## UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT EASTERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

RUSLAN ROSHKO on behalf of himself and all other similarly situated consumers

Plaintiff,

-against-

MIDLAND CREDIT MANAGEMENT, INC., MIDLAND FUNDING, LLC, AND ENCORE CAPITAL GROUP, INC.,

Defendants.

# CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT

### Introduction

 Plaintiff, Ruslan Roshko, brings this action against Midland Credit Management, Inc., Midland Funding, LLC, and Encore Capital Group, Inc., hereinafter referred to as "Defendants" for violations of the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, 15 U.S.C. § 1692, et *seq.* herein after referred to as "FDCPA." The FDCPA prohibits debt collectors from engaging in abusive, deceptive and unfair collection practices while attempting to collect on debts.

### Parties

- 2. Plaintiff is a natural person who at all relevant times relating to the allegations in this action resides in the State of New York.
- 3. Plaintiff is a consumer as that term is defined in Section 1692(a)(3) of the FDCPA, in that the alleged debt that Defendants sought to collect from Plaintiff a consumer debt.

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- 4. The Defendant Midland Credit Management, Inc. is an affiliate of Defendant Midland Funding, LLC and is also a "debt collector" as that term is defined by the FDCPA, 15 U.S.C. § 1692(a)(6).
- 5. The Defendant Midland Credit Management, Inc. is engaged in the business of collecting or attempting to collect debts on behalf of Midland Funding, LLC as one of its principal areas of business.
- The Defendant Encore Capital Group, Inc. is the parent company of Midland Credit Management, Inc. and Midland Funding, LLC.
- 7. The Defendants have their principal place of business in San Diego, California.
- 8. Defendants are regularly engaged, for profit, in the collection of debts allegedly owed by consumers.
- 9. Defendant Midland Funding, LLC is a "bad debt buyer" that specializes in buying large portfolios of delinquent consumer debts for pennies on the dollar, which it then collects upon through other collection agencies, such as its sister corporation, Midland Credit Management, Inc.

### Jurisdiction and Venue

- 10. This Court has federal question jurisdiction under 15 U.S.C. § 1692k(d) and 28 U.S.C. § 1331.
- 11. Venue for this action properly lies in this district pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1391(b), as the named Plaintiff resides in this district and the Defendants have done business within this district and the conduct complained of took place, via the mail, in this district.

### **Plaintiff's Allegations**

- 12. Upon information and belief, on a date better known by Defendants, Defendants began to attempt to collect an alleged consumer debt from the Plaintiff.
- 13. On or about February 17, 2016, Defendants sent the Plaintiff a collection letter seeking to

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collect on an alleged debt.

14. The February 17, 2016 letter stated in part:

"**Mail disputes to:** ATTN: Consumer Support Services 2365 Northside Drive, Suite 300 San Diego, CA 92108."

- 15. Defendants' February 17, 2016 letter misrepresented Plaintiff's right to dispute the debt, in violation of 15 U.S.C. §§ 1692e, 1692e(10) and 1692g.
- 16. Defendants' statement as quoted above, would cause the unsophisticated consumer to assume that his option to dispute the debt, could only be in writing.
- 17. An unsophisticated consumer would assume from the above mentioned language, that he has no option to make an oral dispute.<sup>1</sup>
- 18. Such language overshadowed and contradicted the validation notice stated at the beginning of the letter and was "misleading" since it leaves the debtor with the false notion that disputing an alleged debt requires a written communication to be sent to 2365 Northside Drive, Suite 300 San Diego, CA 92108.
- An unsophisticated consumer would think that any and all disputes can only be done in writing.<sup>2</sup>
- 20. Said language can be reasonably read to have two or more different interpretations, one of which is false.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Hooks v. Forman, Holt, Eliades & Ravin, LLC, 717 F.3d 282, 2013 U.S. App. LEXIS 10754, 2013 WL 2321409 (2d Cir. N.Y. 2013) (Requiring a consumer to dispute a debt in writing violates the FDCPA.); Zengerle v. Dynia & Assocs., 2013 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 130873 (M.I. 2013) (Defendant points out that the letter does not expressly state that the consumer must provide a written statement to dispute the debt, but only that the consumer must "provide us with a statement." Viewing the language from the perspective of the least sophisticated consumer, however, "provide us with a statement" suggests that a writing is necessary and that the consumer may not orally dispute the debt.)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> <u>Caprio v. Heathcare Revenue Recovery Group, LLC, 709 F.3d 142, 151 (3d Cir. 2013)</u> (letter stating "if you feel you do not owe this amount, please call us toll free" overshadowed notice; consumer may believe that a phone call was sufficient to trigger duty to verify debt); <u>Abramov v.</u> <u>I.C. Systems, Inc., \_ F.Supp.3d\_, 2014 WL 5147549 at \*5 (E.D.N.Y Oct. 14, 2014)</u> (directing consumer to dispute debt "in writing" if identity theft is suspected may overshadow right to verbally dispute debt); <u>Oberther v. Midland Credit Management, Inc., F.Supp.3d\_, 2014 WL 4548871, at \*6 (D. Mass. Sept. 15, 2014)</u> (letter that gave only two options to stop referral of account to attorney – mail payment, or call to settle – without mentioning that submitting a dispute would also do so, overshadowed validation notice).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> <u>Pipiles v. Credit Bureau of Lockport, Inc., 886 F.2d 22, 25 (2d Cir. 1989)</u> (Because the collection notice was reasonably susceptible to an inaccurate reading, it was deceptive within the meaning of the Act.); <u>Clomon v. Jackson, 988 F.2d 1314, 1319 (2d Cir. 1993)</u> (Collection notices are deceptive if they are open to more than one reasonable interpretation, at least one of which is inaccurate.); <u>Russell v. Equifax A.R.S., 74 F.3d</u> <u>30, 34 (2d Cir. N.Y. 1996)</u> (A collection notice is deceptive when it can be reasonably read to have two or more different meanings, one of which is inaccurate. The fact that the notice's terminology was vague or uncertain will not prevent it from being held deceptive under § 1692e(10) of the Act.)

