# UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT EASTERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

MABEL REYES, on behalf of herself and all others similarly situated,

Plaintiff,

#### -against-

FINANCIAL RECOVERY SERVICES, INC.,

Defendant.

# **CIVIL ACTION**

CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT AND DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL

Plaintiff MABEL REYES (hereinafter, "Plaintiff"), a New York resident, brings this class action complaint by and through her attorneys, Cohen & Mizrahi LLP, against Defendant FINANCIAL RECOVERY SERVICES, INC. (hereinafter "Defendant"), individually and on behalf of a class of all others similarly situated, pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P., 23, based upon information and belief of Plaintiff's counsel, except for allegations specifically pertaining to Plaintiff, which are based upon Plaintiff's personal knowledge.

#### **INTRODUCTION/PRELIMINARY STATEMENT**

1. Congress enacted § 1692 *et seq.* of Title 15 of the United States Code, commonly referred to as the Fair Debt Collections Practices Act ("FDCPA") in 1977 in response to the "abundant evidence of the use of abusive, deceptive, and unfair debt collection practices by many debt collectors." 15 U.S.C. § 1692(a). At that time, Congress was concerned that "abusive debt collection practices contribute to the number of personal bankruptcies, to marital instability, to the loss of jobs, and to invasions of individual privacy." *Id.* Congress concluded that "existing laws... [we]re inadequate to protect consumers," and that "the effective collection of debts" does not require "misrepresentation or other abusive debt collection practices." 15 U.S.C. §§ 1692(b) & (c).

#### Case 1:18-cv-03616 Document 1 Filed 06/21/18 Page 2 of 13 PageID #: 2

2. Congress explained that the purpose of the FDCPA was not only to eliminate abusive debt collection practices, but also to "insure that those debt collectors who refrain from using abusive debt collection practices are not competitively disadvantaged." *Id.*; § 1692(e). After determining that the existing consumer protection laws were inadequate, Congress gave consumers a private cause of action against debt collectors who fail to comply with the Act. *Id.*; § 1692k.

# JURISDICTION AND VENUE

3. The Court has jurisdiction over this class action under 28 U.S.C. § 1331, 15 U.S.C. § 1692 *et seq.* and 28 U.S.C. § 2201. If applicable, the Court also has pendent jurisdiction over the state law claims in this action pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1367(a).

4. Venue is proper in this judicial district pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1391(b)(2).

# NATURE OF THE ACTION

5. Plaintiff brings this class action on behalf of a class of New York consumers seeking redress for Defendant's actions of using a misleading, deceptive, unfair and unconscionable means to collect a debt.

6. Defendant's actions violated § 1692 *et seq.*, of the FDCPA, which prohibits debt collectors from engaging in abusive, deceptive and unfair practices.

7. Plaintiff is seeking damages, and declaratory and injunctive relief.

#### **PARTIES**

8. Plaintiff is a natural person and a resident of the State of New York and is a "Consumer" as defined by 15 U.S.C. §1692a(3).

 Defendant is a collection agency with its principal office located in Edina, Minnesota.

#### Case 1:18-cv-03616 Document 1 Filed 06/21/18 Page 3 of 13 PageID #: 3

10. Defendant is a company that uses the mail, telephone, and facsimile, and regularly engages in business, the principal purpose of which is to attempt to collect debts alleged to be due another.

11. Defendant is a "debt collector" as defined under the FDCPA under 15 U.S.C. § 1692a(6).

## **CLASS ALLEGATIONS**

12. Plaintiff repeats and realleges the allegations contained in paragraphs numbered "1" through "11" herein with the same force and effect as if set forth at length herein.

13. Plaintiff brings claims, pursuant to the Fed. R. Civ. P. 23(a) and 23(b)(3), individually and on behalf of the following consumer class (the "Class").

14. The Class consists of (a) all individuals with addresses in Nassau County in the State of New York (b) to whom Defendant (c) sent a collection letter attempting to collect a consumer debt (d) failing to clearly state the amount of the debt which is due and owing, by implying that a payment sooner rather than later will be more economical for the consumer and by employing false, deceptive and misleading representations in connection with the collection of the debt (e) which letter was sent on or after a date one year prior to filing this action and on or before a date 21 days after filing this action.

