

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
EASTERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK**

-----X Case No. 17-cv-04448

ESSENCE SMITH, on behalf of herself  
individually and all others similarly situated,

Plaintiff,

-against-

**CLASS ACTION  
COMPLAINT**

NATIONAL CREDIT SERVICES, INC.,

Defendant.

-----X

Plaintiff, by and through her attorneys, FAGENSON & PUGLISI, PLLC,  
upon knowledge as to herself and her own acts, and as to all other matters upon  
information and belief, brings this complaint against above-named defendant and in  
support thereof alleges the following:

**INTRODUCTION**

1. This is an action for damages brought by an individual consumer and  
on behalf of a class for defendant's violations of the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act  
("FDCPA"), 15 U.S.C. § 1692, *et seq.* which prohibits debt collectors from engaging in  
abusive, deceptive and unfair acts and practices.

2. Further, this is an action for damages and injunctive relief brought  
by an individual consumer against defendant pursuant to New York General Business  
Law ("NYGBL") § 349 regarding defendant's deceptive acts and practices.

### JURISDICTION AND VENUE

3. This Court has federal question jurisdiction pursuant to the FDCPA, 15 U.S.C. § 1692k(d) and 28 U.S.C. § 1331 and supplemental jurisdiction exists over the NYGBL § 349 claims pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1367.

4. This Court has venue pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1391(b) in that a substantial portion of the events or omissions giving rise to this action occurred in this District.

### PARTIES

5. Plaintiff is a natural person who resides in this District.

6. Plaintiff is a consumer within the meaning of 15 U.S.C. § 1692a(3) as she is a natural person who is alleged by defendant to owe a financial obligation.

7. The financial obligation which defendant sought to collect from plaintiff is a debt within the meaning of 15 U.S.C. § 1692a(5) in that the obligation which defendant sought to collect from plaintiff was originally incurred, if at all, for personal, family or household purposes for a student loan.

8. Plaintiff is a reasonable consumer within the meaning of NYGBL § 349 who acted reasonably under the circumstances alleged herein.

9. Defendant is a debt collector within the meaning of 15 U.S.C. § 1692a(6).

10. The principal purpose of defendant's business is the collection of defaulted consumer debts.

11. Defendant uses the mails in its business the principal purpose of which is the collection of defaulted consumer debts.

12. Defendant regularly collects or attempts to collect defaulted consumer debts owed or due or alleged to be owed or due to others.

13. Upon information and belief, defendant is a foreign business corporation incorporated in the State of Washington.

#### FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS

14. Plaintiff re-alleges paragraphs 1 to 13 as if fully re-stated herein.

15. Defendant sent to plaintiff a collection letter dated July 29, 2017.

16. In the letter defendant stated that it was attempting to collect a debt held by the United States Department of Education.

17. The debt which defendant sought to collect was a student loan debt held by the U.S. Department of Education.

18. There is no statute of limitations on student loan debts held by the U.S. Department of Education.

19. However, defendant stated in its letter, in pertinent part:

“Your creditor or debt collector believes that the legal time limit (statute of limitations) for suing you to collect this debt may have expired. It is a violation of the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, 15 U.S.C. § 1692 et seq., to sue to collect on a debt for which the statute of limitations has expired. However, if the creditor sues you to collect on this debt, you may be able to prevent the creditor from obtaining a judgment against you. To do so, you must tell the court that the statute of limitations has expired.

Even if the statute of limitations has expired, you may choose to make payments on the debt. However, be aware: if you make a payment on the debt, admit to owing the debt, promise to pay the debt, or waive the statute of limitations on the debt, the time period in which the debt is enforceable in court may start again.”

20. Upon receipt of defendant’s letter and upon reading defendant’s statement regarding the statute of limitations, plaintiff believed, erroneously, that she could not be sued for the debt.

