCRA does not apply to it.
- 31. The FCRA imposes several obligations upon Defendant which are not only well-established, but they are easy to follow. It is clear from the Defendant's website—it knows about the FCRA and has chosen not to abide by its strictures despite collecting and selling information that falls under the Act's provisions.
- 32. Despite marketing its solutions as including public records such as criminal history, among many other things, Defendant disclaims that the information in the reports that it markets and sells for FCRA purposes can be used for such purposes.
- 33. Defendant is aware of the entire text of the FCRA and its legislative history, as well as the regulatory oversight by the Federal Trade Commission.
- 34. Defendant accesses large databases of public records and related employment histories as a nationwide CRA. It accesses and compiles databases to prepare and furnish consumer reports for employment and other FCRA purposes.
- 35. Plaintiff's former employer fired Plaintiff and other putative class members based in whole or in part on the contents of the consumer reports Defendant sold about them.
- 36. Discovery will show that other employers did the same based upon information provided by Defendant in the employment context.

- 37. Defendant does not supply any notice to consumers about whom it has sold a report containing adverse employment information to a third party, such as the criminal records in the cases of Plaintiff (nor any of the putative class members).
- 38. Providing notice that it has supplied a consumer report containing negative criminal background information at the time it supplies such a report to the third-party CRA or employer arms the nation's millions of job applicants with the knowledge and information needed to challenge inaccurate, incomplete, and misleading public-records-based consumer reports. The FCRA is designed to permit individuals whose reports are inaccurate with ample time to identify the inaccuracies and correct them before the employer has made an employment decision.
- 39. Or, even if the report is entirely accurate, consumers still have the right to know that Defendant is supplying information about them that may negatively impact their job prospects. This notice permits consumers the opportunity to discuss potentially negative information preemptively with employers, so they may blunt the impact of such information.
- 40. Defendant likewise does not maintain any procedure by which it ensures that the information it reports to its customers is complete or up-to-date. *See* 15 U.S.C. § 1681k(a)(2). Defendant therefore cannot rely on this option for complying with 15 U.S.C. § 1681k(a).

B. Facts Regarding Plaintiff

- 41. Plaintiff was a victim of an inaccurate consumer report sold by Defendant and eventually to her former employer, Stellar Partners, who purposed the Plaintiff's consumer report and subsequently used it for an employment purpose when firing Plaintiff.
- 42. Plaintiff was terminated from her job at Stellar Partners because Stellar Partners relied on the inaccurate and derogatory consumer report about her. Defendant obtained and sold a significant portion of the data that was included in that report.

- 43. More specifically, Plaintiff applied to work for Stellar Partners in August of 2019. Stellar Partners is one of the largest airport retail operators in the United States, with more than thirty-eight locations across ten U.S. airports in fourteen states.
- 44. As part of its hiring processes, Stellar and its subsidiaries use background checks to make employment decisions. Because such employment decisions are based in whole or in part on the contents of the background checks, all parties involved with the sale and use of the consumer report on Plaintiff were obligated to adhere to certain requirements of the FCRA.
- 45. Stellar originally hired Osa Consulting Group, LLC, in August of 2019 to perform a pre-employment background check on Plaintiff, the reporting of which information is subject to the FCRA's strictures. The FCRA imposes several important accuracy and transparency requirements on consumer reporting agencies ("CRAs") like Osa, which are designed to protect consumers like Plaintiff.
- 46. Such protections also apply to Defendant in its role as a CRA. Discovery will confirm that Defendant supplied information to Osa, which Osa then repackaged and furnished to Stellar as part of Stellar's background-check process for applicants like Plaintiff.
- 47. Additionally, because Defendant misrepresented to Osa that: (1) it was not a consumer reporting agency; and, (2) that the background check on Plaintiff which Osa had purchased from Defendant was not a consumer report, and Osa then repacked and sold that report to Stellar who, in turn, failed to provide Plaintiff with the requisite pre-adverse and adverse action notices required by the FCRA under 15 U.S.C. § 1681b(b)(3).
- 48. Osa bought a consumer report from Defendant, which contained information Osa included in its own report to Plaintiff's potential employer in approximately August of 2019.