- 21. Defendants' February 17, 2016 letter violated 15 U.S.C. §§ 1692e, 1692e(10), and 1692g(a)(4), for failing to comply with the validation notice requirements, and in particular, for misrepresenting Plaintiff's right to dispute the debt.
- 22. Plaintiff suffered injury in fact by being subjected to unfair and abusive practices of the Defendants.
- 23. Plaintiff suffered actual harm by being the target of the Defendants' misleading debt collection communications.
- 24. Defendants violated the Plaintiff's right not to be the target of misleading debt collection communications.
- 25. Defendants violated the Plaintiff's right to a truthful and fair debt collection process.
- 26. Defendants used materially false, deceptive, misleading representations and means in its attempted collection of Plaintiff's alleged debt.
- 27. Defendants' communications were designed to cause the debtor to suffer a harmful disadvantage in charting a course of action in response to the Defendants' collection efforts.
- 28. The FDCPA ensures that consumers are fully and truthfully apprised of the facts and of their rights, the act enables them to understand, make informed decisions about, and participate fully and meaningfully in the debt collection process. The purpose of the FDCPA is to provide information that helps consumers to choose intelligently. The Defendants' false representations misled the Plaintiff in a manner that deprived her of her right to enjoy these benefits, these materially misleading statements trigger liability under section 1692e of the Act.
- 29. These deceptive communications additionally violated the FDCPA since they frustrate the consumer's ability to intelligently choose his or her response.
- 30. Plaintiff seeks to end these violations of the FDCPA. Plaintiff has suffered damages

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including but not limited to, fear, stress, mental anguish, emotional stress and acute embarrassment. Plaintiff and putative class members are entitled to preliminary and permanent injunctive relief, including, declaratory relief, and damages.

### **CLASS ALLEGATIONS**

- 31. This action is brought as a class action. Plaintiff brings this action on behalf of herself and on behalf of all other persons similarly situated pursuant to Rule 23 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure.
- 32. The identities of all class members are readily ascertainable from the records of the Defendants and those business and governmental entities on whose behalf they attempt to collect debts.
- 33. Excluded from the Plaintiff's Class are the Defendants and all officers, members, partners, managers, directors, and employees of the Defendants, and all of their respective immediate families, and legal counsel for all parties to this action and all members of their immediate families.
- 34. There are questions of law and fact common to the Plaintiff's Class, which common issues predominate over any issues involving only individual class members. The principal issues are whether the Defendants' communications with the Plaintiff, such as the above stated claims, violate provisions of the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act.
- 35. The Plaintiff's claims are typical of the class members, as all are based upon the same facts and legal theories.
- 36. The Plaintiff will fairly and adequately protect the interests of the Plaintiff's Class defined in this complaint. The Plaintiff has retained counsel with experience in handling consumer lawsuits, complex legal issues, and class actions, and neither the Plaintiff nor her attorneys have any interests, which might cause them not to vigorously pursue this action.

