UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT EASTERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

MEYER SPERBER on behalf of himself and all other similarly situated consumers

Plaintiff,

-against-

ALLTRAN FINANCIAL, LP F/K/A UNITED RECOVERY SYSTEMS, L.P.

Defendant.

CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT

Introduction

 Plaintiff, Meyer Sperber, brings this action against Alltran Financial, LP f/k/a United Recovery Systems, L.P. for violations of the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, 15 U.S.C. § 1692, et *seq.* ("FDCPA"). The FDCPA prohibits debt collectors from engaging in abusive, deceptive and unfair collection practices while attempting to collect on debts.

Parties

- 2. Plaintiff is a 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 a consumer debt.
- Upon information and belief, Defendant's principal place of business is located in Houston, Texas.
- 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 Meyer Sperber

- 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 February 15, 2016, Defendant sent the Plaintiff a collection letter.
- 11. The said letter was an effort to collect on a consumer debt.
- Said letter states in pertinent part as follows: "Citibank, N.A. will report forgiveness of debt as required by IRS regulations."
- 13. The Defendant's language is deceptive and misleading and violated the FDCPA.
- 14. Under 26 C.F.R. §1.6050P-1(d)(2) and (3), only the discharge of principal need be reported:

(2) Interest. The discharge of an amount of indebtedness that is interest **is not required to be reported** under this section.

(3) Non-principal amounts in lending transactions. In the case of a lending transaction, the discharge of an amount other than stated principal **is not required to be reported** under this section. For this purpose, a lending transaction is any transaction in which a lender loans money to, or makes advances on behalf of, a borrower (including revolving credits and lines of credit).

- 15. It is highly improbable for one who is in debt to have income as a result of settling a debt, as that person is more likely to be insolvent; so such a discharge would not be considered as income.
- 16. A collection notice is deceptive when it reasonably can be read to have two or more

different meanings, one of which is inaccurate.¹

- 17. The language in the letter that states "Citibank, N.A. will report forgiveness of debt as required by IRS regulations" could reasonably be understood by the least sophisticated consumer to mean that IRS regulations require that the client, in all circumstances, report forgiveness of debt on a Form 1099-C.
- 18. The words "Citibank, N.A. will report forgiveness of debt as required by IRS regulations" is reasonably read to mean that the creditor will always report forgiveness of debt.
- 19. The least sophisticated consumer would understand this statement to mean that the creditor is required by IRS regulations to report forgiveness of debt.
- 20. Although the Defendant had no duty to disclose any potential tax ramifications,² when Defendant chooses to give <u>tax</u> disclosures, it must do so in a way that it will not mislead the least sophisticated consumer as to his or her tax consequences.
- 21. Current case law has made clear, that if debt collectors are providing tax advice with regards to the reporting of forgiveness of debt, they cannot provide vague, incomplete and misleading disclosures that leaves out the essential element that the reporting of forgiveness of a debt happens only if the **principal** forgiven exceeds \$600, and that reporting of forgiveness of a debt would not happen even if the amount is greater than \$600, if the \$600 or greater amount forgiven contained interest forgiveness so long as the principal was less than \$600.

¹ <u>Pipiles v. Credit Bureau of Lockport, Inc., 886 F.2d 22, 25 (2d Cir. 1989)</u> (Because the collection notice was reasonably susceptible to an inaccurate reading, it was deceptive within the meaning of the Act.); <u>Clomon v. Jackson, 988 F.2d 1314, 1319 (2d Cir. 1993)</u> (Collection notices are deceptive if they are open to more than one reasonable interpretation, at least one of which is inaccurate.); <u>Russell v. Equifax A.R.S., 74 F.3d</u> <u>30, 34 (2d Cir. N.Y. 1996)</u> (A collection notice is deceptive when it can be reasonably read to have two or more different meanings, one of which is inaccurate. The fact that the notice's terminology was vague or uncertain will not prevent it from being held deceptive under § 1692e(10) of the Act.)