- 49. At the time it sold information purporting to be about Plaintiff to Osa, Defendant knew or had reason to know that Osa would use the information for an FCRA-governed purpose—employment.
- 50. That report contained the erroneous criminal record supplied first in a consumer report compiled by Defendant. In fact, many of the entries in the report, including allegations of theft, simply do not belong to Plaintiff.
- 51. By way of example, the report states that on August 11, 2007 Ms. Parker was charged with a "Misdemeanor for Retail Theft," found guilty, and sentenced to 15 days in the county jail. But Plaintiff has never been arrested for theft, never been convicted of a crime, nor has she ever been to jail.
- 52. Worse still, the report erroneously alleges Plaintiff was charged with the second-degree felony for aggravated battery on a pregnant female in Hillsborough County, Florida, and even includes a mugshot. But Plaintiff has never been charged with a felony *and the photograph* in the mugshot is not Plaintiff, but another person entirely.
- 53. The report is full of similar errors wrongly attributing to Plaintiff crimes she simply did not commit, including an additional felony charge for passing altered or forged instruments and larceny, an erroneous charge for misdemeanor larceny, and another misdemeanor charge for allegedly violating a pre-trial release. Simply put, these criminal charges belonged to someone else and they were costing Plaintiff her job with Stellar.
- 54. As a result of the erroneous consumer report sold to Osa by Defendant, Plaintiff was left jobless and humiliated.
- 55. Because of Defendant's actions, Plaintiff lost her job and lost her salary. She also lost health benefits.

- 56. Plaintiff was unaware that the consumer report Osa repackaged and sold to Stellar in August of 2019 was actually an idiCore report generated by Defendant and then sold to Osa. It was not until after she sued Osa and Stellar in another lawsuit that she learned the consumer report was originally purchased from Defendant.
- 57. More specifically, it was not until around February 4, 2021, after she sued Osa and Stellar, that Plaintiff first received a copy of the consumer report generated by Defendant that was then sold to Osa, repackaged, and sold to Stellar who then used it to fire/not hire Plaintiff. Previously, the copy of the report provided to Plaintiff had been repackaged by Osa and sold to Stellar as an Osa "Comprehensive Report."
- 58. Plaintiff could not have discovered that Defendant sold a report about her to Osa any sooner, owing in large part to Defendant's failure to abide by the FCRA's requirement that it notify her when it was reporting to Osa negative information about her in the employment context.
- 59. Defendant's deceit therefore worked, as it was able to keep itself secret until Plaintiff sued Osa and Stellar and then, through discovery in litigation, learned Defendant's identity.
- 60. Hoping to get to the bottom of the inaccuracies in the report, Plaintiff wrote to Defendant and asked for her Section 1681g file disclosure on October 21, 2021. Defendant refused to comply with 1681g, instead responding as follows:

We are confirming receipt of the letter you sent via Federal Express. Please note that the comprehensive report that you have provided about yourself is not a report generated by Interactive Data, LLC (IDI). Please also note that, even if it was, IDI is not a "consumer reporting agency" and its services do not constitute "consumer reports," as these terms are defined by the Fair Credit Reporting Act, 15 U.S.C. § 1681 et seq. ("FCRA"). IDI services may not be used in whole or in part as a factor in establishing an individual's eligibility for credit, insurance, employment nor for any other purpose under the FCRA. For more information about IDI, please visit www.IDIPrivacyPolicy.com. We trust that this resolves this matter.