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- 37. This action has been brought, and may properly be maintained, as a class action pursuant to the provisions of Rule 23 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure 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 Plaintiff's Class defined above is 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 Plaintiff's Class and those questions predominate over any questions or issues involving only individual class members. The principal issues are whether the Defendants' communications with the Plaintiff, such as the above stated claims, violate provisions of the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act.
  - (c) <u>Typicality:</u> The Plaintiff's claims are typical of the claims of the class members. Plaintiff and all members of the Plaintiff's Class defined in this complaint have claims arising out of the Defendants' 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 interests that are adverse to the absent class members. The Plaintiff is committed to vigorously litigating this matter. Plaintiff has also retained counsel experienced in handling consumer lawsuits, complex legal issues, and class actions. Neither the Plaintiff nor her 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

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joinder of all members would be impracticable. 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 that individual actions would engender. Certification of a class under Rule 23(b)(1)(A) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure is appropriate because adjudications with respect to individual members create a risk of inconsistent or varying adjudications which could establish incompatible standards of conduct for the Defendants who, on information and belief, collect debts throughout the United States of America.

- 38. Certification of a class under Rule 23(b)(2) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure is also appropriate in that a determination that the above stated claims, violate provisions of the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, and is tantamount to declaratory relief and any monetary relief under the FDCPA would be merely incidental to that determination.
- 39. Certification of a class under Rule 23(b)(3) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure is also appropriate in that the questions of law and fact common to members of the Plaintiff's Class 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.
- 40. Further, the Defendants have acted, or failed to act, on grounds generally applicable to the Rule (b)(l)(A) and (b)(2) Class, thereby making appropriate final injunctive relief with respect to the Class as a whole.
- 41. Depending on the outcome of further investigation and discovery, Plaintiff may, at the time of class certification motion, seek to certify one or more classes only as to particular issues pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 23(c)(4).

### FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION

# Violations of the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act brought by Plaintiff on behalf of himself and the members of a class, as against the Defendants.

- 42. Plaintiff re-states, re-alleges, and incorporates herein by reference, paragraphs one (1) through forty one (41) as if set forth fully in this cause of action.
- 43. This cause of action is brought on behalf of Plaintiff and the members of a class.
- 44. The class involves all individuals whom Defendants' records reflect resided in the State of New York and who were sent a collection letter in substantially the same form letter as the letter sent to the Plaintiff on or about February 17, 2016; and (a) the collection letter was sent to a consumer seeking payment of a personal debt; and (b) the collection letter was not returned by the postal service as undelivered; and (c) the Plaintiff asserts that the letter contained violations of 15 U.S.C. §§ 1692e, 1692e(10), and 1692g(a)(4), for failing to comply with the validation notice requirements, and in particular, for misrepresenting Plaintiff's right to dispute the debt.

### Violations of the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act

- 45. The Defendants' actions as set forth above in the within complaint violates the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act.
- 46. Because the Defendants violated the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, the Plaintiff and the members of the class are entitled to damages in accordance with the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act.
- 47. The Defendants' actions as set forth above in the within complaint violates the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act.
- 48. Because the Defendants violated the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, the Plaintiff and the members of the class are entitled to damages in accordance with the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act.

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WHEREFORE, Plaintiff, respectfully requests preliminary and permanent injunctive relief, and that this

Court enter judgment in Plaintiff's favor and against the Defendants and award damages as follows:

- (a) Statutory damages provided under the FDCPA, 15 U.S.C. § 1692(k);
- (b) Attorney fees, litigation expenses and costs incurred in bringing this action; and
- (c) Any other relief that this Court deems appropriate and just under the circumstances.

Dated: Brooklyn, New York February 8, 2017

> /s/ Maxim Maximov Maxim Maximov, Esq. Attorneys for the Plaintiff Maxim Maximov, LLP 1701 Avenue P Brooklyn, New York 11229 Office: (718) 395-3459 Facsimile: (718) 408-9570 E-mail: m@maximovlaw.com

Plaintiff requests trial by jury on all issues so triable.

/s/ Maxim Maximov Maxim Maximov, Esq.

