UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF WISCONSIN MILWAUKEE DIVISION

JENNIFER TORRES, Individually and on Behalf	Case No.: 18-cv-1009
of All Others Similarly Situated,	CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT
Plaintiffs,	
v. ()	Jury Trial Demanded
TRANSWORLD SYSTEMS INC.,	
Defendant.	

INTRODUCTION

1. This class action seeks redress for collection practices that violate the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, 15 U.S.C. § 1692 *et seq*. (the "FDCPA"), and the Wisconsin Consumer Act, chs. 421-427, Wis. Stats. (the "WCA").

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

2. The court has jurisdiction to grant the relief sought by the Plaintiffs pursuant to 15 U.S.C. § 1692k and 28 U.S.C. §§ 1331, 1337, and 1367. Venue in this District is proper in that Defendant directed its collection efforts into the District.

PARTIES

- 3. Plaintiff Jennifer Torres is an individual who resides in the Eastern District of Wisconsin (Milwaukee County).
- 4. Plaintiff is a "consumer" as defined in the FDCPA, 15 U.S.C. § 1692a(3), in that Defendant sought to collect from Plaintiff a debt incurred for personal, family, or household purposes, namely a personal credit card debt.
- 5. Plaintiff is also a "customer" as defined in the Wisconsin Consumer Act, Wis. Stat. § 421.301(17), in that she engaged in a consumer transaction.

- 6. Defendant Transworld Systems, Inc. ("Transworld") is a foreign business corporation with its primary offices located at 500 Virginia Drive Suite 514, Ft Washington, Pennsylvania, 19034.
- 7. Transworld does substantial business in Wisconsin and has a registered agent for service of process located at C T Corporation System, 301 S. Bedford St. Suite 1, Madison, Wisconsin 53703.
- 8. Transworld is engaged in the business of a collection agency, using the mails and telephone to collect consumer debts originally owed to others.
- 9. Transworld is engaged in the business of collecting debts owed to others and incurred for personal, family or household purposes.
- 10. Transworld is licensed as a "Collection Agency" pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 218.04 and Wis. Admin. Code Ch. DFI-Bkg 74.
- 11. Transworld is a debt collector as defined in 15 U.S.C. § 1692a and Wis. Stat. § 427.103(3).

FACTS

- 12. On or around March 23, 2017, Transworld mailed a debt collection letter to Plaintiff regarding an alleged debt, allegedly owed to "PHYSICIANS OF OB-GYN." A copy of this letter is attached to this complaint as Exhibit A.
- 13. The alleged debt identified in <u>Exhibit A</u> was incurred only for personal, family, or household purposes, namely, medical services.
- 14. Each consumer transaction involved agreements to render services and defer payment. Plaintiff was never expected to pay at the time medical services were rendered. The creditor mailed bills to Plaintiff at a later date.

- 15. Upon information and belief, <u>Exhibit A</u> is a form letter, generated by a computer, and with the information specific to Plaintiff inserted by the computer.
- 16. Upon information and belief, <u>Exhibit A</u> is a form debt collection letter, used by Defendant to attempt to collect alleged debts.
- 17. Upon information and belief, <u>Exhibit A</u> was the first written communication Defendant mailed to Plaintiff regarding this alleged debt.
- 18. <u>Exhibit A</u> contains the statutory validation notice that the FDCPA, 15 U.S.C. § 1692g, requires the debt collector to mail to the alleged debt along with, or within five days of, the initial communication:

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.

Exhibit A.

19. Exhibit A also contains the following:

PHYSICIANS OF OB-GYN
ACCT #: PW-P990
CLIENT REF:

CURRENT BALANCE DUE: \$851.46

Exhibit A.

- 20. Exhibit A states that, as of March 23, 2017, the balance of Plaintiff's account with account numbers ending in 9W and 9990 was \$851.46.
- 21. On or around April 6, 2017, Transworld mailed a debt collection letter to Plaintiff regarding the same alleged debt, allegedly owed to "PHYSICIANS OF OB-GYN." A copy of this letter is attached to this complaint as Exhibit B.