- 61. Notably, in addition to failing to provide all the information it possesses about consumers like Plaintiff, Defendant also failed to disclose any sources of information it possessed about Plaintiff, and it did not provide a list of recipients of information, including, for example, Osa.
- 62. Plaintiff asserts a nationwide class claims against Defendant under 15 U.S.C. § 1681g, because Plaintiff requested her full file disclosure from Defendant, and Defendant failed to provide the information required by 15 U.S.C. § 1681g.
- 63. Plaintiff also asserts a nationwide class claims against Defendant under 15 U.S.C. § 1681k(a), because it provided Osa with a consumer report containing inaccurate criminal information likely to adversely affect Plaintiff's ability to obtain employment without providing Plaintiff with notice at the time it provided the report to Osa.
- 64. Defendant likewise has in place no strict procedures designed to ensure public-record information it reported was complete and up-to-date, so it cannot rely on the procedures requirement of Section 1681k(a)(2) as the means to comply with Section 1681k.
- 65. Additionally, Plaintiff asserts a nationwide class claims against Defendant under 15 U.S.C. § 1681c(a)(2). Defendant regularly violates the prohibition on publishing obsolete information in violation of 15 U.S.C. § 1681c(a)(2), including as to the report generated on Plaintiff.
- 66. Plaintiff also brings an individual claim under 15 U.S.C. § 1681e(b) against Defendant because of inaccuracies contained in her consumer report.
- 67. Plaintiff alleges Defendant does not have in place reasonable procedures designed to assure the maximum possible accuracy of the information it reports.

- 68. Among other things, the FCRA regulates the collection, maintenance, and disclosure of consumer credit report information by CRAs, including public record information like criminal history.
- 69. Additionally, the FCRA mandates conditions, procedures, and limitations on the use of consumer reports for employment purposes by CRAs, prospective employers, and other individuals.
- 70. The FCRA mandates that a report user, before taking any adverse action based in whole or in part on a consumer report, must provide to the consumer a copy of the applicant's report and a summary of the applicant's rights under the FCRA.
 - 71. Defendant has an independent obligation to comply with the FCRA.
- 72. Defendant's violations of the FCRA have been willful, wanton, and reckless in that it knew, or should have known, that it was failing to comply with the requirements of the FCRA.
- 73. Defendant willfully disregards its duties under the FCRA, which exacts serious consequences on job applicants and interstate commerce. The natural result of Defendant's failures to abide by the conditions, procedures and limitations of the FCRA prejudices consumers' ability to challenge information contained in consumer reports it sells to third parties.
- 74. Defendant does not provide notification to consumers that it furnished an employment-purposed consumer report containing a criminal record likely to adversely affect employment *at the time* it provides the report to third parties.
- 75. Defendant expressly disclaims that it is providing consumer reports for employment purposes, yet it knowingly supplies such reports to third parties that it knows uses the reports for employment purposes.

- 76. Given this lack of notice, if consumers are lucky enough to learn that Defendant reported information about them, Defendant freezes them out when these consumers ask for their file disclosures.
- 77. Instead of revealing the information it possesses, the sources, and to whom it has provided such information, Defendant simply ignores the request for information by denying the consumer report it generated is, in fact, one governed by the FCRA.
- 78. This is problematic not just because it fails to meet the most-basic disclosure requirement the FCRA demands, but Defendant does not let consumers know where it obtained the information it is reporting, or to whom Defendant gave it.
- 79. Adding to the difficulty, wading through Defendant's litany of disclaimers that the information may not be accurate and the FCRA does not govern it, nowhere does Defendant even commit that the information it provides consumers is also information it provided to someone else.
- 80. Such secrecy and misdirection are the antithesis of the transparency Congress anticipated when it enacted Section 1681g.

CLASS ACTION ALLEGATIONS

PLAINTIFF'S PROPOSED CLASSES

- 81. Plaintiff brings this action on a class basis, with initial class definitions that follow.
- 82. *The § 1681g Disclosure Class*. Plaintiff brings this action for himself and on behalf of the following "Section 1681g Disclosure Class," of which he is a member, initially defined as:

All natural persons residing in the United States (including all territories and other political subdivisions of the United States) who requested their full file disclosure from Defendant on or after the date two years before the filing of this lawsuit.

83. *The § 1681k(a)(1) Notice Class*. Pursuant to Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 23 and 15 U.S.C. § 1681k, Plaintiff brings this action for himself and on behalf of the following "Section 1681k Notice Class," of which he is a member, initially defined as:

All natural persons residing in the United States (including all territories and other political subdivisions of the United States) (a) who were the subject of the sale by Defendant of one or more criminal public records after two years before the filing of this lawsuit, (b) sold to a consumer reporting agency that resold the data to an end-user for an employment purpose, (c) or sold directly to an end user (other than the consumer) for an employment purpose, (d) to whom Defendant did not place in the United States mail postage pre-paid, on the day it furnished the report, a written notice to the subject consumer that it was furnishing the report and containing the name of the person that was to receive the report.