# JS 44 (Rev. 1/2013) Case 1:17-cv-00745 Document Cover Sile 02/08/17 Page 1 of 2 PageID #: 10

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		
RUSLAN ROSHKO			MIDLAND CREDIT MANAGEMENT, INC., MIDLAND FUNDING, LLC, & ENCORE CAPITAL GROUP, INC.			
(b) County of Residence of First Listed Plaintiff KINGS				County of Residence of First Listed Defendant		
(EXCEPT IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES)			<i>(IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES ONLY)</i> NOTE: IN LAND CONDEMNATION CASES, USE THE LOCATION OF THE TRACT OF LAND INVOLVED.			
(c) Attorneys (Firm Name, A MAXIM MAXIMOV, LLP 1701 AVENUE P BROOKLYN, NEW YORH	OFFICE: FAX: (718	<sup>-)</sup> (718) 395-3459 3) 408-9570 M@MAXIMOVLAW	.COM	Attorneys (If Known)		
II. BASIS OF JURISDI	CTION (Place an "X" in O	ne Box Only)			RINCIPAL PARTIES	(Place an "X" in One Box for Plaintiff
1 U.S. Government Plaintiff	✗ 3 Federal Question (U.S. Government Not a Party)				<b>IF DEF</b> 1 □ 1 Incorporated or Pr of Business In T	
□ 2 U.S. Government Defendant	□ 4 Diversity (Indicate Citizenshi	ip of Parties in Item III)			2 D 2 Incorporated and F of Business In A	Another State
				n or Subject of a eign Country	3 🗖 3 Foreign Nation	
IV. NATURE OF SUIT		ly) RTS	EO	RFEITURE/PENALTY	BANKRUPTCY	OTHER STATUTES
<ul> <li>CONTRACT</li> <li>110 Insurance</li> <li>120 Marine</li> <li>130 Miller Act</li> <li>140 Negotiable Instrument</li> <li>150 Recovery of Overpayment &amp; Enforcement of Judgment</li> <li>151 Medicare Act</li> <li>152 Recovery of Defaulted Student Loans (Excludes Veterans)</li> <li>153 Recovery of Overpayment of Veteran's Benefits</li> <li>160 Stockholders' Suits</li> <li>190 Other Contract</li> <li>195 Contract Product Liability</li> <li>196 Franchise</li> </ul> <b>REAL PROPERTY</b> <ul> <li>210 Land Condemnation</li> <li>220 Foreclosure</li> <li>230 Rent Lease &amp; Ejectment</li> <li>245 Tort Product Liability</li> <li>290 All Other Real Property</li> </ul>	PERSONAL INJURY ☐ 310 Airplane ☐ 315 Airplane Product Liability ☐ 320 Assault, Libel &	PERSONAL INJURY      365 Personal Injury -     Product Liability      367 Health Care/     Pharmaceutical     Personal Injury     Product Liability      368 Asbestos Personal     Injury Product     Liability      PERSONAL PROPER     370 Other Fraud     371 Truth in Lending     380 Other Personal     Property Damage     385 Property Damage     510 Motions to Vacate     Sentence     510 Motions to Vacate     Sentence     530 General     530 General     530 Civil Rights     555 Prison Condition     560 Civil Detainee -     Conditions of	X □ 625 0 690 TY □ 710 0 720 0 740 0 751 8 □ 790	5 Drug Related Seizure of Property 21 USC 881 0 Other LABOR	422 Appeal 28 USC 158     423 Withdrawal     28 USC 157     PROPERTY RIGHTS     820 Copyrights     830 Patent     840 Trademark     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	<ul> <li>OTHER STATUTES</li> <li>375 False Claims Act</li> <li>400 State Reapportionment</li> <li>410 Antitrust</li> <li>430 Banks and Banking</li> <li>450 Commerce</li> <li>460 Deportation</li> <li>470 Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations</li> <li>480 Consumer Credit</li> <li>490 Cable/Sat TV</li> <li>850 Securities/Commodities/ Exchange</li> <li>890 Other Statutory Actions</li> <li>891 Agricultural Acts</li> <li>893 Environmental Matters</li> <li>895 Freedom of Information Act</li> <li>899 Administrative Procedure Act/Review or Appeal of Agency Decision</li> <li>950 Constitutionality of State Statutes</li> </ul>
V. ORIGIN (Place an "X" in	n One Box Only)	Confinement				
	te Court	Appellate Court	Reop	(specify	r District Litigation	
VI. CAUSE OF ACTIC	DN 15 U.S.C. SECTI Brief description of ca	ON 1692 FÁIR D	EBTCC	o not cite jurisdictional stat DLLECTION PRACT ECTION BUSINES	ICES ACT (FDCPA)	
VII. REQUESTED IN COMPLAINT:	UNDER RULE 2	IS A <b>CLASS ACTION</b> 3, F.R.Cv.P.	DE	EMAND \$	CHECK YES only JURY DEMAND:	if demanded in complaint: X Yes □ No
VIII. RELATED CASH IF ANY	<b>E(S)</b> (See instructions): JUDGE				DOCKET NUMBER	
DATE 02/08/2017		SIGNATURE OF ATT				
FOR OFFICE USE ONLY		/S/ MAXIM MA>	$\nabla \nabla $			
RECEIPT # AN	MOUNT	APPLYING IFP		JUDGE	MAG. JUI	DGE

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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.

