UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT EASTERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

ELLA SHARON

on behalf of herself and all other similarly situated consumers

Plaintiff,

-against-

CAC FINANCIAL CORP.

Defendant.

CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT

Introduction

1. Plaintiff Ella Sharon seeks redress for the illegal practices of CAC Financial Corp., concerning the collection of debts, in violation of the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, 15 U.S.C. § 1692, et *seq.* ("FDCPA").

Parties

- 2. Plaintiff is a citizen of the State of New York who resides within this District.
- 3. Plaintiff is a consumer as that term is defined by Section 1692(a)(3) of the FDCPA, in that the alleged debt that Defendant sought to collect from Plaintiff is a consumer debt.
- 4. Upon information and belief, Defendant's principal place of business is located in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.
- 5. Defendant is regularly engaged, for profit, in the collection of debts allegedly owed by consumers.
- 6. Defendant is a "debt collector" as that term is defined by the FDCPA, 15 U.S.C. § 1692(a)(6).

Jurisdiction and Venue

- 7. This Court has federal question jurisdiction under 15 U.S.C. § 1692k(d) and 28 U.S.C. § 1331.
- 8. Venue is proper in this district pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1391(b), as the acts and transactions that give rise to this action occurred, in substantial part, in this district.

Allegations Particular to Ella Sharon

- 9. Upon information and belief, on a date better known by Defendant, Defendant began to attempt to collect an alleged consumer debt from the Plaintiff.
- 10. On or about September 2, 2016, Defendant sent the Plaintiff a collection letter seeking to collect a balance allegedly incurred for personal purposes.
- 11. The said collection letter was confusing to the Plaintiff and is likely to be misconstrued by the "least sophisticated consumer" since it is open to more than one reasonable interpretation, at least one of which is inaccurate.
- 12. The Second Circuit stated in <u>Avila v. Riexinger & Assocs., LLC</u>, 817 F.3d 72, 74 (2d Cir. 2016)
 - "The question presented is whether a collection notice that states a consumer's "current balance," but does not disclose that the balance <u>may</u> increase due to interest and fees, complies with this provision. We hold that Section 1692e requires debt collectors, when they notify consumers of their account balance, to disclose that the balance <u>may</u> increase due to interest and fees.
- 13. The holding of the Second Circuit is that Section 1692e of the FDCPA requires every debt collector in every collection letter "to disclose that the balance <u>may</u> increase due to interest and fees".
- 14. However if the "BALANCE" will never increase and the holder of the debt will <u>always</u> accept payment of the amount set forth in full satisfaction of the debt then the Second

Circuit alternatively stated:

"We hold that a debt collector will not be subject to liability under Section 1692e for failing to disclose that the consumer's balance <u>may</u> increase due to interest and fees if the collection notice *either* accurately informs the consumer that the amount of the debt stated in the letter <u>will</u> increase over time, *or* clearly states that the holder of the debt will accept payment of the amount set forth in full satisfaction of the debt." Id. at 817.

- 15. The Second Circuit in *Avila* did not "hold that a debt collector must use any particular disclaimer" *Id.*
- 16. However the Second Circuit did address all the possible scenarios: 1) If the "current balance" could increase over time, then the collection notice must disclose that the "balance might increase due to interest and fees". *Id.* 2) If the "current balance" is currently increasing, then the collection notice must disclose that the amount of the debt stated, "in the letter will increase over time". *Id.* 3) If the "current balance" will never increase and the debt collector is always willing to accept this "specified amount" in "full satisfaction" of the debt, then the debt collector must state so clearly. However, if a debt collector is willing to accept a "specified amount" in full satisfaction of the debt only if payment is made by a specific date, then the debt collector must simplify the consumer's understanding by so stating, while advising that the amount due could increase by the accrual of additional interest or fees if payment is not received by that date.
- 17. In this case, the "BALANCE" was increasing due to interest per the creditor's contract.

 Nevertheless, the collection notice did not disclose that the amount of the debt stated in the letter "could" or "will" increase over time.
- 18. The Plaintiff, as well as the "least sophisticated consumer" was unsure as to whether or