21. Upon receipt of defendant’s letter and upon reading defendant’s statement regarding the statute of limitations, plaintiff believed, erroneously, that she would be able to get any lawsuit against her to collect the debt dismissed on the ground of the statute of limitations.

AS AND FOR A FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION

False, deceptive and misleading statement that statute of limitations had expired

15 U.S.C. §§ 1692e and 1692e(2)(A)

22. Plaintiff re-alleges paragraphs 1 to 21 as if fully re-stated herein.

23. By the letter dated July 29, 2017, defendant sought to collect from plaintiff a student loan debt held by the U.S. Department of Education.

24. There is no statute of limitations on student loan debts held by the U.S. Department of Education.

25. Defendant stated in its letter that the statute of limitations had expired.

26. Said statement was false because there is no statute of limitations on plaintiff's debt.

27. Said statement was deceptive and misleading because it would cause plaintiff and the least sophisticated consumer to believe, erroneously, that they could not be sued for the debt.

28. A reasonable reading of defendant's letter by plaintiff and the least sophisticated consumer would lead them to believe that the statute of limitations had expired.

29. Such a reading would be false because there is no statute of limitations on the debt and they could still be sued therefor.

30. Such a reading was deceptive and misleading because it would cause plaintiff and the least sophisticated consumer to believe, erroneously, that they could not be sued for the debt.

31. Plaintiff and the least sophisticated consumer would be less likely to pay a debt for which they are told they cannot be sued.

32. Defendant's statement would influence plaintiff and the least sophisticated consumer as to whether to pay the debt and as to the priority to give to the payment of the debt.

33. Defendant misrepresented the legal status of the debt by leading plaintiff and the least sophisticated consumer to believe that the statute of limitations on the debt had expired, when in fact there was no statute of limitations at all.

34. Defendant's misrepresentation that the statute of limitations on the debt had expired is therefore a false, deceptive and misleading representation used by defendant in its attempt to collect the debt in violation of the FDCPA, 15 U.S.C. § 1692e.

35. Defendant's misrepresentation that the statute of limitations on the debt had expired is also a false representation of the legal status of the debt, in violation of the FDCPA, 15 U.S.C. § 1692e(2)(A).

AS AND FOR A SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION

NYGBL § 349

36. Plaintiff re-alleges paragraphs 1 to 35 as if fully re-stated herein.

37. Defendant owed a duty to plaintiff to effect its collection of plaintiff's alleged debt with reasonable care.

38. Defendant breached its duty to collect plaintiff's debt with reasonable care.

39. Defendant stated in its letter dated July 29, 2017, in pertinent part:

“Your creditor or debt collector believes that the legal time limit (statute of limitations) for suing you to collect this debt may have expired. It is a violation of the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, 15 U.S.C. § 1692 et seq., to sue to collect on a debt for which the statute of limitations has expired. However, if the creditor sues you to collect on this debt, you may be able to prevent the creditor from obtaining a judgment against you. To do so, you must tell the court that the statute of limitations has expired.

Even if the statute of limitations has expired, you may choose to make payments on the debt. However, be aware: if you make a payment on the debt, admit to owing the debt, promise to pay the debt, or waive the statute of limitations on the debt, the time period in which the debt is enforceable in court may start again.”

40. In the exercise of reasonable care defendant ought to have ensured that for any debt for which there was no statute of limitations it did not include the above-quoted statement in its collection letters.

41. The fact that defendant included the above-quoted statement in its collection letter to plaintiff for a debt for which there was no statute of limitations indicates a failure on the part of defendant to comply with or to perform its duty to effect collection of the debt with reasonable care.

42. On information and belief, defendant obtains tens, if not hundreds, of federal student loans of New York residents each month, for the purpose of collection.

43. Defendant's act of falsely stating that the statute of limitations on plaintiff's debt had expired is a deceptive act and practice.

44. Defendant's act of giving the false impression that the statute of limitations on the debt had expired is a deceptive act and practice.