84. The § 1681c(a) Obsolete Information Class. Plaintiff brings this class action on behalf of the following "Obsolete Information Class," of which she is a member, initially defined as:

All natural persons residing in the United States (including all territories and other political subdivisions of the United States), (a) who were the subject of the sale by Defendant of one or more criminal public records to a third party (b) on or after two years before the filing of this lawsuit, (c) containing a record of an arrest, or other instance of criminal history other than a conviction, antedating the report by more than seven years.

- 85. **Numerosity.** Upon information and belief, the putative Classes exceed 40 members each. Information concerning the exact size of the putative Class is within the exclusive possession of Defendant or its agents. The Class members are so numerous and geographically dispersed that joinder of all members is impracticable.
- 86. **Typicality.** Plaintiff's claims are typical of the claims of the other Class members as all Class members were similarly affected by Defendant's unlawful conduct in violation of the FCRA.

- 87. **Adequacy.** Plaintiff will fairly and adequately protect the interest of the Class Members and have retained counsel competent and experienced in complex litigation. Plaintiff is a member of the Classes and does not have any interests antagonistic to or in conflict with the members of the Classes. Plaintiff's claims are the same as those of the Classes, which all arise from the same operative facts and are based upon the same legal theories.
- 88. **Commonality.** Common questions of law and fact exist as to all Class members and predominate over any questions solely affecting individual Class members, including by example only and without limitation:
- a. Whether Defendant's uniform failure to provide timely notice that it was providing consumer reports for employment purposes containing a negative public record violated the FCRA;
- b. Whether Defendant maintains strict procedures designed to insure complete and up-to-date reports when it never obtains a complete and up-to-date court record, therefore § 168lk(a)(2) is inapplicable;
- d. Whether Defendant supplied consumer reports that contain non-conviction criminal history that antedated the report by more than seven years;
- e. Whether Defendant supplied employment-purposed consumer reports to users without a permissible purpose to do so in violation of 15 U.S.C. § 1681e(a);
- f. Whether Defendant's full file disclosures meet the requirements of 15 U.S.C. § 1681g;
 - g. Whether Defendant's violations of the FCRA were "willful."

- 89. **Superiority.** A class action is superior to other available methods for the fair and efficient adjudication of this controversy because the membership of the Classes is so numerous and involves claims that, taken individually, may not justify the costs and effort of bringing suit.
- 90. Further, the prosecution of several actions by individual members of the Classes would create a risk of varying adjudications with respect to members of the Classes, as well as create inconsistent standards of conduct for those opposing the Classes. Additionally, individual actions by members of the Classes may be dispositive of the interests of other members not parties to the adjudication of the claim, which would impair or impede the ability of those individuals to protect their interests.
- 91. **Predominance.** The claims of the class members, including the common questions of law and fact, predominate over any individual facts or legal issues present in the class claims. There are no factual or legal issues that differ among the putative class members. The principal issues are: (a) whether Defendant sold a consumer report to third parties about Plaintiff and each putative class member for a permissible purpose; (b) whether Defendant had reasonable procedures in place to comply with the FCRA; (c) whether Defendant required that prospective users of the information identify themselves, certify the purposes for which the information is sought, and certify that the information will be used for no other purpose; (d) whether Defendant made a reasonable effort to verify the uses certified by Pinkerton prior to furnishing such user a consumer report; (e) whether and how Defendant maintained strict procedures to ensure that the criminal public records were complete and up-to-date; (f) whether Defendant received advice, guidance, counsel, or legal advice that it was not a consumer reporting agency and/or that the reports it compiled and sold to third parties were consumer reports; (h) whether Defendant delivers

compliant full-file disclosures; and (i) whether Defendant acted willfully. Defendants' violations were negligent, reckless, knowing or intentionally committed in conscious disregard for the rights of the Plaintiff and putative Class Members.