15. The identities of all Class members are readily ascertainable from Defendant's records and those companies and entities on whose behalf they attempt to collect and/or have purchased debts.

16. Excluded from the Class are the Defendants and all officers, members, partners, managers, directors, and employees of the Defendants and their respective immediate families, and legal counsel for all parties to this action and all members of their immediate families.

17. There are questions of law and fact common to the Class, which common issues

#### Case 1:18-cv-03616 Document 1 Filed 06/21/18 Page 4 of 13 PageID #: 4

predominate over any issues involving only individual class members. The principal issue is whether the Defendant's written communications to consumers, in the form attached as **Exhibit A**, violate 15 U.S.C. § 1962e.

18. The Plaintiff's claims are typical of the Class members, as all are based upon the same facts and legal theories.

19. The Plaintiff will fairly and adequately protect the interests of the Class defined in this complaint. The Plaintiff has retained counsel with experience handling in consumer lawsuits, complex legal issues, and class actions, and neither the Plaintiff nor his attorneys have any interests, which might cause them not to vigorously pursue this action.

20. This action has been brought, and may properly be maintained, as a class action pursuant to the provisions of Fed. R. Civ. P. 23 because there is a well-defined community interest in the litigation:

- a. <u>Numerosity:</u> The Plaintiff is informed and believes, and on that basis alleges, that the Class defined above are so numerous that joinder of all members would be impractical.
- b. <u>Common Questions Predominate:</u> Common questions of law and fact exist as to all members of the Class and those questions predominate over any questions or issues involving only individual class members. The principal issue is whether the Defendant's written communications to consumers, in the form attached as **Exhibit A**, violate 15 U.S.C. § 1692e.
- <u>Typicality:</u> The Plaintiff's claims are typical of the claims of the Class members. The Plaintiff and all members of the Class have claims arising out of the Defendant's common uniform course of conduct complained of

herein.

- d. <u>Adequacy:</u> The Plaintiff will fairly and adequately protect the interests of the Class members insofar as Plaintiff has no interest that are adverse to the absent Class members. Plaintiff is committed to vigorously litigating this matter. Plaintiff has also retained counsel with experience in handling consumer lawsuits, complex legal issues, and class actions. Neither the Plaintiff nor his counsel have any interests which might cause them not to vigorously pursue the instant class action lawsuit.
- e. <u>Superiority:</u> A class action is superior to the other available means for the fair and efficient adjudication of this controversy because individual joinder of all members would be impractical. Class action treatment will permit a large number of similarly situated persons to prosecute their common claims in a single forum efficiently and without unnecessary duplication of effort and expense.

21. Certification of a class under Fed. R. Civ. P. 23(b)(3) is also appropriate in that the questions of law and fact are common to all members of the Class and predominate over any questions affecting an individual member, and a class action is superior to other available methods for the fair and efficient adjudication of the controversy.

22. Depending on the outcome of further investigation and discovery, Plaintiff may, at the time of class certification motion, seek to certify a class(es) only as to particular issues pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 23(c)(4).

# ALLEGATIONS PARTICULAR TO MABEL REYES

23. Plaintiff repeats and realleges the allegations contained in paragraphs numbered "1" through "22" herein with the same force and effect as if set forth at length herein.

#### Case 1:18-cv-03616 Document 1 Filed 06/21/18 Page 6 of 13 PageID #: 6

24. Defendant collects and attempts to collect debts incurred or alleged to have been incurred for personal, family or household purposes on behalf of creditors using the United States Postal Services, telephone, facsimile, and Internet.

25. Upon information and belief, within the last year Defendant commenced efforts to collect an alleged consumer "debt" as defined by 15 U.S.C. 1692a(5), when it mailed a collection letter to Plaintiff seeking to collect on an unpaid account allegedly owed to Discover Bank ("Discover").

26. On or about November 13, 2017, Defendant sent Plaintiff a collection letter (the "Collection Letter") seeking to collect a balance allegedly incurred for personal purposes. A copy of the Collection Letter is attached hereto and incorporated herein as **Exhibit A**.