² <u>Altman v. J.C. Christensen & Assocs., 786 F.3d 191, 194, 2015 U.S. App. LEXIS 7980, *7 (2d Cir. N.Y. 2015)</u> "[T]he FDCPA does not require a debt collector to make any affirmative disclosures of potential tax consequences when collecting a debt.")

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- 22. The statement "Citibank, N.A. will report forgiveness of debt as required by IRS regulations" is ambiguous, yet the vagueness and uncertainty does not erase the fundamental mischief and deception that the statement intends to cause to the consumer. A consumer reading this statement will be led to believe that if a settlement erases any amount of the debt, then the creditor is required to report the forgiveness of debt to the IRS, per the IRS regulations (creating by fear of the IRS another incentive for the consumer to pay the debt without erasing any amount through settlement). However, this statement is inherently deceptive and misleading, by giving erroneous and incomplete tax information because in actual fact and according to IRS regulations, the creditor "will not" be required to report to the IRS report forgiveness of debt less than \$600, nor would the creditor be required to report an amount greater than \$600 in forgiveness if the amount contained interest.
- 23. If the creditor wishes to legitimately give tax advice in a sincere manner, one that does not mislead the consumer, then that creditor should specify and make clear to the least sophisticated consumer that only certain amounts require reporting, and that this applies only to principle and not to interest forgiveness.
- 24. The creditor should also specify what amounts are principle and what part of it is interest, in the amounts owed. Any tax advice that does not specify the tax consequences as it applies to the consumer's circumstances is nothing more than a ploy to elicit a more substantial payment from the consumer than the consumer would have paid, had he or she understood the tax reporting consequences.
- 25. The use of the words "Citibank, N.A. will report forgiveness of debt as required by IRS regulations" is an attempt by the debt collector to make the debtor think that the IRS regulations always require the reporting of forgiveness of debt. The least sophisticated

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consumer would reasonably read the letter to mean that the creditor, in all circumstances, will report forgiveness of debt as is required by IRS regulations.³

- 26. In a recent decision, this court found in the case of <u>Kaff v. Nationwide Credit, Inc., 1:13-cv-05413, No. 32 (E.D.N.Y. Mar. 31, 2015)</u> (Towns, J.) that a statement regarding the requirement to file a 1099: "was not strictly true under all circumstances because <u>it failed</u> to <u>apprise debtors</u> that possible exceptions could apply to the creditor's mandatory reporting requirement, such as the exceptions <u>for interest and other non-principal debts</u>." <u>Kaff v. Nationwide Credit, Inc., 1:13-cv-05413, No. 32 (E.D.N.Y. Mar. 31, 2015)</u> (Towns, J.) (emphasis added); see also <u>Good v. Nationwide Credit, Inc., No. 14-4295, 2014 BL 302150 (E.D. Pa. Oct. 24, 2014)</u> (Finding that the statement "American Express is required to file a form 1099C with the Internal Revenue Service for any cancelled debt of \$600 or more. Please consult your tax advisor concerning any tax questions" is not true and does not accurately reflect the relevant law the court also found that the statement's invocation of the IRS was deceptive and materially misleading in violation of the FDCPA.)
- 27. The Defendant tends to give erroneous and/or incomplete tax advice to consumers.
- 28. The FDCPA does not require that tax consequences be identified in collection letters sent to consumers; but where a debt collector has chosen to threaten the debtor with tax consequences, and has done so inaccurately, the false representation causes detrimental harm to the consumer since it concretely thwarts the consumer's ability to freely navigate a course of action in response to the collection notice. The risk in this type of harm is the detrimental impact to the consumer. And such harm is precisely the kind of infringement of the consumer's best interests that the FDCPA seeks to combat.

³ <u>Russell v. Equifax A.R.S., 74 F.3d 30, 35, 1996 U.S. App. LEXIS 1042, *13 (2d Cir. N.Y. 1996)</u> (That a notice's terminology is vague or uncertain will not prevent it from being held deceptive under 1692e.)