92. The members of the classes can be identified and ascertained by using the Defendant's records, records maintained by its customers and the end-users of consumer reports furnished by Defendant to its clients.

<u>COUNT ONE – CLASS CLAIM</u> Incomplete Disclosures – Violation of 15 U.S.C. § 1681g(a)

- 93. Plaintiff reiterates each of the allegations in the preceding paragraphs as if set forth herein at length.
- 94. Plaintiff requested from Defendant her full file disclosure as permitted by the FCRA.
- 95. Section 1681g required Defendant to respond with all of the information it possessed about Plaintiff, including the sources of such information, as well as a list of those third parties to whom Defendant furnished information.
- 96. Defendant instead provided a litany of excuses as to why it supposedly did not have to comply with Plaintiff's requests, as well as a non-compliant, inaccurate criminal history search about Plaintiff.
- 97. Defendant violated 15 U.S.C. § 1681g(a) by refusing to provide all of the information it possessed about Plaintiff, as required by Section 1681g(a).
- 98. Defendant knew that the FCRA required it to provide a fulsome disclosure, including all the information it possessed about Plaintiff at the time of her request, the sources of

that information, and a list of the entities—like Osa—to whom it had provided information about Plaintiff.

- 99. Despite this knowledge and the easy-to interpret and follow statutory mandates, Defendant failed to meet its statutory duties to provide valid disclosures.
- 100. As a result, Plaintiff was deprived of information to which is statutorily entitled, and was also prevented from being able to learn the sources of information so that she could potentially correct inaccuracies Defendant was perpetuating about her, as well as being kept in the dark as to whom Defendant had provided information about her.
- 101. As to Plaintiff and the "Disclosure Class," Defendant regularly fails to provide fulsome file disclosures in violation of 15 U.S.C. § 1681g(a).
- 102. As a result of the failure to provide compliant disclosures, Plaintiff and the "1681g Disclosure Class" were subjected to the deprivation of information to which Congress has deemed them entitled to upon a simple request.
 - 103. The value of a full file disclosure is significant and easily greater than \$12.50.
- 104. The denial of the full information required in such disclosure caused actual monetary harm in some amount at or over \$12.50.
- 105. The conduct, action, and inaction of Defendant was willful, rendering it liable for statutory and punitive damages in an amount to be determined by the Court pursuant to 15 U.S.C. § 1681n.
- 106. Plaintiff and other members of the putative "1681g Disclosure Class" are entitled to recover costs and attorneys' fees as well as appropriate equitable relief from Defendant in an amount to be determined by the Court pursuant to 15 U.S.C. § 1681n.

<u>COUNT TWO – CLASS CLAIM</u> Failure To Provide "At The Time" Notice – Violation of 15 U.S.C. § 1681k(a)(1)

- 107. Plaintiff incorporates by reference those paragraphs set out above as though fully set forth herein.
- 108. The consumer report of Plaintiff and of each member of the "1681k Notice Class" was furnished for an employment purpose and contained one or more public records of the type that may adversely affect an employer's hiring decision.
- 109. As to Plaintiff and the "1681k Notice Class," Defendant uniformly fails to comply with the rigors of FCRA § 1681k(a)(2) and therefore must necessarily rely on its compliance with § 1681k(a)(1).
- 110. On information and belief, Plaintiff alleges that Defendant obtains public records, including criminal records from a third-party consumer reporting agency or vendor, and does not attempt to obtain this information through its own courthouse searches.
- 111. On information and belief, Plaintiff alleges that as to the "1681k Notice Class," Defendant did not send such class members a notice pursuant to 15 U.S.C. § 1681k(a)(1).
- 112. On information and belief, Plaintiff alleges that as to the "1681k Notice Class," Defendant did not itself or by its own court researchers or vendors attempt to verify the completeness or current status of the public records pursuant to 15 U.S.C. § 1681k(a)(2), within 30 days before it furnishes and sells these records in one of its reports.
- 113. Defendant's failure to timely provide the required FCRA notices to the Plaintiff and other members of the "1681k Notice Class" violated 15 U.S.C. § 1681k(a)(1).