45. Said deceptive act and practice was committed by defendant in the conduct of a business, trade or commerce or the furnishing of a service in the State of New York and constitutes a violation of NYGBL § 349.

46. Defendant's deceptive act and practice was consumer-oriented, in that defendant's act of sending a collection letter to plaintiff which included the false representation that the statute of limitations had expired was not an act limited to plaintiff's account, but extended to the federal student loan debts of other consumers which defendant obtained for collection.

47. Defendant maintained no procedure to ensure that it did not include in its collection letters the above-quoted statement for debts for which that statement was false.



48. Defendant's said conduct of falsely stating that the statute of limitations on a debt had expired has a broad impact on consumers at large whose federal student loans debts were obtained by defendant for collection.

49. Defendant's said false statement was deceptive in a material way in that incorrectly informing a consumer that she cannot be sued for a debt would give the consumer a false sense of security and would make the consumer prioritize the payment of the debt differently or even be less likely to pay it.

50. Defendant's said false statement was deceptive in a material way in that incorrectly informing plaintiff that she could not be sued for the debt gave her a false sense of security and made her prioritize the payment of the debt differently or even be less likely to pay it.

51. Plaintiff is a reasonable consumer within the meaning of the NYGBL and acted reasonably under the circumstances of this case.

52. Upon receipt of defendant's letter plaintiff believed, erroneously, that she could not be sued for the debt.

53. Upon receipt of defendant's letter plaintiff believed, erroneously, that she would be able to get any lawsuit against her for the debt dismissed on the ground of the statute of limitations.

54. Defendant violated NYGBL § 349(a) by its false and deceptive statement to plaintiff that the statute of limitations for the debt had expired, and is liable to plaintiff under NYGBL § 349(h).

## CLASS ALLEGATIONS

55. Plaintiff re-alleges paragraphs 1 to 54 as if fully re-stated herein.

56. This action is brought on behalf of plaintiff and the members of a class. The class consists of all natural persons who defendant's records reflect were sent debt collection letters within the State of New York within the period of time commencing one year before the filing of this complaint up to and including the date of the filing of the complaint and who were sent a collection letter (a) in substantially the same form as the letter dated July 29, 2017; (b) the collection letter was sent to a consumer seeking payment of a student loan debt held by the U.S. Department of Education; (c) the collection letter was not returned by the postal service as undeliverable; and (d) the collection letter states, in sum or substance:

“Your creditor or debt collector believes that the legal time limit (statute of limitations) for suing you to collect this debt may have expired. It is a violation of the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, 15 U.S.C. § 1692 et seq., to sue to collect on a debt for which the statute of limitations has expired. However, if the creditor sues you to collect on this debt, you may be able to prevent the creditor from obtaining a judgment against you. To do so, you must tell the court that the statute of limitations has expired.

Even if the statute of limitations has expired, you may choose to make payments on the debt. However, be aware: if you make a payment on the debt, admit to owing the debt, promise to pay the debt, or waive the statute of limitations on the debt, the time period in which the debt is enforceable in court may start again.”

57. The class does not include defendant or persons who are officers, directors, or employees of defendant.

58. 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 the collection letter that is the gravamen of this litigation is a mass-mailed form letter, the class is so numerous that joinder of all members is impracticable. Upon information and belief, thousands of persons have received similar debt collection letters from defendant which violate the various provisions of the FDCPA.
- (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 defendant violated the FDCPA including but not limited to §§ 1692e and 1692e(2)(A) by inserting the statement regarding the statute of limitations in its collection letters for student loan debts held by the U.S. Department of Education.
- (C) The only individual issue is the identification of the consumers who received the letters (the class members), a matter capable of ministerial determination from the records of defendant.
- (D) The claims of plaintiff are typical of those of the class members. All are based on the same facts and legal theories.
- (E) Plaintiff will fairly and adequately represent the class members' interests. Plaintiff has retained experienced counsel. Plaintiff's interests are consistent with those of the members of the class.