- not the said account was accruing interest.
- 19. The "BALANCE" in this case was for an amount that included original principal, fees, and contractual interest.
- 20. The Plaintiff was left uncertain as to whether the "BALANCE" was accruing interest as there was no disclosure that indicated otherwise.
- 21. The FDCPA requires debt collectors, when notifying consumers of their account balance, to disclose that the balance <u>may</u> increase due to interest and fees; failure to include such disclosures would harm consumers such as the Plaintiff who may hold the reasonable but mistaken belief, that timely payment will satisfy their debts and it would abrogate the Congressional purpose of full and fair disclosure to consumers that is embodied in Section 1692e.
- 22. The amount of the contractual interest automatically increases each day that the defaulted debt remains unpaid due to the automatically accrued interest.
- 23. Collection notices that state only the "BALANCE," but do not disclose that the balance might increase due to interest and fees, are "misleading" within the meaning of Section 1692e.
- 24. The Synchrony Bank account was being collected by EGS Financial Care, Inc., prior to Defendant CAC Financial Corp.'s taking over of the said account.
- 25. EGS Financial Care, Inc. had sent a letter to the Plaintiff, on April 20, 2016 regarding the Synchrony Bank account.
- 26. The balance stated in the April 20, 2016 letter from EGS Financial was \$1,751.00, and in addition to that balance, interest was accruing daily as apparent from the Defendant's September 2, 2016 letter, which reflected an increase in the balance to an amount of

\$2,081.79.

- 27. A reasonable consumer could be misled into believing that he could pay his debt in full by paying the amount as listed in the September 2, 2016 notice.
- 28. In fact, however, since as shown by the difference in the amount between the EGS Financial letter and the new increased amount in the September 2, 2016 letter, which reflects that interest was accruing daily, a consumer who pays the "Account Balance" as stated in the letter be left unaware as to whether or not the debt has been paid in full.
- 29. The debt collector could still seek the interest and fees that had accumulated after the notice was sent, but before the balance was paid, or sell the consumer's debt to a third party, who itself could seek the post charge-off interest and fees from the consumer.¹
- 30. Where a debt collector mails a debtor various different letters which show that interest is accruing daily, yet the debt collector "is willing to accept a specified amount in full satisfaction of the debt if payment is made by a specific date [it must] simplify the consumer's understanding by so stating, while advising that the amount due would increase by the accrual of additional interest or fees if payment is not received by that date." However, if the debt collector intended on waiving the interest accruing it must clearly state that the interest is being waived.
- 31. The said collection letters at issue were increasing daily due to interest, but the September 2, 2016 notice specifically, failed to disclose that the balance would continue to increase due to interest and fees, or in the alternative, the September 2, 2016 letter failed to disclose that the balance was actually not increasing due to the interest being waived.

¹ See <u>Avila v. Riexinger & Assocs., LLC</u>, 817 F.3d 72, 76 (2d Cir. 2016)

 $^{^{2}}$ id.

- 32. In any case, the Defendant's said September 2, 2016 collection letter was "misleading" and "confusing" within the meaning of Section 1692e of the FDCPA.
 - Absent a disclosure by the holder of the debt that the interest accruing since the previous letter is waived, even if the debtor pays the "Amount of Debt" the Defendant and or the creditor could still seek the interest accruing since the previous letter, or sell the consumer's debt to a third party, which itself could seek the accrued interest from the consumer.³
- 33. Waiver of interest even when it has been made explicitly has not prevented debtcollectors from continuing to illegally charge the waived interest.
- 34. At the bare minimum, a debt collector must make clear even to the unsophisticated consumer that it intends to waive the accruing post charge-off interest.
- 35. A debt-collector must disclose, that the balance due may change over time.
- 36. To the extent that the Creditor or the Defendant intended to waive the automatically accrued and accruing interest, it was required to disclose that in the most conspicuous of terms.
- 37. If the "BALANCE," will never increase and the debt collector is always willing to accept this "specified amount" in "full satisfaction" of the debt, then the debt collector must clearly state that the holder of the debt will <u>always</u> accept payment of the amount set forth in "full satisfaction" of the debt.
- 38. Defendant was required to include a disclosure that the automatically accrued interest was accruing, or in the alternative, the Defendant was required to disclose that the creditor has made an intentional decision to waive the automatically accruing interest

³ Avila, at *10-11.

and will always accept this "specified amount" in "full satisfaction" of the debt nonetheless it did not make any of those disclosures in violation of 1692e.

- 39. If interest was waived, the letter would need to contain that disclosure and clearly state that no interest is accruing on this account in order to provide full and fair disclosure to consumers of the actual balance as is embodied in Section 1692e.
- 40. The Second Circuit adopted a safe harbor disclaimer stating "that requiring such disclosure best achieves the Congressional purpose of full and fair disclosure to consumers that is embodied in Section 1692e. It also protects consumers such as the Plaintiff, who may hold the reasonable but mistaken belief that timely payment will satisfy their debts."⁴
- 41. Because the statement of the "BALANCE" that included original principal, fees, and contractual interest, without notice that the accruing interest was expressly waived can mislead the least sophisticated consumer into believing that payment of the amount stated will clear her account, the FDCPA requires debt collectors, when they notify consumers of their account balance, to expressly disclose that the amount of the debt stated in the letter will increase over time, or clearly state that the holder of the debt will always accept payment of the amount set forth in full satisfaction of the debt. Id. at 817.
- 42. Requiring such disclosure best achieves the Congressional purpose of full and fair disclosure to consumers that is embodied in Section 1692e. It also protects consumers such as the Plaintiff, who may hold the reasonable, but mistaken belief that timely payment will satisfy their debts and it protects them from other debt collectors seeking further interest on this debt in the future.