- 114. The conduct, action, and inaction of Defendant was willful, rendering it liable for statutory and punitive damages in an amount to be determined by the Court pursuant to 15 U.S.C. § 1681n.
- 115. Plaintiff and other members of the putative "1681k Notice Class" are entitled to recover costs and attorneys' fees as well as appropriate equitable relief from Defendant in an amount to be determined by the Court pursuant to 15 U.S.C. § 1681n.

COUNT THREE - CLASS CLAIM Obsolete Information - Violation of 15 U.S.C. § 1681c(a)

- 116. Plaintiff reiterates each of the allegations in the preceding paragraphs as if set forth herein at length.
- 117. The consumer report about Plaintiff reported numerous obsolete criminal arrest records that not only did not belong to her at all, but which antedated the report by more than seven years.
- 118. Defendant also included obsolete information for instance, records of arrests antedating the report by more than seven years in the consumer reports it sold to third parties about the putative class members.
- 119. Defendant violated 15 U.S.C. § 1681c(a)(2) by reporting arrest information that antedated the report by more than seven years.
- 120. Defendant knew that it was forbidden by the FCRA to publish criminal arrest information in a consumer report that is older than seven years, but despite this knowledge published the obsolete information anyway.

- 121. As to the Named Plaintiff and the "Obsolete Information Class," Defendant regularly violates the prohibition on publishing obsolete information in violation of 15 U.S.C. § 1681c(a)(2).
- 122. As a result of the publication of obsolete information, the Named Plaintiff and the "Obsolete Information Class" were subjected to the publication of information that was deemed obsolete by Congress and specially excluded from information permitted in consumer reports.
- 123. The conduct, action, and inaction of Defendant was willful, rendering it liable for statutory and punitive damages in an amount to be determined by the Court pursuant to 15 U.S.C. § 1681n.
- 124. Plaintiff and other members of the putative "Obsolete Information Class" are entitled to recover costs and attorneys' fees as well as appropriate equitable relief from Defendant in an amount to be determined by the Court pursuant to 15 U.S.C. § 1681n.

<u>COUNT FOUR – INDIVIDUAL CLAIM AGAINST DEFENDANT</u> Failure To Ensure Maximum Possible Accuracy – Violation of 15 U.S.C. § 1681e(b)

- 125. Plaintiff reiterates each of the allegations in the preceding paragraphs as if set forth at length herein.
- 126. The consumer report about Plaintiff inaccurately reported numerous erroneous, obsolete and expunged criminal records in a way that made it appear that the consumer had an active criminal record upon which an employment decision might be made, and indeed was made.
- 127. The report is rife with inaccuracies and errors. In fact, many of the entries in the report, including allegations of theft, simply do not belong to Plaintiff.
- 128. By way of example, the report states that on August 11, 2007 Ms. Parker was charged with a "Misdemeanor for Retail Theft," found guilty, and sentenced to 15 days in the

county jail. But Plaintiff has never been arrested for theft, never been convicted of a crime, nor has she ever been to jail.

- 129. Worse still, the report erroneously alleges Plaintiff was charged with the second-degree felony for aggravated battery on a pregnant female in Hillsborough County, Florida, and even includes a mugshot. But Plaintiff has never been charged with a felony *and the photograph* in the mugshot is not Plaintiff, but another person entirely.
- 130. The report is full of similar errors wrongly attributing to Plaintiff crimes she simply did not commit, including an additional felony charge for passing altered or forged instruments and larceny, an erroneous charge for misdemeanor larceny, and another misdemeanor charge for allegedly violating a pre-trial release. Simply put, these criminal charges belonged to someone else and they were costing Plaintiff her job with Stellar.
- 131. Defendant violated 15 U.S.C. § 1681e(b) by failing to establish or to follow reasonable procedures to assure maximum possible accuracy in the preparation of the consumer reports it furnished regarding Plaintiff.
- 132. As a result of this conduct by Defendant, Plaintiff suffered actual damages, including without limitation, by example only and as described herein on her behalf by Counsel: loss of employment, damage to reputation, embarrassment, humiliation, and other emotional and mental distress.
- 133. Defendant's violations of 15 U.S.C. § 1681e(b) were reckless or willful, rendering Defendant liable pursuant to 15 U.S.C. § 1681n. In the alternative, Defendant was negligent, entitling Plaintiff to recover under 15 U.S.C. § 1681o.