59. 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 in 15 U.S.C. § 1692k. 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 class 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.

60. If the facts are discovered to be appropriate, plaintiff will seek to certify a class action pursuant to Rule 23(b)(3) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure.

61. Communications from debt collectors, such as those sent by defendant, are to be evaluated by the objective standard of the hypothetical "least sophisticated consumer".

62. As a result of the above violations, defendant is liable to plaintiff and the members of the class for damages in an amount to be determined at the time of trial, plus costs and attorneys' fees.

WHEREFORE, plaintiff respectfully prays that judgment be entered against defendant as follows:

- (a) certifying a class action pursuant to Rule 23(b)(3) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure;
- (b) awarding class members the maximum statutory damages pursuant to 15 U.S.C. § 1692k;
- (c) awarding maximum individual statutory damages pursuant to 15 U.S.C. § 1692k;
- (d) awarding actual damages pursuant to 15 U.S.C. § 1692k in an amount to be determined at time of trial.
- (e) awarding reasonable attorneys' fees, costs and disbursements pursuant to 15 U.S.C. § 1692k;
- (f) enjoining defendant from committing further deceptive and misleading acts and practices against plaintiff, pursuant to NYGBL § 349;
- (g) awarding actual damages pursuant to NYGBL § 349 in an amount to be determined at time of trial;
- (h) in the alternative to (g), awarding statutory damages pursuant to NYGBL § 349 in an amount to be determined at time of trial;
- (i) awarding reasonable attorneys' fees, costs and disbursements pursuant to NYGBL § 349(h); and
- (j) for such other and further relief as may be just and proper.

DEMAND FOR TRIAL BY JURY

Plaintiff requests trial by jury on all issues so triable.

Dated: New York, New York  
July 27, 2017.

*/s/ Novlette R. Kidd*

---

NOVLETTE R. KIDD, ESQ. (NK 9339)  
FAGENSON & PUGLISI, PLLC  
Attorneys for Plaintiff  
450 Seventh Avenue, Suite 704  
New York, New York 10123  
Telephone: (212) 268-2128  
[Nkidd@fagensonpuglisi.com](mailto:Nkidd@fagensonpuglisi.com)

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

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

for the

Eastern District of New York

ESSENCE SMITH, on behalf of herself individually
and all others similarly situated,

Plaintiff(s)

v.

NATIONAL CREDIT SERVICES, INC.,

Defendant(s)

Civil Action No. 17-cv-04448

SUMMONS IN A CIVIL ACTION

To: (Defendant's name and address) NATIONAL CREDIT SERVICES, INC.
2525 220th Street SE, Suite 200
Bothell, Washington 98021

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: FAGENSON & PUGLISI, PLLC
450 Seventh Avenue, Suite 704
New York, New York 10123

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

Civil Action No. 17-cv-04448

**PROOF OF SERVICE**

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

This summons for *(name of individual and title, if any)* \_\_\_\_\_  
was received by me on *(date)* \_\_\_\_\_ .

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 resides there,  
on *(date)* \_\_\_\_\_ , and mailed a copy to the individual's last known address; or

I served the summons on *(name of individual)* \_\_\_\_\_ , who is  
designated by law to accept service of process on behalf of *(name of organization)* \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ on *(date)* \_\_\_\_\_ ; or

I returned the summons unexecuted because \_\_\_\_\_ ; or

Other *(specify)*:

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:

**Print**

**Save As...**

**Reset**



# CIVIL COVER SHEET

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

**I. (a) PLAINTIFFS**  
 ESSENCE SMITH, on behalf of herself individually and all others similarly situated

**(b)** County of Residence of First Listed Plaintiff Kings  
 (EXCEPT IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES)

**(c)** Attorneys (Firm Name, Address, and Telephone Number)  
 FAGENSON & PUGLISI, PLLC, 450 Seventh Avenue, Suite 704, New York, New York 10123. (212) 268-2128.