I,  $\underline{N/A}$ , counsel for \_\_\_\_\_, do hereby certify that the above captioned civil action is ineligible for compulsory arbitration for the following reason(s):

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

the complaint seeks injunctive relief,

the matter is otherwise ineligible for the following reason

### **DISCLOSURE STATEMENT - FEDERAL RULES CIVIL PROCEDURE 7.1**

Identify any parent corporation and any publicly held corporation that owns 10% or more or its stocks:

N/A

### **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)

- Is the civil action being filed in the Eastern District removed from a New York State Court located in Nassau or Suffolk County: NO
- If you answered "no" above:
   a) Did the events or omissions giving rise to the claim or claims, or a substantial part thereof, occur in Nassau or Suffolk County?

b) Did the events of omissions giving rise to the claim or claims, or a substantial part thereof, occur in the Eastern District? YES

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?

(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. X Yes No

Are you currently the subject of any disciplinary action (s) in this or any other state or federal court?

(If yes, please explain)

Yes

No No

I certify the accuracy of all information provided above.

Signature: /S/ MAXIM MAXIMOV, ESQ.

Calcatte Gredit Management, Inc.

2365 Northeide Drive, Suite 200, San Diego, CA 92108

**Original Creditor: Original Account Number:** Charge-Off Date: Last Payment Date:: Current Owner: **Current Servicer:** MCM Account Number:

Citibank, N.A. 02-24-2014 06-26-2013 MIDLAND FUNDING LLC Midland Credit Management, Inc.

Date of Letter:

02-17-2016

Charge-Off Amount: \$428.20 Post Charge-Off Interest Accrued: \$0.00 **Post Charge-Off Fees Accrued:** \$0.00 (Less) Payments and Credits: \$0.00 **Current Balance:** \$428.20

# Enclose \$428.20 in the envelope provided or call (855) 977-1969 to resolve this account.

Dear Ruslan.

As previously communicated, MIDLAND FUNDING LLC purchased your Citibank, N.A. / Sears Premier Card account on 06-09-2014, and Midland Credit Management, Inc. ("MCM"), a debt collection company, is currently collecting on, and servicing your account. We value your experience with us and understand that managing debt can be a difficult process.

This account may still be reported on your credit report as unpaid.

#### YOUR VALIDATION RIGHTS, REQUIRED INITIAL DISCLOSURES, AND ADDITIONAL ACCOUNT INFORMATION: Debt collectors are prohibited by 15 U.S.C. §1692 et seq., from engaging in abusive, deceptive and unfair collection efforts, including the use or threat of violence, the use of obscene or profane language, and repeated phone calls with the intent to annoy, abuse or harass. د. این این این این این این این میشود این این میشود این این میشود میشود میشود میشود این این این این این این این می

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:

- Supplemental Security income (SSI);
- Unemployment benefits;
- Social Security:

to MCM and not the previous owner.

- Public assistance (welfare):

child support;

- Disability benefits;
- Workers' compensation benefits;
- Spousal support, maintenance (alimony) or Public or private pensions;

- Veterans' benefits:
- Federal student loans, federal student
- grants, and federal work study funds; and Ninety percent of your wages or salary earned in the last sixty days.
- The records associated with the CITIBANK, N.A. account If you request, in writing, within thirty (30) days after receiving purchased by MIDLAND FUNDING LLC, reflect that you are obligated on this account, which is in default. As the owner of this account, but subject to the rights described below, MIDLAND FUNDING LLC is entitled to payment of this account. All communication regarding this account should be addressed

Unless you notify MCM within thirty (30) days after receiving this notice that you dispute the validity of the debt, or any portion thereof, MCM will assume this debt to be valid.

If you notify MCM, in writing, within thirty (30) days after receiving this notice that the debt, or any portion thereof, is disputed, MCM will obtain verification of the debt or a copy of a judgment (if there is a judgment) and MCM will mail you a copy of such verification or judgment. Write to: 2365 Northside Drive, Suite 300, San Diego, CA 92108; Attn: Consumer Support Services.