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- 29. Such a statement in a collection letter suggests to the least sophisticated consumer that failure to pay will get the consumer into trouble with the IRS.⁴
- 30. The statement in the said letter is false and misleading, in violation of 15 U.S.C. §§ 1692e, 1692e(2), and 1692e(10).
- Plaintiff suffered injury in fact by being subjected to unfair and abusive practices of the Defendant.
- 32. Plaintiff suffered actual harm by being the target of the Defendant's misleading debt collection communications.
- 33. Defendant violated the Plaintiff's right not to be the target of misleading debt collection communications.
- 34. Defendant violated the Plaintiff's right to a truthful and fair debt collection process.
- 35. Defendant used materially false, deceptive, misleading representations and means in its attempted collection of Plaintiff's alleged debt.
- 36. 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.
- 37. 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.

⁴ <u>Kaff v. Nationwide Credit, Inc.</u>, 1:13-cv-05413, No. 32 (E.D.N.Y. Mar. 31, 2015) (Towns, J.); <u>Wagner v. Client Services, Inc.</u>, No. 08-5546, 2009 WL 839073, 2009 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 26604 (E.D.Pa., March 26, 2009); <u>Sledge v. Sands</u>, 182 F.R.D. 255 (N.D.III. 1998).

- 38. These deceptive communications additionally violated the FDCPA since they frustrate the consumer's ability to intelligently choose his or her response.
- 39. Plaintiff seeks to end these violations of the FDCPA. Plaintiff has suffered damages including but not limited to, fear, stress, mental anguish, emotional stress and acute embarrassment. Plaintiff and putative class members are entitled to preliminary and permanent injunctive relief, including, declaratory relief, and damages.

CLASS ALLEGATIONS

- 40. This action is brought as a class action. Plaintiff brings this action on behalf of himself and on behalf of all other persons similarly situated pursuant to Rule 23 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure.
- 41. The identities of all class members are readily ascertainable from the records of Alltran Financial, LP f/k/a United Recovery Systems, L.P. and those business and governmental entities on whose behalf it attempts to collect debts.
- 42. Excluded from the Plaintiff's Class is the Defendant and all officers, members, partners, managers, directors, and employees of Alltran Financial, LP f/k/a United Recovery Systems, L.P., and all of their respective immediate families, and legal counsel for all parties to this action and all members of their immediate families.
- 43. There are questions of law and fact common to the Plaintiff's Class, which common issues predominate over any issues involving only individual class members. The principal issues are whether the Defendant's communications with the Plaintiff, such as the above stated claims, violate provisions of the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act.
- 44. The Plaintiff's claims are typical of the class members, as all are based upon the same facts and legal theories.

- 45. The Plaintiff will fairly and adequately protect the interests of the Plaintiff's Class defined in this complaint. The Plaintiff has retained counsel with experience in handling consumer lawsuits, complex legal issues, and class actions, and neither the Plaintiff nor his attorneys have any interests, which might cause them not to vigorously pursue this action.
- 46. This action has been brought, and may properly be maintained, as a class action pursuant to the provisions of Rule 23 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure because there is a well-defined community interest in the litigation:
 - (a) <u>Numerosity:</u> The Plaintiff is informed and believes, and on that basis alleges, that the Plaintiff's Class defined above is so numerous that joinder of all members would be impractical.
 - (b) <u>Common Questions Predominate:</u> Common questions of law and fact exist as to all members of the Plaintiff's Class and those questions predominate over any questions or issues involving only individual class members. The principal issues are whether the Defendant's communications with the Plaintiff, such as the above stated claims, violate provisions of the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act.
 - (c) <u>Typicality:</u> The Plaintiff's claims are typical of the claims of the class members. Plaintiff and all members of the Plaintiff's Class defined in this complaint have claims arising out of the Defendant's common uniform course of conduct complained of herein.
 - (d) <u>Adequacy:</u> The Plaintiff will fairly and adequately protect the interests of the class members insofar as Plaintiff has no interests that are adverse to the absent class members. The Plaintiff is committed to vigorously litigating

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this matter. Plaintiff has also retained counsel experienced in handling consumer lawsuits, complex legal issues, and class actions. Neither the Plaintiff nor his counsel have any interests, which might cause them not to vigorously pursue the instant class action lawsuit.