**DEFENDANTS**  
 NATIONAL CREDIT SERVICES, INC.

County of Residence of First Listed Defendant \_\_\_\_\_  
 (IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES ONLY)

NOTE: IN LAND CONDEMNATION CASES, USE THE LOCATION OF THE TRACT OF LAND INVOLVED.

Attorneys (If Known)

**II. BASIS OF JURISDICTION** (Place an "X" in One Box Only)

1 U.S. Government Plaintiff

3 Federal Question (U.S. Government Not a Party)

2 U.S. Government Defendant

4 Diversity (Indicate Citizenship of Parties in Item III)

**III. CITIZENSHIP OF PRINCIPAL PARTIES** (Place an "X" in One Box for Plaintiff and One Box for Defendant)

	PTF	DEF		PTF	DEF
Citizen of This State	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	Incorporated or Principal Place of Business In This State	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 4
Citizen of Another State	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	Incorporated and Principal Place of Business In Another State	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
Citizen or Subject of a Foreign Country	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	Foreign Nation	<input type="checkbox"/> 6	<input type="checkbox"/> 6

**IV. NATURE OF SUIT** (Place an "X" in One Box Only) [Click here for: Nature of Suit Code Descriptions.](#)

CONTRACT	TORTS	FORFEITURE/PENALTY	BANKRUPTCY	OTHER STATUTES
<input type="checkbox"/> 110 Insurance <input type="checkbox"/> 120 Marine <input type="checkbox"/> 130 Miller Act <input type="checkbox"/> 140 Negotiable Instrument <input type="checkbox"/> 150 Recovery of Overpayment & Enforcement of Judgment <input type="checkbox"/> 151 Medicare Act <input type="checkbox"/> 152 Recovery of Defaulted Student Loans (Excludes Veterans) <input type="checkbox"/> 153 Recovery of Overpayment of Veteran's Benefits <input type="checkbox"/> 160 Stockholders' Suits <input type="checkbox"/> 190 Other Contract <input type="checkbox"/> 195 Contract Product Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 196 Franchise	<b>PERSONAL INJURY</b> <input type="checkbox"/> 310 Airplane <input type="checkbox"/> 315 Airplane Product Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 320 Assault, Libel & Slander <input type="checkbox"/> 330 Federal Employers' Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 340 Marine <input type="checkbox"/> 345 Marine Product Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 350 Motor Vehicle <input type="checkbox"/> 355 Motor Vehicle Product Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 360 Other Personal Injury <input type="checkbox"/> 362 Personal Injury - Medical Malpractice	<input type="checkbox"/> 625 Drug Related Seizure of Property 21 USC 881 <input type="checkbox"/> 690 Other	<input type="checkbox"/> 422 Appeal 28 USC 158 <input type="checkbox"/> 423 Withdrawal 28 USC 157	<input type="checkbox"/> 375 False Claims Act <input type="checkbox"/> 376 Qui Tam (31 USC 3729(a)) <input type="checkbox"/> 400 State Reapportionment <input type="checkbox"/> 410 Antitrust <input type="checkbox"/> 430 Banks and Banking <input type="checkbox"/> 450 Commerce <input type="checkbox"/> 460 Deportation <input type="checkbox"/> 470 Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 480 Consumer Credit <input type="checkbox"/> 490 Cable/Sat TV <input type="checkbox"/> 850 Securities/Commodities/Exchange <input type="checkbox"/> 890 Other Statutory Actions <input type="checkbox"/> 891 Agricultural Acts <input type="checkbox"/> 893 Environmental Matters <input type="checkbox"/> 895 Freedom of Information Act
<b>REAL PROPERTY</b> <input type="checkbox"/> 210 Land Condemnation <input type="checkbox"/> 220 Foreclosure <input type="checkbox"/> 230 Rent Lease & Ejectment <input type="checkbox"/> 240 Torts to Land <input type="checkbox"/> 245 Tort Product Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 290 All Other Real Property	<b>CIVIL RIGHTS</b> <input type="checkbox"/> 440 Other Civil Rights <input type="checkbox"/> 441 Voting <input type="checkbox"/> 442 Employment <input type="checkbox"/> 443 Housing/Accommodations <input type="checkbox"/> 445 Amer. w/Disabilities - Employment <input type="checkbox"/> 446 Amer. w/Disabilities - Other <input type="checkbox"/> 448 Education	<b>PRISONER PETITIONS</b> <b>Habeas Corpus:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> 463 Alien Detainee <input type="checkbox"/> 510 Motions to Vacate Sentence <input