UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT EASTERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

\_\_\_\_\_

EFRAIM SOSONOV on behalf of himself and all other similarly situated consumers

Plaintiff,

-against-

# IMMEDIATE CREDIT RECOVERY, INC.

Defendant.

\_\_\_\_\_

# **CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT**

# Introduction

1. Plaintiff Efraim Sosonov seeks redress for the illegal practices of Immediate Credit Recovery, Inc. 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.
- Upon information and belief, Defendant's principal place of business is located in Wappingers Falls, New York.
- 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

- 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 Efraim Sosonov

- 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 October 27, 2016, Defendant sent the Plaintiff a collection letter seeking to collect a balance allegedly incurred for personal purposes.
- 11. The said letter stated the amount owed for the spring tuition to be \$3,393.10.
- However the amount due stated on the Plaintiff's statement from the original creditor,York College was \$2,886.10 a \$507.00 difference.
- 13. The said October 27, 2016 letter misstated the actual amount of the debt by stating that\$3,393.10.was owed, as the letter did not itemize the expenses or explain the amount of the debt in any way.
- 14. The October 27, 2016 letter did not specify the amount of the collection fee, nor disclose that Defendant was attempting to collect a collection fee.
- 15. Since the collection fee that the Defendant is attempting to collect is a fee in excess of the actual debt, it must be explicitly itemized as such, yet the Defendant chose to withhold such information.
- 16. The October 27, 2016 letter, by unilaterally determining that \$3,393.10 was the amount owed, misstated the actual amount of the debt as it did not indicate that included in the

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amount due, was a \$507.00 collection fee that the Defendant was attempting to collect.

- 17. The Defendant necessarily had to specify separately, an amount that it intended to charge (or had already charged) as collection fees and not merely lump it together with the total amount due.<sup>1</sup>
- 18. 15 U.S.C. § 1692e of the FDCPA states:

"A debt collector may not use any false, deceptive, or misleading representation or means in connection with the collection of any debt."

(2)(A) "the character, amount, or legal status of any debt[.]"

19. 15 U.S.C. § 1692f of the FDCPA states:

"[a] debt collector may not use unfair or unconscionable means to collect or attempt to collect any debt."

- 20. The said October 27, 2016 letter misleads the least sophisticated consumer, as nowhere does the Defendant explain that it is seeking to recover collection fees.
- 21. The Plaintiff was confused as to why his bill had now reached the amount of \$3,393.10.
- 22. The only way for a consumer to ascertain as to how the total amount due had been calculated by the Defendant would be to call up the Defendant and have the Defendant clarify it accordingly, as it was with the case of the Plaintiff.
- 23. More importantly, Plaintiff may very well have lost his original bill with York College and forgotten the precise amount of the debt completely. In this circumstance, the debtor might logically assume that he had simply incurred the full \$3,393.10 with York College.
- 24. By stating that "SPRING 15 TUITION Amt Owed 3393.10", not only did the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> See <u>Fields v. Wilber Law Firm, P.C.</u>, 383 F.3d 562, 564 (7th Cir. 2004). (failed to disclose that \$388.54 debt included claim for \$250 attorney collection fee), <u>Dowdy v. Solutia Healthcare TAS</u>, Inc., No. 1:05-0090, 2006 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 88899, 2006 WL 3545047 at \*7-9 (M.D. Tenn. Dec. 7, 2006) (citing Fields and concluding that defendant's collection letter violated \$ 1692e when it failed to clearly reflect the addition of the collection costs to the "principal balance" owed), <u>Richard v. Oak Tree Group</u>, Inc., 614 F. Supp. 2d 814 (W.D. Mich. 2008). (The inclusion of unaccrued collection agency fees hidden within the stated amount of the debt violated \$1692e(2)(A), (B), and \$1692f(1).)

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Defendant lump the amount together, but the Defendant led the Plaintiff to believe that amount stated in the letter was solely the amount of the tuition from the college.