134. Plaintiff is entitled to recover actual damages and/or statutory damages, punitive damages, costs and attorneys' fees from Defendant in an amount to be determined by the Court pursuant to 15 U.S.C. §§ 1681n and 1681o.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff and the putative Classes respectfully pray for the following relief:

- A. An order certifying the proposed classes herein pursuant to FED. R. CIV. P. 23 and appointing the undersigned counsel to represent them;
- B. The creation of a common fund available to provide notice of and remedy Defendant's unlawful conduct;
- C. That judgment be entered for Plaintiff individually for actual and/or statutory damages and punitive damages against Defendant for violation of 15 U.S.C. § 1681e(b) and pursuant to 15 U.S.C. §§ 1681n and 1681o;
- D. Statutory and punitive damages for all class claims;
- E. Attorneys' fees, expenses and costs; and
- F. Pre-judgment and post-judgment interest as provided by law.

TRIAL BY JURY IS DEMANDED

Dated this 22nd day of February, 2022.

Respectfully submitted,

BRANDON HILL

Florida Bar No. 37061

LUIS A. CABASSA

Florida Bar No. 0053643

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byf, Hill

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Attorneys for Plaintiff

JS 44 (Rev. Case 1.2):22-CV2-80282-XXXX Document 11 Content of 2

by local rules of court. This for the civil docket sheet. (SEE INS	m, approved by the Judicial	Conference of the United S	tates in September 1974, is r	equired for the use of the Clerk of	Court for the purpose of initiating	
I. (a) PLAINTIFFS				ΓS		
T.	TABITHA PARKER		INTERACTIVE DATA, LLC,			
•	(b) County of Residence of First Listed Plaintiff (EXCEPT IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES)		County of Resider	nce of First Listed Defendant (IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES)	ONLY)	
			NOTE:	IN LAND CONDEMNATION C THE TRACT OF LAND INVOL	ASES, USE THE LOCATION OF VED.	
(c) Attorneys (Firm Name, A	ddress, and Telephone Number,)	Attorneys (If Know	wn)		
Brandon J. Hill and L	uis A. Cabassa, Wenz	el Fenton Cabassa, P.	A.			
(d) Check County Where Action	on Arose: MIAMI- DADE	☐ MONROE ☐ BROWARD [¶ PALM BEACH ☐ MARTIN ☐ ST.	LUCIE	BEE HIGHLANDS	
II. BASIS OF JURISDI	CTION (Place an "X" i	n One Box Only)		PRINCIPAL PARTIES		
☐ 1 U.S. Government Plaintiff	(U.S. Government	eral Question Not a Party)	(For Diversity Cases On Citizen of This State	PTF DEF 1 1 1 Incorporated or Poor of Business In Th		
2 U.S. Government Defendant		ersity ip of Parties in Item III)	Citizen of Another State	2 Incorporated and of Business In		
N. NATURE OF CHIT	,		Citizen or Subject of a Foreign Country	3 Foreign Nation	□ 6 □ 6	
IV. NATURE OF SUIT CONTRACT		orts	Click here for: Nature of Suit Co FORFEITURE/PENALT	•	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 355 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 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 385 Property Damage 385 Property Damage 386 Property Damage 387 Property Damage 388 Property Damage 389 Product Liability PRISONER PETITIONS Habeas Corpus: 463 Alien Detainee 510 Motions to Vacat Sentence 530 General 535 Death Penalty 540 Mandamus & Other 550 Civil Rights 555 Prison Condition 560 Civil Detainee - Conditions of Confinement	LABOR 710 Fair Labor Standards Act 720 Labor/Mgmt. Relation: 740 Railway Labor Act 751 Family and Medical Leave Act 790 Other Labor Litigation 791 Empl. Ret. Inc. Security Act	28 USC 157 PROPERTY RIGHTS 820 Copyrights 830 Patent 835 Patent - Abbreviated New Drug Application 840 Trademark 880 Defend Trade Secrets Act of 2016 SOCIAL SECURITY 861 HIA (1395ff) 862 Black Lung (923) 863 DIWC/DIWW (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 □ 376 Qui Tam (31 USC □ 3729 (a)) □ 400 State Reapportionment □ 410 Antitrust □ 430 Banks and Banking □ 450 Commerce □ 460 Deportation □ 470 Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations □ 480 Consumer Credit □ (15 USC 1681 or 1692) □ 485 Telephone Consumer Protection Act (TCPA) □ 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	
V. ORIGIN Original Proceeding Proceeding Proceeding Proceeding VI. RELATED/	State (See VI below)			District Judge from Magistrate Judgment	Multidistrict 9 Remanded from Appellate Court File	
RE-FILED CASE(S)	(See instructions): a) JUD0	_	in NO b) Related	DOCKET NUMBER	::	
VII. CAUSE OF ACTION	ONT	ting Act (FCRA), 15	•	ment of Cause (Do not cite jurisdica ase)	tional statutes unless diversity):	
VIII. REQUESTED IN	☐ CHECK IF THIS UNDER F.R.C.P	IS A CLASS ACTION	DEMAND \$	CHECK YES only	if demanded in complaint:	
COMPLAINT:	UNDER F.R.C.P.	. 23		JURY DEMAND:	☐ Yes ☐ No	
ABOVE INFORMATION IS DATE 02 / 22 / 2022	TRUE & CORRECT TO		WLEDGE ATTORNEY OF RECORD			