27. The Collection Letter was sent or caused to be sent by persons employed by Defendant as a "debt collector" as defined by 15 U.S.C. §1692a(6).

28. The Collection Letter is a "communication" as defined by 15 U.S.C. §1692a(2).

29. Defendant's Collection Letter provides, in pertinent part, as follows: "As of the date of this notice you owe \$1,625.45." This phrase implies that the balance may increase at a later stage. See *Chuway v. Nat'l Action Fin., Servs*, 362 F.3d 944 (7th Cir. 2004) (Letter stating the balance but inviting the debtor to call to obtain "the most current balance information" creates doubt as to whether the balance stated is increasing and violates the FDCPA unless an explanation is provided).

30. Plaintiff was left uncertain as to whether the balance would increase as there was no disclosure that indicated otherwise.

31. The Collection Letter does not clearly state either that the amount will or will not increase. See *Avila v. Riexinger & Associates, LLC*, 817 F.3d 72 (2d Cir. 2016).

#### Case 1:18-cv-03616 Document 1 Filed 06/21/18 Page 7 of 13 PageID #: 7

32. The Collection Letter provided a column with an itemized accounting of the debt as required by New York state statue, which informed the consumer that no interest or fees have been added post charge-off. Although the New York disclosure states that no interest or fees have been added since charge-off, there is no indication that interest or fees will not be charged at a later date.

33. While it is typical for a collection letter to state an "amount due" or an "account balance", it is not typical for a collection letter to state that the amount owed is as of a specific date, as such language implies that the balance will increase at a different date. See *Islam v. Am. Recovery Serv.*, No.: 17-cv-4228-BMC, 2017 WL 4990570 (E.D.N.Y. Oct. 31, 2017) (Language such as the "current balance" or "as of the date of this letter" is insufficient disclosure to a debtor that her balance is either dynamic or static and such ambiguity violates the framework of *Avila*).

34. The FDCPA requires debt collectors, when notifying consumers of their account balance, to disclose that the balance may increase due to interest and fees; failure to include such disclosures harms the consumer such as Plaintiff.

35. Collection letters that state only the "Current Balance", "As of the date of this letter you owe [amount due]" or "As of the date of this notice you owe [amount due]", but do not disclose that the balance might increase due to interest and fees, are misleading within the meaning of § 1692e.

36. Defendant violated 15 U.S.C. §§ 1692e(2)(A) and 1692e(10) by misrepresenting the amount of debt owed by Plaintiff.

37. 15 U.S.C. § 1692e provides, in pertinent part, as follows:

"A debt collector may not use any false, deceptive, or misleading representation or means in connection with the collection of any debt. Without limiting the

# Case 1:18-cv-03616 Document 1 Filed 06/21/18 Page 8 of 13 PageID #: 8

general application of the foregoing, the following conduct is a violation of this section:

(2) the false representation of –

- (A) the character, amount, or legal status of any debt; or...
- (10) the use of any false representation or deceptive means to collect or attempt to collect any debt or to obtain information concerning a consumer."
- 38. Upon information and belief, Defendant's Collection Letter is a form letter.
- 39. Upon information and belief, the Defendant's Collection Letter is identical to other

collection letters sent to consumers, which number in the hundreds.

40. As a result of the following Count, Defendant violated the FDCPA.

# <u>First Count</u> Violation of 15 U.S.C. §§ 1692e, 1692e(2), and 1692e(10) <u>False or Misleading Representations</u>

41. Plaintiff repeats and realleges the allegations contained in paragraphs numbered "1" through "40" herein with the same force and effect as if the same were set forth at length herein.

42. Defendant's debt collection efforts attempted and/or directed towards Plaintiff violated various provisions of the FDCPA, including, without limitation,15 U.S.C. §§ 1692e, 1692e(2), and 1692e(10), for failing to clearly state the amount of the debt which is due and owing, by implying that a payment sooner rather than later will be more economical for the consumer and by employing false, deceptive and misleading representations in connection with the collection of a debt.