- 25. The said October 27, 2016 letter is misleading because it gives a false impression of the character of the debt.
- 26. The Defendant was supposed to itemize the various charges that comprise the total amount of the debt.
- 27. Upon information and belief, it is the Defendant's pattern and practice to use false, deceptive, or misleading representations when collecting debts from debtors.
- 28. Upon information and belief, it is the Defendant's pattern and practice to not itemize the expenses or explain the amount of the debt in any way.<sup>2</sup>
- 29. Defendant falsely represented the amount of the debt in violation of 15 U.S.C. § 1692e(2)(A) and 1692e(2)(B).
- 30. In addition, the collection fee the Defendant unfairly sought to collect was unauthorized in violation of 15 U.S.C. § 1692f(1).
- 31. The collection fee was not expressly authorized by the agreement, nor permitted by law.
- 32. Defendant's October 27, 2016 letter is in violation of 15 U.S.C. §§ 1692e, 1692e(10), 1692e(2)(A), 1692f and 1692f(1) for failing to specify the amount of the collection fee, and for failing to disclose that Defendant was attempting to collect a collection fee.
- Plaintiff suffered injury in fact by being subjected to unfair and abusive practices of the Defendant.
- 34. Plaintiff suffered actual harm by being the target of the Defendant's misleading debt collection communications.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> <u>Acik v. IC System, Inc.</u>, 640 F. Supp. 2d 1019 (N.D. Ill. 2009). (The court held that the debt collector's letter would leave even a sophisticated consumer guessing as to what the "Additional Client Charges" label represented. The question under 15 U.S.C.S. § 1692e was not whether these charges were fair or proper, but whether the fees were clearly and fairly communicated so that the consumer could ascertain the fees' validity.)

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- 35. Defendant violated the Plaintiff's right not to be the target of misleading debt collection communications.
- 36. Defendant violated the Plaintiff's right to a truthful and fair debt collection process.
- 37. Defendant used materially false, deceptive, misleading representations and means in its attempted collection of Plaintiff's alleged debt.
- 38. Defendant's communications were designed to cause the debtor to suffer a harmful disadvantage in charting a course of action in response to Defendant's collection efforts.
- 39. 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 him of his right to enjoy these benefits, these materially misleading statements trigger liability under section 1692e of the Act.
- 40. These deceptive communications additionally violated the FDCPA since they frustrate the consumer's ability to intelligently choose his or her response.
- 41. As an actual and proximate result of the acts and omissions of Immediate Credit Recovery, Inc., Plaintiff has suffered including but not limited to, fear, stress, mental anguish, emotional stress and acute embarrassment for which he 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 himself and the members of a class, as against the Defendant.

- 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 consists of all persons whom Defendant's 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 October 27, 2016; and (a) the collection letter was sent to a consumer seeking payment of a personal debt purportedly owed to York College; 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(10), 1692e(2)(A), 1692e(2)(B), 1692f and 1692f(1) for failing to specify the amount of the collection fee, and for failing to disclose that Defendant was attempting to collect a collection fee.
- 45. 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.
- 46. 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.
- 47. 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.
- 48. Collection attempts, such as those made by the Defendant are to be evaluated by the objective standard of the hypothetical "least sophisticated consumer."

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# Violations of the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act

- 49. The Defendant's actions as set forth above in the within complaint violates the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act.
- 50. 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 his 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 October 23, 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 751 4627258016104 PG BOX 4115 CONCORD CA 94524

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### RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

October 27, 2016

التطابيب السيالي التبالية والمتعادية والمسالية والمسالية والمسالية والمسالية والمسالية والمسالية والمسالية وال



EFRAIM SOSONOV 16209 72ND AVE FRESH MEADOWS NY 11365-4212 Hours of Operation are (Eastern time): 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday and Wednesday, 9 a.m. to 12 noon 1st 2 Saturday's of each month.

 Account No:
 F46320

 Amount Due:
 3393.10

 Your Pin:
 10476538

10470330

Please send payment & correspondence to:

IMMEDIATE CREDIT RECOVERY INC. PO BOX 1900 WAPPINGERS FALLS NY 12590-8900

\*\*\*DETACH UPPER PORTION AND RETURN WITH PAYMENT\*\*\*



SPRING 15 TUITION

Creditor YORK COLLEGE, T1 W/CC Amt Owed 3393.10

**Collection Agency Notice** 

Please be advised that the above mentioned account has been assigned to our Professional Collection Agency for collection.

If you do not dispute the validity of this debt, and to prevent further collection activity from being taken, you must make payment in full directly to Immediate Credit Recovery, Inc. Please make the check payable to our client and use the enclosed envelope with the New York address. To view your account and/or make a payment on-line, please visit our website at pay.icrcollect.com. For further information, please call 1-800-964-5689 or contact us via mail at the address below.