- (e) Superiority: A class action is superior to the other available means for the fair and efficient adjudication of this controversy because individual joinder of all members would be impracticable. Class action treatment will permit a large number of similarly situated persons to prosecute their common claims in a single forum efficiently and without unnecessary duplication of effort and expense that individual actions would engender. Certification of a class under Rule 23(b)(l)(A) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure is appropriate because adjudications with respect to individual members create a risk of inconsistent or varying adjudications which could establish incompatible standards of conduct for Defendant who, on information and belief, collects debts throughout the United States of America.
- 47. Certification of a class under Rule 23(b)(2) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure is also appropriate in that a determination that the above stated claims, violate provisions of the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, and is tantamount to declaratory relief and any monetary relief under the FDCPA would be merely incidental to that determination.
- 48. Certification of a class under Rule 23(b)(3) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure is also appropriate in that the questions of law and fact common to members of the Plaintiff's Class predominate over any questions affecting an individual member, and a

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class action is superior to other available methods for the fair and efficient adjudication of the controversy.

- 49. Further, Defendant has acted, or failed to act, on grounds generally applicable to the Rule(b)(l)(A) and (b)(2) Class, thereby making appropriate final injunctive relief with respect to the Class as a whole.
- 50. Depending on the outcome of further investigation and discovery, Plaintiff may, at the time of class certification motion, seek to certify one or more classes only as to particular issues pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 23(c)(4).

AS AND FOR A FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION

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

- 51. Plaintiff repeats, reiterates, and incorporates the allegations contained in paragraphs numbered one (1) through fifty (50) herein with the same force and effect is if the same were set forth at length herein.
- 52. This cause of action is brought on behalf of Plaintiff and the members of a class.
- 53. The class involves all individuals 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 February 15, 2016; and (a) the collection letter was sent to a consumer seeking payment of a personal debt; and (b) the collection letter was not returned by the postal service as undelivered; and (c) the Plaintiff asserts that the letter contained violations of 15 U.S.C. §§ 1692d, 1692e, 1692e(5), 1692e(8), 1692e(10), and 1692f, for harassment and by threatening to engage in an act which is legally prohibited.

Violations of the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act

- 54. The Defendant's actions as set forth above in the within complaint violates the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act.
- 55. 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 Plaintiff's 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: Brooklyn, New York January 16, 2017

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

Plaintiff requests trial by jury on all issues so triable.

/s/ Maxim Maximov Maxim Maximov, Esq.

JS 44 (Rev. 1/2013) Case 1:17-cv-00232 Document Cover Sile 01/16/17 Page 1 of 2 PageID #: 12