43. Pursuant to 15 U.S.C. §1692e, a debt collector is prohibited from using false, deceptive, or misleading representation in connection with the collection of a debt.

#### Case 1:18-cv-03616 Document 1 Filed 06/21/18 Page 9 of 13 PageID #: 9

44. While § 1692e specifically prohibits certain practices, the list is non-exhaustive, and does not preclude a claim of falsity or deception based on non-enumerated practice.

45. Collection notices are deceptive if they can be reasonably read to have two or more different meanings, one of which is inaccurate.

46. The question of whether a collection letter is deceptive is determined from the perspective of the "least sophisticated consumer."

47. Defendant's conduct constitutes a false, deceptive and misleading representation in connection with the collection of the debt, in violation of 15 U.S.C. §§ 1692e, 1692e(2), and 1692e(10).

48. The Collection Letter can reasonably be read by the least sophisticated consumer to have two or more meanings concerning the actual balance due, one of which must be inaccurate, in violation of 15 U.S.C. § 1692e.

49. Upon information and belief, pursuant to the terms and conditions of the agreement between Discover and Plaintiff, Discover charged Plaintiff interest and late fees on any payments due but not timely made by Plaintiff.

50. Upon information and belief, the right to collect from Plaintiff interest and late fees on any payments due but not timely made by Plaintiff was not waived by Discover.

51. Upon information and belief, the right to collect from Plaintiff interest and late fees on any payments due but not timely made by Plaintiff was not waived by any assignee or successor-in-interest.

52. Plaintiff was never informed by anyone that the terms and conditions of the underlying agreement were changed.

#### Case 1:18-cv-03616 Document 1 Filed 06/21/18 Page 10 of 13 PageID #: 10

53. Upon information and belief, pursuant to the terms and conditions of the credit card agreement, interest and late fees continue to accrue on any payments due but not timely made by Plaintiff.

54. Upon information and belief, pursuant to the terms and conditions of the credit card agreement, Discover and any assignee or successor-in-interest had the legal right to collect from Plaintiff interest and late fees on any payments due but not timely made by Plaintiff.

55. Upon information and belief, pursuant to the terms and conditions of the credit card agreement, the legal right of Discover and any assignee or successor-in-interest to collect from Plaintiff interest and late fees on any payments due but not timely made by Plaintiff is not waived by Discover or any assignee or successor-in-interest as a result of a failure by either Discover or any assignee or successor-in-interest at any point in time to attempt to collect from Plaintiff the aforementioned interest and late fees.

56. 15 U.S.C. § 1692e requires debt collectors, when they notify consumers of their account balance, to disclose that the balance may increase due to interest and late fees.

57. The Collection Letter failed to disclose that the balance stated may increase due to interest and late fees.

58. The Collection Letter, because of the aforementioned failures, violates 15 U.S.C. §§ 1692e, 1692e(2), and 1692e(10).

59. In the alternative, Plaintiff's account was not subject to the accrual of interest and late fees.

60. By stating an "[a]s of the date of this notice you owe \$1,625.45[,]" Defendant falsely suggested that immediate payment of the balance would benefit Plaintiff by implying that the balance would be subject to change and could be subject to additional interest and late fees.

#### Case 1:18-cv-03616 Document 1 Filed 06/21/18 Page 11 of 13 PageID #: 11

61. Because the Collection Letters can reasonably be read by the least sophisticated consumer to have two or more meanings, one of which is inaccurate, as described, they are deceptive under 15 U.S.C. § 1692e.

62. Plaintiff suffered an injury in fact by being subjected to unfair and abusive practices of the Defendant.

63. Plaintiff suffered actual harm by being the target of the Defendant's misleading debt collection communications.

64. Defendant violated the Plaintiff's right not to be the target of misleading debt collection communications.

65. Defendant violated the Plaintiff's right to a truthful and fair debt collection process.

66. Defendant used materially false, deceptive, misleading representations and means in its attempted collection of Plaintiff's alleged debt.

67. Defendant's communications were designed to cause the debtor to suffer a harmful disadvantage in charting a course of action in response to Defendant's collection efforts.