⁴ Avila v. Riexinger & Assocs., LLC, 817 F.3d 72, 76 (2d Cir. 2016)

- 43. According to the Second Circuit's finding that the "BALANCE" must contain a full and fair disclosure, if a credit card account was being charged interest, pursuant to a contract and the interest was intended to be waived, disclosure of such a waiver is necessary or the consumer would not know what the balance is. "[i]n fact, however, if interest is accruing daily, [or was not expressly waived] a consumer who pays the 'current balance' stated on the notice will not know whether the debt has been paid in full. The debt collector could still seek the [accruing or unwaived] interest and fees that accumulated after the notice was sent but before the balance was paid, or sell the consumer's debt to a third party, which itself could seek the interest and fees from the consumer." ⁵
- 44. The 8th Circuit in <u>Haney v. Portfolio Recovery Assocs.</u>, No. 15-1932, 2016 U.S. App. LEXIS 17287 (8th Cir. Sep. 21, 2016) clearly explains that merely not including interest in post charge off statements is not express waiver of interest, and the debt collector or creditor can seek the interest in the future.
- 45. In fact, in this case the Plaintiff is still not sure whether there was any intent to waive the interest. There was definitely no express waiver and disclosure of waiver is mandatory if interest was originally accruing per the contract. The consumer could not know what the real balance is.
- 46. The intent to waive a contractual right must be unmistakably manifested and may not be inferred from doubtful or equivocal acts. A waiver of a contract right does not occur by negligence, oversight or thoughtlessness and cannot be inferred from mere silence.
- 47. Failure to disclose such a waiver of the automatically accruing interest is in of itself

⁵ <u>Avila v. Riexinger & Assocs., LLC</u>, 817 F.3d 72, 76 (2d Cir. 2016)

⁶ Navillus Tile, Inc. v. <u>Turner Const. Co.</u>, 2 A.D.3d 209, 770 N.Y.S.2d 3 (1st Dep't 2003)

⁷ Acumen Re Management Corp. v. General Sec. Nat. Ins. Co., 2012 WL 3890128, at *6 (S.D. N.Y. 2012), reconsideration denied, motion to certify appeal granted, 2012 WL 6053936 (S.D. N.Y. 2012).

- deceptive and "misleading" within the meaning of Section 1692e. The Defendant knew that the balance would increase due to interest, fees and/or disbursements.
- 48. According to the Second Circuit in *Avila*, any debt that <u>was</u> accruing interest and fees would need full and complete disclosure which would either clearly state that the balance "may" or "will" increase over time or clearly state that the debt is "static" and holder of the debt will always accept payment of the amount set forth in "full satisfaction" of the debt.
- 49. The "BALANCE" is for an amount that includes original principal, fees, and contractual interest.
- 50. Since interest was accruing on this debt, the collection notice must inform the consumer that the amount of the debt stated in the letter may increase over time.
- 51. Collection letters failing to reference the accrual of interest or waiver of interest are subject to two different interpretations as to the accumulation of interest, rendering them deceptive under § 1692e(10). See Sperber v. Central Credit Services LLC No. CV 16-cv-05222 (ARR) (RLM), 2017 U.S. Dist. (E.D.N.Y. May. 1, 2017). ("This matter presents the question of whether failing to disclose [] interest, or failing to explicitly waive the right to collect it, constitutes a "false, deceptive, or misleading" practice under § 1692e... Plaintiff contends that the collection notice he received, which neither stated that [] interest was accruing nor waived the creditor's right to collect it, is deceptive or misleading under Avila v. Riexinger & Associates, LLC, 817 F.3d 72 (2d Cir. 2016)... Having alleged that interest was accruing on his debt and that CCS failed to either disclose this interest or otherwise disclaim its right to collect it, Sperber has stated a plausible claim that the collection notices he received from CCS were misleading under

Section 1692e of the FDCPA. See Avila, 817 F.3d at 76.")