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.

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

\*\*\* See Reverse Side For Important Information \*\*\*

Hours of Operation are (Eastern time): 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday and Wednesday, 9 a.m. to 12 noon 1st 2 Saturday's of each month.



Immediate Credit Recovery, Inc. P.O. Box 1900, Wappingers Falls, NY 12590-8900 (845) 296-1010 / (800) 964-5689

pay.icrcollect.com

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To resolve your account by telephone using your Credit card or your checking/savings account Please call us toll free

**California Residents:** As required by law, 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. But we will not submit a negative credit report to a credit reporting agency about this credit obligation until the expiration of the time period described in the notice on the front of this letter.

The state Rosenthal Fair Debt Collection Practices Act and the federal Fair Debt Collection Practices Act require that, except under unusual circumstance, collectors may not contact you before 8 a.m. or after 9 p.m. They may not harass you by using threats of violence or arrest or by using obscene language. Collectors may not use false or misleading statements or call you at work if they know or have reason to know that you may not receive personal calls at work. For the most part, collectors may not tell another person, other than your attorney or spouse, about your debt. Collectors may contact another person to confirm your location or enforce a judgment. For more information about debt collection activities, you may contact the Federal Trade Commission at 1-877-FTC-HELP or www.ftc.gov.

# Colorado Residents: FOR INFORMATION ABOUT THE COLORADO FAIR DEBT COLLECTION PRACTICES ACT, SEE WWW.COAG.GOV/CAR.

In-state office: 700 Seventeenth Street, Suite 200, Denver, Colorado 80202, Toll Free# 1-866-436-4766.

#### Massachusetts Residents: NOTICE OF IMPORTANT RIGHTS

You have the right to make a written or oral request that telephone calls regarding your debt not be made to you at your place of employment. Any such oral request will be valid for only ten days unless you provide written confirmation of the request postmarked or delivered within seven days of such request. You may terminate this request by writing to the debt collector.

Minnesota Residents: This Collection Agency is licensed by the Minnesota Department of Commerce.

New York Residents: 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.

New York Residents: If a creditor or debt collector receives a money judgment against you in court, state and federal laws may prevent the following types of income from being taken to pay the debt: 1. Supplemental security income, (SSI); 2. Social security; 3. Public assistance (welfare); 4. Spousal support, maintenance (alimony) or child support; 5. Unemployment benefits; 6. Disability benefits; 7. Workers' compensation benefits; 8. Public or private pensions; 9. Veterans' benefits; 10. Federal student loans, federal student grants, and federal work study funds; and 11. Ninety percent of your wages or salary earned in the last sixty days.

New York City: New York City Department of Consumer Affairs license number 0888212. When calling please ask for John York.

North Carolina Residents: North Carolina Department of Insurance Permit #101370.

Tennessee Residents: This collection agency is licensed by the Collection Service Board of the Tennessee Department of Commerce and Insurance.

Utah Residents: As required by Utah law, 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. We will not submit a negative credit report to a credit reporting agency about his credit obligation until the expiration of the time period described in the notice on the front of this letter.

Wisconsin Residents: This collection agency is licensed by the Division of Banking in the Wisconsin Department of Financial Institutions, www.wdfi.org

Physical Address: 169 Myers Corners Rd, Ste 110, Wappingers Falls, NY 12590 Hours of Operation are (Eastern time); 8 a.n. to 5 p.m. Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday and Wednesday,

9 a.m. to 12 noon 1st 2 Saturday's of each month.

ICRA1-1027-792327993-00559-559



Office of the Bursai Office. {71812ú2 2186 Fax. (718)262-3814

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September 21, 2016

EFRAIM SOSONOV 16209 72ND AVENUE FRESH MEADOWS, NY 11365-4212

Dear Efraim:

The Office of the Bursar records indicate that you have the following outstanding balance(s):

# 2015 Spring Term: Due from Student: \$2,886.10

The payment is due immediately. A late penalty fee of fifteen dollars (\$15.00) will be applied to each debt owed. Personal checks and credit/debit cords are not accepted. However, cash, certified checks and money orders are accepted at the Bursar Office's service window. A negative indicator which will prohibit you from receiving college services such as transcripts has been placed on your account.

Your debt must be paid in full by October 20th, 2016 to avoid your account being turned over to a collection agency. After October 20th, 2016, the option to directly pay the college will be discontinued. The Office of the Bursar cannot reverse or retrieve the debt once it has been sent to the collection agency.