type="checkbox"/> 530 General <input type="checkbox"/> 535 Death Penalty <b>Other:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> 540 Mandamus & Other <input type="checkbox"/> 550 Civil Rights <input type="checkbox"/> 555 Prison Condition <input type="checkbox"/> 560 Civil Detainee - Conditions of Confinement	<input type="checkbox"/> 625 Drug Related Seizure of Property 21 USC 881 <input type="checkbox"/> 690 Other	<input type="checkbox"/> 375 False Claims Act <input type="checkbox"/> 376 Qui Tam (31 USC 3729(a)) <input type="checkbox"/> 400 State Reapportionment <input type="checkbox"/> 410 Antitrust <input type="checkbox"/> 430 Banks and Banking <input type="checkbox"/> 450 Commerce <input type="checkbox"/> 460 Deportation <input type="checkbox"/> 470 Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 480 Consumer Credit <input type="checkbox"/> 490 Cable/Sat TV <input type="checkbox"/> 850 Securities/Commodities/Exchange <input type="checkbox"/> 890 Other Statutory Actions <input type="checkbox"/> 891 Agricultural Acts <input type="checkbox"/> 893 Environmental Matters <input type="checkbox"/> 895 Freedom of Information Act
		<b>LABOR</b> <input type="checkbox"/> 710 Fair Labor Standards Act <input type="checkbox"/> 720 Labor/Management Relations <input type="checkbox"/> 740 Railway Labor Act <input type="checkbox"/> 751 Family and Medical Leave Act <input type="checkbox"/> 790 Other Labor Litigation <input type="checkbox"/> 791 Employee Retirement Income Security Act	<b>PROPERTY RIGHTS</b> <input type="checkbox"/> 820 Copyrights <input type="checkbox"/> 830 Patent <input type="checkbox"/> 835 Patent - Abbreviated New Drug Application <input type="checkbox"/> 840 Trademark	<input type="checkbox"/> 375 False Claims Act <input type="checkbox"/> 376 Qui Tam (31 USC 3729(a)) <input type="checkbox"/> 400 State Reapportionment <input type="checkbox"/> 410 Antitrust <input type="checkbox"/> 430 Banks and Banking <input type="checkbox"/> 450 Commerce <input type="checkbox"/> 460 Deportation <input type="checkbox"/> 470 Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 480 Consumer Credit <input type="checkbox"/> 490 Cable/Sat TV <input type="checkbox"/> 850 Securities/Commodities/Exchange <input type="checkbox"/> 890 Other Statutory Actions <input type="checkbox"/> 891 Agricultural Acts <input type="checkbox"/> 893 Environmental Matters <input type="checkbox"/> 895 Freedom of Information Act
		<b>IMMIGRATION</b> <input type="checkbox"/> 462 Naturalization Application <input type="checkbox"/> 465 Other Immigration Actions	<b>SOCIAL SECURITY</b> <input type="checkbox"/> 861 HIA (1395ff) <input type="checkbox"/> 862 Black Lung (923) <input type="checkbox"/> 863 DIWC/DIWW (405(g)) <input type="checkbox"/> 864 SSID Title XVI <input type="checkbox"/> 865 RSI (405(g))	<input type="checkbox"/> 375 False Claims Act <input type="checkbox"/> 376 Qui Tam (31 USC 3729(a)) <input type="checkbox"/> 400 State Reapportionment <input type="checkbox"/> 410 Antitrust <input type="checkbox"/> 430 Banks and Banking <input type="checkbox"/> 450 Commerce <input type="checkbox"/> 460 Deportation <input type="checkbox"/> 470 Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 480 Consumer Credit <input type="checkbox"/> 490 Cable/Sat TV <input type="checkbox"/> 850 Securities/Commodities/Exchange <input type="checkbox"/> 890 Other Statutory Actions <input type="checkbox"/> 891 Agricultural Acts <input type="checkbox"/> 893 Environmental Matters <input type="checkbox"/> 895 Freedom of Information Act
			<b>FEDERAL TAX SUITS</b> <input type="checkbox"/> 870 Taxes (U.S. Plaintiff or Defendant) <input type="checkbox"/> 871 IRS—Third Party 26 USC 7609	<input type="checkbox"/> 375 False Claims Act <input type="checkbox"/> 376 Qui Tam (31 USC 3729(a)) <input type="checkbox"/> 400 State Reapportionment <input type="checkbox"/> 410 Antitrust <input type="checkbox"/> 430 Banks and Banking <input type="checkbox"/> 450 Commerce <input type="checkbox"/> 460 Deportation <input type="checkbox"/> 470 Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 480 Consumer Credit <input type="checkbox"/> 490 Cable/Sat TV <input type="checkbox"/> 850 Securities/Commodities/Exchange <input type="checkbox"/> 890 Other Statutory Actions <input type="checkbox"/> 891 Agricultural Acts <input type="checkbox"/> 893 Environmental Matters <input type="checkbox"/> 895 Freedom of Information Act