- 52. "None of the letters provided further detail regarding when or how the balance had been calculated, whether it included interest, or whether interest continued to accrue. The court finds that the "least sophisticated consumer" could have read these letters in at least two different ways. On one hand, an unsophisticated consumer could reasonably conclude that the balance was a fixed amount that would not be subject to further interest, late fees, or other charges. On the other, an unsophisticated consumer could just as reasonably determine that the balance would continue to grow over time as interest accrued. One of those meanings would necessarily be inaccurate. Therefore, the court finds that Defendants' letters were deceptive as a matter of law. Courts in other districts have reached the same conclusion on similar facts. The court grants Ms. Snyder's motion for summary judgment on this issue." Snyder v. Gordon, No. C11-1379 RAJ, 2012 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 120659, at *8-9 (W.D. Wash. Aug. 24, 2012), Avila v. Riexinger & Assocs., LLC, 817 F.3d 72, 75 (2d Cir. 2016). ("[I]n considering whether a collection notice violates Section 1692e, we apply the "least sophisticated consumer" standard...Under this standard, a collection notice is misleading if it is "open to more than one reasonable interpretation, at least one of which is inaccurate.")
- 53. "The Court therefore finds that [the debt collectors] letters to [the debtor] are subject to two different interpretations as to the accumulation of interest, rendering them deceptive under § 1692e(10) ... The logic [applies] to stated outstanding debt and the need for consumers to be aware that this debt may be dynamic or static. They are concerned with a consumer's inability to discern whether an amount owed may grow with time, regardless of whether offers to settle are on the table or not. As [plaintiff] states, this

information is relevant in a consumer's payment calculus, especially when some debts must be paid at the expense of others. And, of course, the existence of settlement offers would be entirely irrelevant to these considerations for the many consumers who are unable to take advantage of them...Plaintiff's claim is not that the stated balance was not itemized, but that it was unclear whether it was subject to future interest." Michalek v. ARS Nat'l Sys., No. 3:11-CV-1374, 2011 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 142976, at *16-17 (M.D. Pa. Dec. 13, 2011).

- 54. The Plaintiff and the least sophisticated consumer could conclude from the said collection letter, that the "BALANCE" is static and that his or her payment of the amount due would satisfy the debt irrespective of when payment was remitted. However, absent a disclosure by the holder of the debt that clearly stated that the holder of the debt would accept payment of the amount set forth in "full satisfaction" of the debt then even if the debtor pays the "BALANCE" the Defendant and or the creditor could still seek the automatic interest that accumulated after the breach of contract, or sell the consumer's debt to a third party, which itself could seek the automatic interest and from the consumer. (Avila, at *10-11.)
- 55. The said letter was deceptive and misleading as it merely identified the "BALANCE," yet failed to disclose that the balance may increase due to interest and fees.
- 56. The Plaintiff was left uncertain as to whether the "BALANCE" was accruing interest as there was no disclosure that indicated otherwise.
- 57. A reasonable consumer could read the notice and be misled into believing that he or she could always pay his or her debt in full by paying the amount listed on the notice.
- 58. In fact, however, since interest is accruing daily, or since there are undisclosed late fees,

- a consumer who pays the "BALANCE" stated on the notice will not know whether the debt has been paid in full.
- 59. The debt collector could still seek the interest and fees that accumulated after the notice was sent but before the balance was paid, or sell the consumer's debt to a third party, which itself could seek the interest and fees from the consumer.
- 60. The statement of a "BALANCE" without notice that the amount is already increasing due to accruing interest or other charges, would mislead the least sophisticated consumer into believing that payment of the amount stated will clear his or her account.
- 61. 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 would harm consumers such as the Plaintiff who may hold the reasonable but mistaken belief, that timely payment will satisfy their debts and it would abrogate the Congressional purpose of full and fair disclosure to consumers that is embodied in Section 1692e.
- 62. Collection notices that state only the "BALANCE," but do not disclose that the balance might increase due to interest and fees, are "misleading" within the meaning of Section 1692e.
- 63. The Plaintiff and the least sophisticated consumer would be led to believe that the "BALANCE" is static and that his or her payment of the amount due would satisfy the debt irrespective of when payment was remitted.
- 64. A consumer who pays the "BALANCE" stated on the collection letter will be left unsure as to whether or not the debt has been paid in full, as the Defendant could still attempt to collect on any interest and fees that accumulated after the letter was sent but before the

- balance was paid.
- 65. The Defendant violated 15 U.S.C. § 1692e(2)(A) for misrepresenting the amount of the debt owed by the Plaintiff.
- 66. A debt collector, when notifying a consumer of his or her account balance, must disclose that the balance may increase due to interest and fees.
- 67. 15 U.S.C. § 1692e provides:

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 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.
- 68. Defendant's September 2, 2016 letter is in violation of 15 U.S.C. §§ 1692e, 1692e(2)(A) and 1692e(10) of the FDCPA for the use of any false representation or deceptive means to collect or attempt to collect any debt and for misrepresenting the amount of the debt owed by the Plaintiff.
- 69. Plaintiff suffered injury in fact by being subjected to unfair and abusive practices of the Defendant.
- 70. Plaintiff suffered actual harm by being the target of the Defendant's misleading debt collection communications.
- 71. Defendant violated the Plaintiff's right not to be the target of misleading debt collection communications.
- 72. Defendant violated the Plaintiff's right to a truthful and fair debt collection process.