68. The FDCPA ensures that consumers are fully and truthfully apprised of the facts and of their rights. The FDPCA enables consumers to understand, make informed decisions about, and participate fully and meaningfully in the debt collection process. One purpose of the FDPCA, among others, is to provide information that helps consumers choose intelligently. The Defendant's false representations misled the Plaintiff in a manner that deprived her of her right to enjoy these benefits. As a result, Defendant's materially misleading statements trigger liability under § 1692e of the FDCPA.

69. Defendant's deceptive communications additionally violate the FDPCA since they frustrate the consumer's ability to intelligently choose his or her response.

#### Case 1:18-cv-03616 Document 1 Filed 06/21/18 Page 12 of 13 PageID #: 12

70. As an actual and proximate result of the acts and omissions of Defendant, Plaintiff has suffered, including, without limitation, fear, stress, mental anguish, emotional stress and acute embarrassment for which she should be compensated in an amount to be established by a jury.

71. For these reasons, Defendant violated 15 U.S.C. §§ 1692e, 1692e(2), and 1692e(10). See *Taylor v. Fin. Recovery Servs., Inc.*, 886 F.3d 212, 215 (2d Cir. 2018) (citing *Chuway v. Nat'l Action Fin. Servs., Inc.*, 362 F.3d 944, 949 (7th Cir. 2004)); see also *Thomas v. Midland Credit Mgmt., Inc.*, No. 2:17-CV-00523(ADS)(ARL), 2017 WL 5714722, at \*4 (E.D.N.Y. Nov. 27, 2017); *Islam v. American Recovery Service Incorporated*, 17-CV-4228 (BMC), 2017 WL 4990570, at \*2 (E.D.N.Y. Oct. 30, 2017).

72. Plaintiff is entitled to judgment against the Defendant's conduct for violating § 1692e *et seq.* of the FDCPA, awarding Plaintiff statutory damages, costs and attorneys' fees.

#### PRAYER FOR RELIEF

**WHEREFORE**, Plaintiff demands judgment against Defendants as follows:

- (a) Declaring that this action is properly maintainable as a Class Action and certifying Plaintiff as Class representative and Cohen & Mizrahi LLP, as Class Counsel;
- (b) Awarding Plaintiff and the Class statutory damages;
- (c) Awarding Plaintiff and the Class actual damages;
- (d) Awarding Plaintiff costs of this Action, including reasonable attorneys' fees and expenses;
- (e) Awarding pre-judgment interest and post-judgment interest; and

Case 1:18-cv-03616 Document 1 Filed 06/21/18 Page 13 of 13 PageID #: 13

(f) Awarding Plaintiff and the Class such other and further relief as this Court may deem just and proper.

Dated: Brook

Brooklyn, NY June 21, 2018 By: <u>/s/ Daniel A. Louro</u> Daniel A. Louro, Esq. Cohen & Mizrahi LLP 300 Cadman Plaza W, 12<sup>th</sup> floor Brooklyn, New York 11201 Phone: (929) 575-4175 Fax: (929) 575-4195 Email: DLouro@cml.legal *Attorneys for Plaintiff* 

# **DEMAND FOR TRIAL BY JURY**

Pursuant to Rule 38 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, Plaintiff hereby requests a

trial by jury on all issues so triable.

/s/ Daniel A. Louro Daniel A. Louro, Esq. AO 440 (Rev. 06/12) Summons in a Civil Action

# UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

for the

Eastern District of New York

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MABEL REYES, on behalf of herself and all others similarly situated,

Plaintiff(s) V.

Civil Action No.

FINANCIAL RECOVERY SERVICES, INC.

Defendant(s)

# SUMMONS IN A CIVIL ACTION

To: (Defendant's name and address)

FINANCIAL RECOVERY SERVICES, INC. P.O. BOX 385908 MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA, 55438

A lawsuit has been filed against you.