**V. ORIGIN** (Place an "X" in One Box Only)

1 Original Proceeding     2 Removed from State Court     3 Remanded from Appellate Court     4 Reinstated or Reopened     5 Transferred from Another District (specify)     6 Multidistrict Litigation - Transfer     8 Multidistrict Litigation - Direct File

**VI. CAUSE OF ACTION**

Cite the U.S. Civil Statute under which you are filing (Do not cite jurisdictional statutes unless diversity):  
15 U.S.C. section 1692 et seq.

Brief description of cause:  
Violations of Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, deception

**VII. REQUESTED IN COMPLAINT:**  CHECK IF THIS IS A CLASS ACTION UNDER RULE 23, F.R.Cv.P.    DEMAND \$ \_\_\_\_\_    CHECK YES only if demanded in complaint: JURY DEMAND:  Yes     No

**VIII. RELATED CASE(S) IF ANY** (See instructions): JUDGE \_\_\_\_\_ DOCKET NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_

DATE: 07/27/2017    SIGNATURE OF ATTORNEY OF RECORD: /s/ Novlette R. Kidd

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY: RECEIPT # \_\_\_\_\_ AMOUNT \_\_\_\_\_ APPLYING IFP \_\_\_\_\_ JUDGE \_\_\_\_\_ MAG. JUDGE \_\_\_\_\_

Print

Save As...

Reset

**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, Novlette R. Kidd, counsel for Plaintiff, 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 **Class Action.**

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

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

N/A - Plaintiff is a natural person.

**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 being filed in the Eastern District removed from a New York State Court located in Nassau or Suffolk County? No
- 2.) 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? No
  - b) Did the events or 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.

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 explain)  No

I certify the accuracy of all information provided above.

Signature: /s/ Novlette R. Kidd

# ClassAction.org

This complaint is part of ClassAction.org's searchable class action lawsuit database and can be found in this post: [Suit Says National Credit Services Misstates Consumers' Rights in Collection Letters](#)

---