- 73. Defendant used materially false, deceptive, misleading representations and means in its attempted collection of Plaintiff's alleged debt.
- 74. Defendant's communications were designed to cause the debtor to suffer a harmful disadvantage in charting a course of action in response to the Defendant's collection efforts.
- 75. 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 Defendant's 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.
- 76. These deceptive communications additionally violated the FDCPA since they frustrate the consumer's ability to intelligently choose his or her response.
- 77. As an actual and proximate result of the acts and omissions of CAC Financial Corp., Plaintiff has suffered including but not limited to, fear, stress, mental anguish, emotional stress and acute embarrassment for which she should be compensated in an amount to be established by a jury at trial.

AS AND FOR A CAUSE OF ACTION

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

- 78. Plaintiff re-states, re-alleges, and incorporates herein by reference, paragraphs one (1) through seventy seven (77) as if set forth fully in this cause of action.
- 79. This cause of action is brought on behalf of Plaintiff and the members of a class.

- 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 September 2, 2016; and (a) the collection letter was to a consumer seeking payment of a personal debt purportedly owed to Synchrony Bank; and (b) the collection letter was not returned by the postal service as undelivered; (c) and the Plaintiff asserts that the letter contained violations of 15 U.S.C. §§ 1692e, 1692e(2)(A) and 1692e(10) of the FDCPA for the use of any false representation or deceptive means to collect or attempt to collect any debt and for misrepresenting the amount of the debt owed by the Plaintiff.
- 81. Pursuant to Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 23, a class action is appropriate and preferable in this case because:
 - A. Based on the fact that a form collection letter is at the heart of this litigation, the class is so numerous that joinder of all members is impracticable.
 - B. There are questions of law and fact common to the class and these questions predominate over any questions affecting only individual class members. The principal question presented by this claim is whether the Defendant violated the FDCPA.
 - C. The only individual issue is the identification of the consumers who received such collection letters (*i.e.* the class members), a matter capable of ministerial determination from the records of Defendant.
 - D. The claims of the Plaintiff are typical of those of the class members. All are based on the same facts and legal theories.

- E. The Plaintiff will fairly and adequately represent the class members' interests. The Plaintiff has retained counsel experienced in bringing class actions and collection-abuse claims. The Plaintiff's interests are consistent with those of the members of the class.
- 82. A class action is superior for the fair and efficient adjudication of the class members' claims. Congress specifically envisions class actions as a principal means of enforcing the FDCPA. 15 U.S.C. § 1692(k). The members of the class are generally unsophisticated individuals, whose rights will not be vindicated in the absence of a class action. Prosecution of separate actions by individual members of the classes would create the risk of inconsistent or varying adjudications resulting in the establishment of inconsistent or varying standards for the parties and would not be in the interest of judicial economy.
- 83. If the facts are discovered to be appropriate, the Plaintiff will seek to certify a class pursuant to Rule 23(b)(3) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure.
- 84. Collection attempts, such as those made by the Defendant are to be evaluated by the objective standard of the hypothetical "least sophisticated consumer."

Violations of the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act

- 85. The Defendant's actions as set forth above in the within complaint violates the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act.
- 86. Because the Defendant 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.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff, respectfully requests preliminary and permanent injunctive relief, and that this Court enter judgment in her favor and against the Defendant 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: Woodmere, New York August 21, 2017

/s/ Adam J. Fishbein
Adam J. Fishbein, P.C. (AF-9508)
Attorney At Law
Attorney for the Plaintiff
735 Central Avenue
Woodmere, New York 11598
Telephone: (516) 668-6945

Email: fishbeinadamj@gmail.com

Plaintiff requests trial by jury on all issues so triable.

/s/ Adam J. Fishbein Adam J. Fishbein (AF-9508) **DEPT 806**

HORSHAM, PA 19044



4740 Baxter Road Virginia Beach, VA 23462

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NORAHZ ALLE AVA HTEL SOPH BROOKLYN, NY 11219 877-278-5297 OFFICE HOURS(ET): 8:00AM-10:00PM Monday thru Friday 8:00AM-5:00PM Saturday 10:30AM-7:30PM Sunday Apr 20, 2016

990 CREDITOR: Synchrony Bank

ACCOUNT #: XXXXXXXXXXXXX6203

REGARDING:

EVINE Live Credit Card Account TOTAL BALANCE: \$1751.00

Notice: See Reverse Side For Important Information.