# THIS IS YOUR FINAL NOTICE FROM THE OFFICE OF THE BURSAR AT YORK COLLEGE.

If you do not make full payment of your tuition and fees and other college bills and your account is sent to a collection agency, you will held responsible for all collection costs, including agency fees, attorney fees and court costs. In addition, non-payment or a default judgment against your account may be reported to a credit bureau and reflected in your credit report.

Please disregard this notice if your debt has been paid in full.

Regards,

The Office of the Bursar

94-20 Goy R. Brewer Boulevard . Jamuica New York 11451 . 718-262-2000 . www.york.coay.odu

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

# UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

for the

Eastern District of New York

	)
EFRAIM SOSONOV	)
<i>Plaintiff(s)</i>	- )
V.	)
	)
IMMEDIATE CREDIT RECOVERY, INC.	) ) )
Defendant(s)	_ ´)

# SUMMONS IN A CIVIL ACTION

Civil Action No.

To: (Defendant's name and address) IMMEDIATE CREDIT RECOVERY, INC. SUITE 110 169 MYERS CORNERS ROAD WAPPINGERS FALLS, NEW YORK, 12590

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: Adam J. Fishbein, P.C. 735 Central Avenue

Woodmere NY 11598

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.

CLERK OF COURT

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Clerk or Deputy Clerk

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

Civil Action No.

# **PROOF OF SERVICE**

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

	This summons for (name	e of individual and title, if any)				
was re	ceived by me on (date)	·				
	□ I personally served t	he summons on the individual a	at (place)			
			on (date)	; or		
	□ I left the summons at the individual's residence or usual place of abode with ( <i>name</i> )					
		, a perso	n of suitable age and discretion who res	sides there,		
	on ( <i>date</i> ), and mailed a copy to the individual's last known address; or					
	$\Box$ I served the summor	ns on (name of individual)		, who	is	
	designated by law to accept service of process on behalf of (name of organization)					
			on (date)	; or		
	$\Box$ I returned the summ	ons unexecuted because		; c	or	
	<b>Other</b> ( <i>specify</i> ):					
	My fees are \$	for travel and \$	for services, for a total of \$	0.00		
	I declare under penalty	of perjury that this information	is true.			
Date:						
Date.			Server's signature		_	
			Printed name and title			

Additional information regarding attempted service, etc:

Server's address

# JS 44 (Rev. 1/2013) Case 1:17-cv-06164 Document Cover Sile 10/23/17 Page 1 of 2 PageID #: 14

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		
EFRAIM SOSONOV				IMMEDIATE CREI	DIT RECOVERY, INC.	
(b) County of Residence of First Listed Plaintiff Kings (EXCEPT IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES)				NOTE: IN LAND CO	of First Listed Defendant (IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES ONDEMNATION CASES, USE T OF LAND INVOLVED.	,
<ul> <li>(c) Attorneys (Firm Name, Address, and Telephone Number)</li> <li>Adam J. Fishbein</li> <li>735 Central Avenue</li> <li>Woodmere NY 11516 516 668 6945 fishbeinadamj@gmail.com</li> </ul>				Attorneys (If Known)		
II. BASIS OF JURISDI	CTION (Place an "X" in C	One Box Only)	III. CI	L TIZENSHIP OF P	RINCIPAL PARTIES	(Place an "X" in One Box for Plaintiff
□ 1 U.S. Government Plaintiff	■ 3 Federal Question (U.S. Government)	Not a Party)			IF DEF 1 □ 1 Incorporated or P of Business In	
2 U.S. Government Defendant	□ 4 Diversity (Indicate Citizensh	ip of Parties in Item III)				Another State
				en or Subject of a reign Country	3 🗖 3 Foreign Nation	
IV. NATURE OF SUIT			FO	ORFEITURE/PENALTY	BANKRUPTCY	OTHER STATUTES
<ul> <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</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>PERSONAL INJURY</li> <li>310 Airplane</li> <li>315 Airplane Product Liability</li> <li>320 Assault, Libel &amp; Slander</li> <li>330 Federal Employers' Liability</li> <li>340 Marine</li> </ul>	NAL INJURY     PERSONAL INJURY     □     625 D       lane     □     365 Personal Injury -     o       lane Product     Product Liability     □     690 O       ility     □     367 Health Care/     ult, Libel &     Pharmaceutical       der     Personal Injury     rat Employers'     Product Liability     ility       ility     □     368 Asbestos Personal     ility	5 Drug Related Seizure of Property 21 USC 881	A VIAR NOT TO T     A 22 Appeal 28 USC 158     423 Withdrawal     28 USC 157     PROPERTY RIGHTS     820 Copyrights     830 Patent     840 Trademark	OTHER STATUTES         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	
<ul> <li>(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>	<ul> <li>345 Marine Product Liability</li> <li>350 Motor Vehicle</li> <li>355 Motor Vehicle Product Liability</li> <li>360 Other Personal Injury</li> <li>362 Personal Injury - Medical Malpractice</li> </ul>	Liability <b>PERSONAL PROPER</b> <b>370</b> Other Fraud <b>371</b> Truth in Lending <b>380</b> Other Personal Property Damage <b>385</b> Property Damage Product Liability	□ 72 □ 74 □ 75	LABOR 0 Fair Labor Standards Act 0 Labor/Management Relations 0 Railway Labor Act 1 Family and Medical Leave Act 0 Other Labor Litigation	SOCIAL SECURITY    861 HIA (1395ff)  862 Black Lung (923)  863 DIWC/DIWW (405(g))  864 SSID Title XVI  865 RSI (405(g))	<ul> <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>896 Arbitration</li> </ul>
REAL PROPERTY         210 Land Condemnation         220 Foreclosure         230 Rent Lease & Ejectment         240 Torts to Land         245 Tort Product Liability	CIVIL RIGHTS 440 Other Civil Rights 441 Voting 442 Employment 443 Housing/ Accommodations	PRISONER PETITION         Habeas Corpus:         463 Alien Detainee         510 Motions to Vacate Sentence         530 General	<u>NS</u> ⊡ 79	1 Employee Retirement Income Security Act	FEDERAL TAX SUITS         □       870 Taxes (U.S. Plaintiff or Defendant)         □       871 IRS—Third Party 26 USC 7609	<ul> <li>Solve Administrative Procedure Act/Review or Appeal of Agency Decision</li> <li>950 Constitutionality of State Statutes</li> </ul>
290 All Other Real Property	<ul> <li>445 Amer. w/Disabilities - Employment</li> <li>446 Amer. w/Disabilities - Other</li> <li>448 Education</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>535 Death Penalty Other:</li> <li>540 Mandamus &amp; Othe</li> <li>550 Civil Rights</li> <li>555 Prison Condition</li> <li>560 Civil Detainee - Conditions of Confinement</li> </ul>		IMMIGRATION 2 Naturalization Application 5 Other Immigration Actions		
V. ORIGIN (Place an "X" is	n One Box Only)					
		Remanded from Appellate Court		stated or 5 Transfe bened Anothe (specify)	er District Litigation	
VI. CAUSE OF ACTION	DN 15 USC 1692 FA Brief description of ca	IR DEBT COLLECT	ION PF	Do not cite jurisdictional stat ACTICES ACT		
VII. REQUESTED IN COMPLAINT:	CHECK IF THIS UNDER RULE 2	IS A <b>CLASS ACTION</b> 3, F.R.Cv.P.		EMAND \$	CHECK YES only JURY DEMAND	y if demanded in complaint: D: X Yes □ No
VIII. RELATED CASI IF ANY	E(S) (See instructions):	JUDGE			DOCKET NUMBER	
DATE 10/23/2017 FOR OFFICE USE ONLY		SIGNATURE OF ATT /s/ Adam J. Fisl		OF RECORD		
	//OUNT	APPLYING IFP		JUDGE	MAG. JU	JDGE

# Case 1:17-cv-06164 Document 1-2 Filed 10/23/17 Page 2 of 2 PageID #: 15 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, <u>Adam J. Fishbein</u>, counsel for <u>Plaintiff</u>, 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,

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 $\mathbf{X}$ 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:

None

# **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 1.) County: No
- If you answered "no" above: 2.) 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 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)

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X	No

I certify the accuracy of all information provided above.

Yes

Signature: /s/ Adam J. Fishbein

# **ClassAction.org**

This complaint is part of ClassAction.org's searchable class action lawsuit database and can be found in this post: <u>NY Man Sues Immediate Credit Recovery Over Allegedly Hidden Collection Fee</u>