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

COHEN & MIZRAHI LLP 300 CADMAN PLAZA WEST 12TH FLOOR BROOKLYN, NEW YORK 11201

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

> DOUGLAS C. PALMER CLERK OF COURT

Date:

Signature of Clerk or Deputy Clerk

# Case 1:18-cv-03616 Document 1-1 Filed 06/21/18 Page 2 of 2 PageID #: 15

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 (nam	ne of individual and title, if any)								
was re	ceived by me on (date)									
	□ I personally served	the summons on the individ	lual at (place)							
		; or								
	□ I left the summons	on ( <i>date</i> ) ; or ; or I left the summons at the individual's residence or usual place of abode with ( <i>name</i> ) , a person of suitable age and discretion who resides there,								
	on ( <i>date</i> ) , and mailed a copy to the individual's last known address; or									
	□ I served the summons on ( <i>name of individual</i> ) designated by law to accept service of process on behalf of ( <i>name of organization</i> )									
		; or								
	□ I returned the summons unexecuted because									
	<b>Other</b> ( <i>specify</i> ):									
	My fees are \$	for travel and \$	for services, for a total of \$	0.00						
	I declare under penalty of perjury that this information is true.									
Date:										
			Server's signature							
			Printed name and title							

Server's address

Additional information regarding attempted service, etc:

# JS 44 (Rev. 11/27/17 Case 1:18-cv-03616 Document 1 3 Filed 06/21/18 Page 1 of 2 PageID #: 16

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

I. (a) PLAINTIFFS			DEFENDANTS			
MABEL REYES, on beh others similarly situated,	alf of herself and all		FINANCIAL RECO	OVERY SERVICES, INC.		
( <b>b</b> ) County of Residence of	f First Listed Plaintiff	Nassau	County of Residence of First Listed Defendant			
(EZ	CEPT IN U.S. PLAINTIFF C			(IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES C	,	
				ONDEMNATION CASES, USE T OF LAND INVOLVED.	HE LOCATION OF	
(c) Attorneys (Firm Name, A	Address, and Telephone Numbe	er)	Attorneys (If Known)			
OHEN & MIZRAHI LLP, 30	) Cadman Plaza West	, 12th Fl, Brooklyn N	Y 11201			
29) 575-4175						
II. BASIS OF JURISDI	CTION (Place an "X" in C	One Box Only)	III. CITIZENSHIP OF P	RINCIPAL PARTIES	(Place an "X" in One Box for Plain	
□ 1 U.S. Government			(For Diversity Cases Only) and One Box for Defendant)			
Plaintiff	(U.S. Government	Not a Party)		1 1 Incorporated or Pr of Business In T	incipal Place 🛛 4 🗖 4	
2 U.S. Government Defendant	☐ 4 Diversity (Indicate Citizensh	ip of Parties in Item III)	Citizen of Another State	2 🗖 2 Incorporated and H of Business In A		
			Citizen or Subject of a Foreign Country	3 🗖 3 Foreign Nation		
IV. NATURE OF SUIT	(Place an "X" in One Box O	nly)	i oleigii Country	Click here for: Nature of	of Suit Code Descriptions.	
CONTRACT	TO	DRTS	FORFEITURE/PENALTY	BANKRUPTCY	OTHER STATUTES	
<ul> <li>110 Insurance</li> <li>120 Marine</li> </ul>	PERSONAL INJURY ☐ 310 Airplane	PERSONAL INJURY ☐ 365 Personal Injury -	7 ☐ 625 Drug Related Seizure of Property 21 USC 881	<ul> <li>422 Appeal 28 USC 158</li> <li>423 Withdrawal</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>375 False Claims Act</li> <li>376 Qui Tam (31 USC</li> </ul>	
130 Miller Act	315 Airplane Product	Product Liability	□ 690 Other	28 USC 157	3729(a))	
<ul><li>140 Negotiable Instrument</li><li>150 Recovery of Overpayment</li></ul>	Liability 320 Assault, Libel &	367 Health Care/ Pharmaceutical		PROPERTY RIGHTS	<ul> <li>400 State Reapportionment</li> <li>410 Antitrust</li> </ul>	
& Enforcement of Judgment	Slander	Personal Injury		820 Copyrights	430 Banks and Banking	
<ul><li>151 Medicare Act</li><li>152 Recovery of Defaulted</li></ul>	330 Federal Employers' Liability	Product Liability 368 Asbestos Personal		<ul> <li>830 Patent</li> <li>835 Patent - Abbreviated</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>450 Commerce</li> <li>460 Deportation</li> </ul>	
Student Loans	□ 340 Marine	Injury Product		New Drug Application	□ 470 Racketeer Influenced and	
(Excludes Veterans)	□ 345 Marine Product	Liability	TY LABOR	840 Trademark     SOCIAL SECURITY	Corrupt Organizations	
1 153 Recovery of Overpayment of Veteran's Benefits	Liability 350 Motor Vehicle	PERSONAL PROPER'	□ 710 Fair Labor Standards	□ 861 HIA (1395ff)	■ 480 Consumer Credit ■ 490 Cable/Sat TV	
160 Stockholders' Suits	355 Motor Vehicle	371 Truth in Lending	Act	□ 862 Black Lung (923)	□ 850 Securities/Commodities/	
<ul> <li>190 Other Contract</li> <li>195 Contract Product Liability</li> </ul>	Product Liability 360 Other Personal	380 Other Personal Property Damage	720 Labor/Management Relations	<ul> <li>863 DIWC/DIWW (405(g))</li> <li>864 SSID Title XVI</li> </ul>	Exchange Exchange 890 Other Statutory Actions	
195 Contract Product Liability	Injury	□ 385 Property Damage	□ 740 Railway Labor Act	$\square$ 865 RSI (405(g))	□ 890 Other Statutory Actions □ 891 Agricultural Acts	
	362 Personal Injury -	Product Liability	751 Family and Medical		□ 893 Environmental Matters	
REAL PROPERTY	Medical Malpractice CIVIL RIGHTS	PRISONER PETITION	Leave Act S 790 Other Labor Litigation	FEDERAL TAX SUITS	895 Freedom of Information Act	
210 Land Condemnation	440 Other Civil Rights	Habeas Corpus:	□ 791 Employee Retirement	870 Taxes (U.S. Plaintiff	896 Arbitration	
220 Foreclosure	□ 441 Voting	□ 463 Alien Detainee	Income Security Act	or Defendant)	□ 899 Administrative Procedure	
230 Rent Lease & Ejectment 240 Torts to Land	<ul> <li>442 Employment</li> <li>443 Housing/</li> </ul>	510 Motions to Vacate Sentence		871 IRS—Third Party 26 USC 7609	Act/Review or Appeal of Agency Decision	
245 Tort Product Liability	Accommodations	530 General			950 Constitutionality of	
290 All Other Real Property	□ 445 Amer. w/Disabilities -		IMMIGRATION		State Statutes	
	Employment 446 Amer. w/Disabilities -	Other: 540 Mandamus & Othe	<ul> <li>definition 462 Naturalization Application</li> <li>definition</li> </ul>			
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V. ORIGIN (Place an "X" in						
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VI. CAUSE OF ACTIO	<b>DN</b> 15 USC 1692 Brief description of c	0000				
	Defendant violate	ause: ed the FDCPA				
VII. REQUESTED IN COMPLAINT:		S IS A CLASS ACTION	DEMAND \$	CHECK YES only JURY DEMAND:	if demanded in complaint: Yes □No	
VIII. RELATED CASI					••	
IF ANY	(See instructions):	JUDGE		DOCKET NUMBER		
DATE		SIGNATURE OF ATT	ORNEY OF RECORD			
6/21/18		/s/ Daniel Lour	0			
FOR OFFICE USE ONLY						
RECEIPT # AM	IOUNT	APPLYING IFP	JUDGE	MAG. JUD	DGE	

# Case 1:18-cv-03616 Document 1-2 Filed 06/21/18 Page 2 of 2 PageID #: 17 **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.

monetary damages sought are in excess of \$150,000, exclusive of interest and costs,

I, Daniel Louro

\_, counsel for PLAINTIFF is ineligible for compulsory arbitration for the following reason(s):