The named creditor has placed the above account with our office for collection. Please enclose your check or money order. If you need to speak to a representative, you may call us at 877-278-5297.

You may also make payment by visiting www.evine.com

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

Calls to or from this company may be monitored or recorded for quality assurance.

Your account balance may be periodically increased due to the addition of accrued interest or other charges as provided in your agreement with the original creditor or as otherwise provided by state law.

We are required by regulation of the New York State Department of Financial Services to notify you of the following information. This information is NOT legal advice. Debt collectors, in accordance with the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, 15 U.S.C. § 1692 et seq., are prohibited from engaging in abusive, deceptive, and unfair debt collection efforts, including but not limited to:

(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:

- Supplemental security income, (SSI);
- 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.

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

THIS COLLECTION AGENCY IS LICENSED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK; LICENSE#673223 CONTACT ALEX DREW AT EGS FINANCIAL CARE, INC.

PLEASE RETURN THIS PORTION WITH YOUR PAYMENT (MAKE SURE ADDRESS SHOWS THROUGH WINDOW)

Account # XXXXXXXXXXXX6203

Payment Amount

ELLA SHARON

\$

Make Payment To:

Synchrony Bank/EVINE Live PO Box 960009 Orlando, FL 32896-0009

Check here if your address or phone number has changed and provide the new information below.

Total Balance

\$ 1751.00

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2601 NW EXPRESSWAY, SUITE 1000 EAST OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLAHOMA 73112-7236 (405) 425-1549 • 1-800-303-7276 09-02-16

CREDITOR: Synchronv Bank/SYNCB/Evine Live

ACCOUNT # : 29 BALANCE : \$2018.79

CLIENT ACCT #:********6203

POST C/O PAYMENTS: \$.00 POST C/O INTEREST: \$.00 POST C/O FEES: \$.00

POST C/O AMOUNT: \$2018.79

WE HAVE BEEN HIRED BY THE ABOVE REFERENCED CREDITOR FOR COLLECTION OF MONEY DUE.

UNLESS YOU NOTIFY THIS OFFICE WITHIN 30 DAYS AFTER RECEIVING THIS NOTICE THAT YOU DISPUTE THE VALIDITY OF THIS DEBT OR ANY PORTION THEREOF, THIS OFFICE WILL ASSUME THIS DEBT IS VALID. IF YOU NOTIFY THIS OFFICE IN WRITING WITHIN 30 DAYS FROM RECEIVING THIS NOTICE THAT YOU DISPUTE THE VALIDITY OF THIS DEBT OR ANY PORTION THEREOF, THIS OFFICE WILL OBTAIN VERIFICATION OF THE DEBT OR OBTAIN A COPY OF A JUDGMENT AND MAIL YOU A COPY OF SUCH JUDGMENT OR VERIFICATION. IF YOU REQUEST OF THIS OFFICE IN WRITING WITHIN 30 DAYS AFTER RECEIVING THIS NOTICE THIS OFFICE WILL PROVIDE YOU WITH THE NAME AND ADDRESS OF THE ORIGINAL CREDITOR, IF DIFFERENT FROM THE CURRENT CREDITOR.

PLEASE CONTACT ROSALVA GRANT AT 877-218-5896 Extension 556.

OUR OFFICE HOURS ARE: MONDAY - FRIDAY 8:00 A.M. TO 5:00 P.M. C.S.T.

OR MAKE YOUR SECURE PAYMENT ONLINE AT PAYCACFINANCIAL.COM.

THE NEW YORK CITY DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS HAS ASSIGNED LICENSE #0991650 TO THIS AGENCY.

THIS COMMUNICATION IS FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR. THIS IS AN ATTEMPT TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.

DEBT COLLECTORS, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE FAIR DEBT COLLECTION PRACTICES ACT, 15 U.S.C. § 1692 ET SEQ., ARE PROHIBITED FROM ENGAGING IN ABUSIVE, DECEPTIVE, AND UNFAIR DEBT COLLECTION EFFORTS, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO:

- (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);
- 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.