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		
MEYER SPERBER (b) County of Residence of First Listed Plaintiff KINGS (EXCEPT IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES)			ALLTRAN FINANCIAL, LP F/K/A UNITED RECOVERY SYSTEMS, L.P. 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.		
(c) Attorneys (Firm Name, Address, and Telephone Number)MAXIM MAXIMOV, LLPOFFICE: (718) 395-34591701 AVENUE PFAX: (718) 408-9570BROOKLYN, NEW YORK 11229E-MAIL: M@MAXIMOVLAW			Attorneys (If Known)		
II. BASIS OF JURISDI	CTION (Place an "X" in One Box Only	y) III. (RINCIPAL PARTIES (Place an "X" in One Box for Plaintiff
□ 1 U.S. Government Plaintiff	✗ 3 Federal Question (U.S. Government Not a Party)		(For Diversity Cases Only) PT itizen of This State		
2 U.S. Government Defendant	4 Diversity (Indicate Citizenship of Parties in Item III)		itizen of Another State	of Business In A	
IV. NATURE OF SUIT (Place an "X" in One Box Only)			Foreign Country		
IV. NATURE OF SUIT	(Place an "X" in One Box Only) TORTS		FORFEITURE/PENALTY	BANKRUPTCY	OTHER STATUTES
 CONTRACT 110 Insurance 120 Marine 130 Miller Act 140 Negotiable Instrument 150 Recovery of Overpayment & Enforcement of Judgment 151 Medicare Act 152 Recovery of Defaulted Student Loans (Excludes Veterans) 153 Recovery of Overpayment of Veteran's Benefits 160 Stockholders' Suits 190 Other Contract 195 Contract Product Liability 196 Franchise REAL PROPERTY 210 Land Condemnation 220 Foreclosure 230 Rent Lease & Ejectment 245 Tort Product Liability 290 All Other Real Property 	PERSONAL INJURY PERSO 310 Airplane 365 Pe 315 Airplane Product Pr Liability 367 He 320 Assault, Libel & Ph Slander Per 330 Federal Employers' Prr Liability 368 Ass 340 Marine In 345 Marine Product Li Liability PERSO 355 Motor Vehicle 371 Tr Product Liability 380 Ot 360 Other Personal Prr Injury 385 Prr Sto Motor Vehicle 371 Tr Product Liability 380 Ot 360 Other Personal Prr Medical Malpractice Pro Medical Malpractice S10 Mu 440 Other Civil Rights Habea 441 Voting 463 Al 442 Employment 510 Mo 443 Housing/ S2 Accommodations 535 De Employment 540 Me Other 550 Ci 448 Education 555 Pri Cother 550 Ci	rsonal Injury - oduct Liability armaceutical rssonal Injury oduct Liability bestos Personal jury Product ability bestos Personal jury Product ability NAL PROPERTY Ability ber Fraud uth in Lending her Personal operty Damage operty Damage operty Damage operty Damage coduct Liability ER PETITIONS s Corpus: ien Detainee otions to Vacate intence eneral eath Penalty in andamus & Other in coduct a coduct cod	 In CREPT CREPT EVALUTE In CREPT CREPT EVALUTE In CREPT CREPT EVALUTE In CREPT CREPT EVALUTE In CREPT EVALUTE In CREPT EVALUTE In CREPT EVALUATE INTERPOSE INTERPOSE	■ 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)) ■ 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 895 Freedom of Information Act 896 Arbitration 899 Administrative Procedure Act/Review or Appeal of Agency Decision 950 Constitutionality of State Statutes
V. ORIGIN (Place an "X" in					
	noved from Court Court Court Court Court Court Court Court Court Court Court Court Court Court Court Court Court Court Court Court Court	Court R	(specify)	District Litigation	ct
VI. CAUSE OF ACTIO	ON Cite the U.S. Civil Statute under 15 U.S.C. SECTION 169 Brief description of cause: UNLAWFUL AND DECE	2 FAIR DEBT	COLLECTION PRACTI	CES ACT (FDCPA)	
VII. REQUESTED IN COMPLAINT:CHECK IF THIS IS A CLASS ACTION UNDER RULE 23, F.R.Cv.P.			DEMAND \$	CHECK YES only i JURY DEMAND:	if demanded in complaint: XI Yes □ No
VIII. RELATED CASE IF ANY	ASE(S) (See instructions): JUDGE		DOCKET NUMBER		
DATE 01/16/2017 FOR OFFICE USE ONLY	SIGNATURE OF ATTORNEY OF RECORD /S/ MAXIM MAXIMOV, ESQ.				
	AP	PPLYING IFP	JUDGE	MAG. JUD	DGE

Case 1:17-cv-COPRETIFICATION OF AND TOF AND TORATOON FADGIBUL PAGE DE #: 13

Local Arbitration Rule 83.10 provides that with certain exceptions, actions seeking money damages only in an amount not in excess of \$150,000, exclusive of interest and costs, are eligible for compulsory arbitration. The amount of damages is presumed to be below the threshold amount unless a certification to the contrary is filed.