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY : RECEIPT # JUDGE MAG JUDGE AMOUNT IFP

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.** Nature of Suit. Place an "X" in the appropriate box. If there are multiple nature of suit codes associated with the case, pick the nature of suit code that is most applicable. Click here for: <u>Nature of Suit Code Descriptions</u>.
- 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.

Refiled (3) Attach copy of Order for Dismissal of Previous case. Also complete VI.

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.

Remanded from Appellate Court. (8) Check this box if remanded from Appellate Court.

- VI. Related/Refiled Cases. This section of the JS 44 is used to reference related pending cases or re-filed cases. Insert the docket numbers and the corresponding judges name for such cases.
- VII. 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

VIII. 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.

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

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

•		r the
	Southern Distr	—
TABITHA PAR individually and control of all others similarly and control of all others are also also also also also also also also	RKER, on behalf ly situated,)))) Civil Action No.)
Defendant(s	s)))
		A CIVIL A CTION
	SUMMONS IN A	A CIVIL ACTION
To: (Defendant's name and address)	INTERACTIVE DATA, LLc/o CT Corporation System 1200 South Pine Island R Plantation, FL 33324	m
A lawsuit has been filed	d against you.	
are the United States or a Unite P. 12 (a)(2) or (3) — you must the Federal Rules of Civil Proce whose name and address are:	d States agency, or an office serve on the plaintiff an answ	
If you fail to respond, ji You also must file your answer		entered against you for the relief demanded in the complaint.
		CLERK OF COURT
Date:		Signature of Clerk or Deputy Clerk

AO 440 (Rev. 06/12) Summons in a Civil Action (Page 2)

Civil Action No.

PROOF OF SERVICE

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

	This summons for (no	me of individual and title, if an	y)				
was red	ceived by me on (date)		·				
	☐ I personally served	d the summons on the ind	vidual at (place)				
			on (date)	; or			
	☐ I left the summons	s at the individual's reside	nce or usual place of abode with (nam	e)			
		, a person of suitable age and discretion who resides there,					
	on (date)	on (date), and mailed a copy to the individual's last known address; or					
	☐ I served the summ	ons 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 sum	mons unexecuted because			; or		
	☐ Other (specify):						
	My fees are \$	for travel and \$	for services, for a t	total of \$0.0	0 .		
	I declare under penal	ty of perjury that this info	rmation is true.				
Date:							
		_	Server's signatui	re			
		_	Printed name and t	title			
		_	Server's addres.	s			

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: <u>Interactive Data Illegally Sells Consumer Reports, Class Action Alleges</u>