Sincerely

Christi Weber, Division Manager

this notice, MCM will provide you with the name and address of the original creditor. Write to: 2365 Northside Drive, Suite 300, San Diego, CA 92108; Attn: Consumer Support Services.

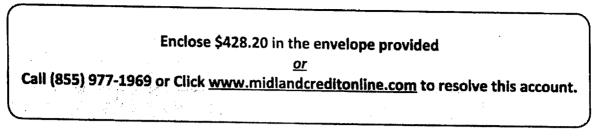
If an attorney represents you with regard to this debt, please refer this letter to your attorney. Likewise, if you are involved in an active bankruptcy case, or if this debt has been discharged in a bankruptcy case, please refer this letter to your bankruptcy attorney so that we may be notified.

Please remember, even if you make a payment within thirty (30) days after receiving this notice, you still have the remainder of the thirty (30) days to exercise the rights described above.

You are hereby notified that a negative credit report reflecting on your credit record may be submitted to a credit reporting agency if you fail to fulfill the terms of your credit obligations.

# Case 1:17 ev 00745 Document 1-2 Filed 02/08/17 Page 2 of 2 PageID #: 13 PLEASE SEE REVERSE SIDE FOR IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Please understand this is a communication from a debt collector. This is an attempt to collect a debt. Any information obtained will be used for that purpose.



This does not alter or amend your validation rights as described on the front side of this letter.

We will report forgiveness of debt as required by IRS regulations. Reporting is not required every time a debt is canceled or settled, and might not be required in your case.

MCM is committed to maintaining the highest standards of honesty and respect. If you are unable to pay today, please call one of our Account Managers at (855) 977-1969 to discuss other options or visit the Help Center Wizard at <u>www.midlandcreditonline.com</u>.



# Experience the MCM Difference

- Enclose \$428.20 in the envelope provided or call (855) 977-1969.
- A dedicated Account Manager will be assigned to your account
- Helpful tools and account information are available at www.midlandcreditonline.com
  - The highest level of transparency (see reverse side for our quick summary)

Calls to and/or from this company may be monitored or recorded.

# **RETAIN THE FOLLOWING ADDRESS INFORMATION FOR YOUR RECORDS:**

Mail Payments to: P.O. Box 60578 Los Angeles, CA 90060-0578	Mail Disputes to: ATTN: Consumer Support Services 2365 Northside Drive, Suite 300 San Diego, CA 92108		
Mall Correspondence (NO Payments) to:	Mail Credit Reporting Correspondence to:		
2365 Northside Drive	MCM Credit Reporting Department		
Suite 300	2365 Northside Drive, Suite 300		
San Diego, CA 92108	San Diego, CA 92108		

We are required under state law to notify consumers of the following rights. This list does not contain a complete list of the rights consumers have under state and federal law:

# IF YOU LIVE IN NEW YORK, THIS APPLIES TO YOU:

New York City Department of Consumer Affairs License Number 1140603, 1207829, 1207820, 1227728, 2022587, 2023151, 2023152, 2027429, 2027430, 2027431.

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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT EASTERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

RUSLAN ROSHKO on behalf of himself and all other similarly situated consumers

Plaintiff,

-against-

MIDLAND CREDIT MANAGEMENT, INC., MIDLAND FUNDING, LLC, AND ENCORE CAPITAL GROUP, INC.,

Defendants.

## SUMMONS IN A CIVIL ACTION

TO: MIDLAND CREDIT MANAGEMENT, INC. 2365 NORTHSIDE DRIVE, #300 SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA 92108 MIDLAND FUNDING, LLC 2365 NORTHSIDE DRIVE, #300 SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA 92108

ENCORE CAPITAL GROUP, INC. 2365 NORTHSIDE DRIVE, #300 SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA 92108

**YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED** and required to file with the Clerk of this Court and serve upon PLAINTIFF'S ATTORNEY:

MAXIM MAXIMOV, ESQ. MAXIM MAXIMOV, LLP 1701 AVENUE P BROOKLYN, NEW YORK 11229

an answer to the complaint which is herewith served upon you, with **21** days after service of this summons upon you, exclusive of the day of service. If you fail to do so, judgment by default will be taken against you for the relief demanded in the complaint.

CLERK

DATE

BY DEPUTY CLERK

# **ClassAction.org**

This complaint is part of ClassAction.org's searchable class action lawsuit database and can be found in this post: <u>Three Debt Collectors Taking Fire for Alleged FDCPA Violations</u>