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

for the

| ELLA SHARON |))) |
|--|---|
| Plaintiff(s) |) |
| V. | Civil Action No. |
| ·· |) CIVIL TRUM TVO. |
| |) |
| CAC FINANCIAL CORP. | ,) |
| |) |
| Defendant(s) |) |
| SUMMONS II | N A CIVIL ACTION |
| To: (Defendant's name and address) CAC FINANCIAL CORP. 2601 N.W. EXPRESSWA STE 1000E OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLA | AY |
| A lawsuit has been filed against you. | |
| are the United States or a United States agency, or an offi P. 12 (a)(2) or (3) — you must serve on the plaintiff an ar | you (not counting the day you received it) — or 60 days if you icer or employee of the United States described in Fed. R. Civ. nswer to the attached complaint or a motion under Rule 12 of tion must be served on the plaintiff or plaintiff's attorney, |
| If you fail to respond, judgment by default will b You also must file your answer or motion with the court. | e 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))

| was ra | This summons for (no ceived by me on (date) | ame of individual and title, if a | ny) | | | | |
|--------|--|-----------------------------------|---|--------------|--|--|--|
| was re | cerved by the on (aate) | | · | | | | |
| | ☐ I personally served the summons on the individual at (place) | | | | | | |
| | | | on (date) | ; or | | | |
| | ☐ I left the summons at the individual's residence or usual place of abode with (name) | | | | | | |
| | | | , a person of suitable age and discretion who res | sides there, | | | |
| | on (date) , and mailed a copy to the individual's last known address; or | | | | | | |
| | \square I served the summons on (name of individual), who | | | | | | |
| | designated by law to | accept service of process | s on behalf of (name of organization) | | | | |
| | | | on (date) | ; or | | | |
| | ☐ I returned the summons unexecuted because | | | | | | |
| | ☐ Other (<i>specify</i>): | | | | | | |
| | My fees are \$ | for travel and S | \$ 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:

Print Save As... Reset

 $_{
m JS~44~(Rev.~1/2013)}$ Case 1:17-cv-05174 Document 3 VEIR 09/01/17 Page 1 of 2 PageID #: 22

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.)

| purpose of initiating the civil de | ocket sheet. (SEE INSTRUC | TIONS ON NEXT PAGE OF TH | HIS FORM.) | , . | |
|---|---|--|---|---|---|
| I. (a) PLAINTIFFS | | | DEFENDANTS | | |
| ELLA SHARON | | | CAC FINANCIAL CORP. | | |
| (b) County of Residence of First Listed Plaintiff Kings (EXCEPT IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES) | | | County of Residence of First Listed Defendant Oklahoma (IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES ONLY) NOTE: IN LAND CONDEMNATION CASES, USE THE LOCATION OF THE TRACT OF LAND INVOLVED. | | |
| (c) Attorneys (Firm Name, Address, and Telephone Number) Adam J. Fishbein 735 Central Avenue Woodmere NY 11598 516 668 6945 fishbeinadamj@gmail.com | | | Attorneys (If Known) | | |
| II. BASIS OF JURISDI | ICTION (Place an "X" in O | ne Box Only) | | RINCIPAL PARTIES | (Place an "X" in One Box for Plaintif |
| □ 1 U.S. Government Plaintiff | ■ 3 Federal Question (U.S. Government) | Not a Party) | (For Diversity Cases Only) P1 Citizen of This State | TF DEF 1 □ 1 Incorporated or Pr of Business In T | |
| ☐ 2 U.S. Government Defendant | ☐ 4 Diversity (Indicate Citizensh | ip of Parties in Item III) | Citizen of Another State | 2 | |
| W. MATURE OF STUT | n | | Citizen or Subject of a Foreign Country | 3 🗖 3 Foreign Nation | □ 6 □ 6 |
| IV. NATURE OF SUIT | | ely) PRTS | FORFEITURE/PENALTY | BANKRUPTCY | OTHER STATUTES |
| □ 110 Insurance □ 120 Marine □ 130 Miller Act □ 140 Negotiable Instrument □ 150 Recovery of Overpayment | PERSONAL INJURY 310 Airplane 315 Airplane Product Liability 320 Assault, Libel & Slander 330 Federal Employers' Liability 340 Marine 345 Marine Product Liability 350 Motor Vehicle Product Liability 355 Motor Vehicle Product Liability 360 Other Personal Injury 362 Personal Injury Medical Malpractice CIVIL RIGHTS 440 Other Civil Rights 441 Voting 442 Employment 443 Housing/ Accommodations 445 Amer. w/Disabilities - Employment 446 Amer. w/Disabilities - Other 448 Education | PERSONAL INJURY 365 Personal Injury - Product Liability 367 Health Care/ Pharmaceutical Personal Injury Product Liability 368 Asbestos Personal Injury Product Liability PERSONAL PROPERTY 370 Other Fraud 371 Truth in Lending 380 Other Personal Property Damage Product Liability PRISONER PETITIONS Habeas Corpus: 463 Alien Detainee 510 Motions to Vacate Sentence 530 General 535 Death Penalty Other: 540 Mandamus & Other 550 Civil Rights 555 Prison Condition 560 Civil Detainee - Conditions of | LABOR ☐ 710 Fair Labor Standards Act ☐ 720 Labor/Management Relations ☐ 740 Railway Labor Act ☐ 790 Other Labor Litigation ☐ 791 Employee Retirement Income Security Act IMMIGRATION ☐ 462 Naturalization Application ☐ 465 Other Immigration Actions | □ 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 | □ 375 False Claims Act □ 400 State Reapportionment □ 410 Antitrust □ 430 Banks and Banking □ 450 Commerce □ 460 Deportation □ 470 Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations ■ 480 Consumer Credit □ 490 Cable/Sat TV □ 850 Securities/Commodities/ Exchange □ 890 Other Statutory Actions □ 891 Agricultural Acts □ 893 Environmental Matters □ 895 Freedom of Information Act □ 896 Arbitration □ 899 Administrative Procedure Act/Review or Appeal of Agency Decision □ 950 Constitutionality of State Statutes |
| | moved from \Box 3 | Confinement Remanded from | Reinstated or Reopened 5 Transfer Anothe (specify) | r District Litigation | |
| VI. CAUSE OF ACTIO | 15 USC 1692 FAI | R DEBT COLLECTIO | ling (Do not cite jurisdictional stat N PRACTICES ACT | utes unless diversity): | |
| VII. REQUESTED IN COMPLAINT: | | IS A CLASS ACTION | DEMAND \$ | CHECK YES only JURY DEMAND: | if demanded in complaint: ∴ XI Yes □ No |
| VIII. RELATED CASI IF ANY | E(S) (See instructions): | JUDGE | | DOCKET NUMBER | |
| DATE 08/31/2017 FOR OFFICE USE ONLY | | signature of attor /s/ Adam J. Fishbe | | | |
| | MOUNT | APPLYING IFP | JUDGE | MAG. JU | DGE |