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

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

the complaint seeks injunctive relief,

the matter is otherwise ineligible for the following reason

DISCLOSURE STATEMENT - FEDERAL RULES CIVIL PROCEDURE 7.1

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

N/A

RELATED CASE STATEMENT (Section VIII on the Front of this Form)

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

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

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

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

If your answer to question 2 (b) is "No," does the defendant (or a majority of the defendants, if there is more than one) reside in Nassau or Suffolk County, or, in an interpleader action, does the claimant (or a majority of the claimants, if there is more than one) reside in Nassau or Suffolk County?

(Note: A corporation shall be considered a resident of the County in which it has the most significant contacts).

BAR ADMISSION

I am currently admitted in the Eastern District of New York and currently a member in good standing of the bar of this court. X Yes No

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

(If yes, please explain)

Yes

No No

I certify the accuracy of all information provided above.

Signature: /S/ MAXIM MAXIMOV, ESQ.

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PO BOX 4044 CONCORD CA 94524-4044

February 15, 2016

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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Meyer Sperber 2035 58TH ST **BROOKLYN NY 11204-2012**



UNITED RECOVERY SYSTEMS⁴ WWW.URSI.COM

Date: February 15, 2016 Creditor: Citibank, N.A. **CITI MASTERCARD** Account: XXXXXXXXXXXX3268 URS ID: Amount Due as of February 15, 2016: \$6,537.75 Telephone: 877-208-9904, ext 9231 Partial Account Number for Your Security

SETTLEMENT OFFER

\$2.288.21 IN 3 PAYMENTS

Our client Citibank, N.A. is offering you a settlement of \$2,288.21 in 3 payments over 3 months starting on March 01, 2016. Once all three (3) payments of \$762.74 each have been paid to our office on time, we will consider this account to be settled for less than the full balance owed. Please make your payment payable to Citibank, N.A..

Each payment must be received by the due date or this settlement will be cancelled. If the settlement is cancelled any payments already received will be credited towards the full balance. Please send in your payments along with the payment stub to the address listed on the coupon.

Citibank, N.A. will report forgiveness of debt as required by IRS regulations.

Please call our toll-free number, 877-208-9904 to confirm your interest in the settlement offer or to explain your circumstances.

Sincerely

MATTHEW G SANDERS ext. 9231

This communication is from a debt collector. We are required to inform you that this is an attempt to collect a debt, and any information obtained will be used for that purpose.

> Office Hours (all times Central) Monday-Thursday: 8 AM to 9 PM • Friday: 8 AM to 4 PM • Saturday: 7 AM to 11 AM NEW YORK CITY DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS LICENSE NUMBER 1304511, 1304544, 1304538.

> > ¡Traducción en español al lado reverso! Detaile Caurant and With with Pasneers

X X Payment 1 of 3 Payment 2 of 3 **URS ID: URS ID:** Mail Payment To: Mail Payment To: United Recovery Systems, LP United Recovery Systems, LP P.O. Box 722910 P.O. Box 722910 HOUSTON TX 77272-2910 HOUSTON TX 77272-2910 Payment Amt - \$762.74 Payment Amt - \$762.74 Due Date - March 01, 2016 Due Date - March 31, 2016

Payment 3 of 3

URS ID:

Mail Payment To: United Recovery Systems, LP P.O. Box 722910 HOUSTON TX 77272-2910

Payment Amt - \$762.74 Due Date - April 30, 2016 Case 1:17-cv-00232 Document 1-3 Filed 01/16/17 Page 1 of 1 PageID #: 15

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT EASTERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

MEYER SPERBER on behalf of himself and all other similarly situated consumers

Plaintiff,

-against-

ALLTRAN FINANCIAL, LP F/K/A UNITED RECOVERY SYSTEMS, L.P.

Defendant.

SUMMONS IN A CIVIL ACTION

TO: ALLTRAN FINANCIAL, LP F/K/A UNITED RECOVERY SYSTEMS, L.P. 5800 NORTH COURSE DRIVE HOUSTON, TEXAS 77072

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

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

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

CLERK

DATE

BY DEPUTY CLERK

ClassAction.org

This complaint is part of ClassAction.org's searchable class action lawsuit database and can be found in this post: <u>Alltran Financial, LP Knocked with Debt Collection Class Action</u>