\_\_\_\_\_, do hereby certify that the above captioned civil action

the complaint seeks injunctive relief,

the matter is otherwise ineligible for the following reason

Question of law rather than questions of fact predominates

# DISCLOSURE STATEMENT - FEDERAL RULES CIVIL PROCEDURE 7.1

NONE

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)**

Please list all cases that are arguably related pursuant to Division of Business Rule 50.3.1 in Section VIII on the front of this form. Rule 50.3.1 (a) provides 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 because the cases arise from the same transactions or events, a substantial saving of judicial resources is likely to result from assigning both cases to the same 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 the civil case: (A) involves identical legal issues, or (B) involves the same parties." Rule 50.3.1 (c) further provides that "Presumptively, and subject to the power of a judge to determine otherwise pursuant to paragraph (d), civil cases shall not be deemed to be "related" unless both cases are still pending before the court."

#### NY-E DIVISION OF BUSINESS RULE 50.1(d)(2)

1.)	Is the civil action County?	being	filed in th Yes	ne Easte	ern District removed No	d from a New	York State Court located in Nassau or Suffoll	<	
2.)	If you answered a) Did the events County?			giving ris	se to the claim or cl No	aims, or a sub	bstantial part thereof, occur in Nassau or Suff	olk	
	b) Did the events District?	s or om	iissions ( Yes	giving ris	se to the claim or cl No	aims, or a sub	bstantial part thereof, occur in the Eastern		
	• 1	Debt Co SAU CO		Practice	Act case, specify the .	County in whic	ch the offending communication was		
If your answer 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 Suffolk County, or, in an interpleader action, does the claimant (or a majority of the claimants, if there is more than one) reside in Nassau or Suffolk 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 currently 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 expl	ain 🗹	No		
	I certify the accuracy of all information provided above.								
	Signature:/s/ Daniel Louro								



FINANCIAL RECOVERY SERVICES, INC. P.O. BOX 385908 Minneapolis, MN 55438-5908 952-831-4800

November 13, 2017

MABEL REYES 150 WASHINGTON ST APT 5B

HEMPSTEAD, NY 11550-3129

**Important Message** 

Current Creditor: DISCOVER BANK Original Creditor: DISCOVER BANK Regarding: DISCOVER CARD Current Account Number: XXXXXXXXXXX0592 Charge-Off Date: 03/31/17 Amount Due as of Charge-Off: \$1625.45 Amount Paid Since Charge-Off Date: \$0.00

NY State Required Itemizations Interest Accrued Since Charge-Off: \$0.00 Non-Interest Charges or Fees Since Charge-Off: \$0.00 Post Charge-Off Credits: \$0.00 Balance Due: \$1625.45 FRS File Number: RFO962 Online Pin Number: 63063143

As of the date of this notice you owe \$1,625.45. We are required by New York state law to provide you the disclosures following this paragraph. Nothing herein affects your rights set forth in other correspondence from our office. We are now accepting reduced settlements and payment plans. In some cases, settlements can be setup for a period or twelve (12) or more payments to help you get it resolved and keep it in your budget. Please feel free to call us at the toll free number listed below or use our online consumer help desk. FRS now accepts some forms of payment online at www.fin-rec.com. See your online access PIN above.

In accordance with the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, 15 U.S.C. § 1692 *et seq.*, debt collectors are prohibited from engaging in abusive, deceptive, and unfair debt collection efforts, including but not limited to: i) the use or threat of violence; ii) the use of obscene or profane language; and iii) repeated phone calls made with the intent to annoy, abuse, or harass.

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;
- 5. Unemployment benefits;
- 6. Disability benefits
- 7. Workers' compensation benefits;
- 8. Public or private pensions;
- 9. 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.

Sincerely,

ANDREW POULTERER Account Manager Toll Free: 1-877-725-4986

#### Take advantage of any of our several payment options:



See Reverse Side for Important Information.

FRS0E1-1110-945286415-01179-1179

# **ClassAction.org**

This complaint is part of ClassAction.org's searchable class action lawsuit database and can be found in this post: <u>Class Action Claims Financial Recovery Services Collection Letter Failed to Clearly State Debt</u> <u>Amount</u>