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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.

| I, Adam J. Fishbein ineligible for compul | , counsel for Plaintiff , do hereby ce lsory arbitration for the following reason(s): | ertify that the above captioned civil action is | | |
|---|---|---|--|--|
| □ mon | netary damages sought are in excess of \$150,000, exclusive | of interest and costs, | | |
| the c | complaint seeks injunctive relief, | | | |
| ⊠ the r | matter is otherwise ineligible for the following reason | Class Action | | |
| | DISCLOSURE STATEMENT - FEDERAL RULES C | CIVIL PROCEDURE 7.1 | | |
| Iden | ntify any parent corporation and any publicly held corporation that | at owns 10% or more or its stocks: | | |
| None | | | | |
| | RELATED CASE STATEMENT (Section VIII on t | he Front of this Form) | | |
| provides that "A civil cas because the cases arise fresame judge and magistrat case: (A) involves identic | are arguably related pursuant to Division of Business Rule 50.3.1 in Secse is "related" to another civil case for purposes of this guideline when, rom the same transactions or events, a substantial saving of judicial resorte judge." Rule 50.3.1 (b) provides that "A civil case shall not be deemed al legal issues, or (B) involves the same parties." Rule 50.3.1 (c) further otherwise pursuant to paragraph (d), civil cases shall not be deemed to be | because of the similarity of facts and legal issues or burces is likely to result from assigning both cases to the ed "related" to another civil case merely because the civil er provides that "Presumptively, and subject to the power | | |
| | NY-E DIVISION OF BUSINESS RULE 5 | 50.1(d)(2) | | |
| 1.) Is the civil act County: No | tion being filed in the Eastern District removed from a New York | s State Court located in Nassau or Suffolk | | |
| | red "no" above: ents or omissions giving rise to the claim or claims, or a substanti | al part thereof, occur in Nassau or Suffolk | | |
| b) Did the eve District? Yes | ents of omissions giving rise to the claim or claims, or a substanti | ial part thereof, occur in the Eastern | | |
| Suffolk County, or, in a or Suffolk County? | tion 2 (b) is "No," does the defendant (or a majority of the defendant interpleader action, does the claimant (or a majority of the cla | imants, if there is more than one) reside in Nassau | | |
| (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 | d in the Eastern District of New York and currently a member in Yes No | good standing of the bar of this court. | | |
| Are you currently the s | subject of any disciplinary action (s) in this or any other state or f Yes (If yes, please explain) No | ederal court? | | |
| I certify the accuracy o | of all information provided above. | | | |
| Signature: /s/ Adar | m J. Fishbein | | | |

ClassAction.org

This complaint is part of ClassAction.org's searchable class action lawsuit database and can be found in this post: NY Consumer Claims CAC Financial Corp. Failed to Disclose Interest