- 22. Upon information and belief, <u>Exhibit B</u> is a form letter, generated by a computer, and with the information specific to Plaintiff inserted by the computer.
- 23. Upon information and belief, <u>Exhibit B</u> is a form debt collection letter, used by Defendant to attempt to collect alleged debts.
 - 24. Exhibit B contains the following:

April 06, 2017

PHYSICIANS OF OB-GYN ACCT #: 9W-9990 CLIENT REF:

CURRENT BALANCE DUE: \$851.46

Exhibit B.

- 25. Exhibit B states that, as of April 6, 2017, the balance of Plaintiff's account with account numbers ending in 9W and 9990 was \$851.46.
- 26. On or around April 20, 2017, Transworld mailed a debt collection letter to Plaintiff regarding the same alleged debt, allegedly owed to "PHYSICIANS OF OB-GYN." A copy of this letter is attached to this complaint as Exhibit C.
- 27. Upon information and belief, <u>Exhibit C</u> is a form letter, generated by a computer, and with the information specific to Plaintiff inserted by the computer.
- 28. Upon information and belief, <u>Exhibit C</u> is a form debt collection letter, used by Defendant to attempt to collect alleged debts.
 - 29. Exhibit C contains the following:

PHYSICIANS OF OB-GYN
ACCT #: 9990
CLIENT REF:

CURRENT BALANCE DUE: \$851.46

Exhibit C.

- 30. Exhibit C states that, as of April 20, 2017, the balance of Plaintiff's account with account numbers ending in 9W and 9990 was \$851.46.
- 31. On or around May 18, 2017, Transworld mailed a debt collection letter to Plaintiff regarding the same alleged debt, allegedly owed to "PHYSICIANS OF OB-GYN." A copy of this letter is attached to this complaint as Exhibit D.
- 32. Upon information and belief, <u>Exhibit D</u> is a form letter, generated by a computer, and with the information specific to Plaintiff inserted by the computer.
- 33. Upon information and belief, <u>Exhibit D</u> is a form debt collection letter, used by Defendant to attempt to collect alleged debts.
 - 34. Exhibit D contains the following:

CREDITOR: PHYSICIANS OF OB-GYN ACCT #: 9990

CLIENT REF:

CURRENT BALANCE DUE: \$851.46

Exhibit D.

- 35. <u>Exhibit D</u> states that, as of May 18, 2017, the balance of Plaintiff's account with account numbers ending in 9W and 9990 was \$851.46.
- 36. On or around September 11, 2017, Transworld mailed a debt collection letter to Plaintiff regarding an alleged debt, allegedly owed to "PHYSICIANS OF OB-GYN." A copy of this letter is attached to this complaint as Exhibit E.
- 37. The alleged debt identified in <u>Exhibit E</u> was incurred only for personal, family, or household purposes, namely, medical services.
- 38. Upon information and belief, <u>Exhibit E</u> is a form letter, generated by a computer, and with the information specific to Plaintiff inserted by the computer.

- 39. Upon information and belief, <u>Exhibit E</u> is a form debt collection letter, used by Defendant to attempt to collect alleged debts.
 - 40. <u>Exhibit E</u> contains the following:

DATE: 09/11/17

OUR ACCOUNT #: 1009

CREDITOR: PHYSICIANS OF OB-GYN

CREDITOR'S ACCOUNT #: WW- 9990 9990

CURRENT BALANCE DUE: \$862.52

Exhibit E.

- 41. <u>Exhibit E</u> states that, as of September 11, 2017, the balance of Plaintiff's account with account numbers ending in 9W and 9990 was \$862.52.
- 42. From the face of <u>Exhibits A-E</u>, it is impossible to determine whether <u>Exhibit E</u> is attempting to collect the same debt as Exhibits A-D.
- 43. The balance stated in <u>Exhibit E</u> is slightly higher than the balance stated in <u>Exhibits A-D</u>.
- 44. The "CREDITOR'S ACCOUNT #" stated in Exhibit E is almost, but not quite, identical to the "ACCT #" stated in Exhibits A-D.
- 45. <u>Exhibits A-D</u> do not contain an "OUR ACCOUNT #," which could be cross-checked against the "OUR ACCOUNT #" stated in Exhibit E.
 - 46. Moreover, Exhibit E also contains the following text:

You can pay the above account in 6 equal consecutive monthly payments of \$143.74.

This offer may expire without notice. Before making payment, please confirm with one of our representatives that this offer has not expired.

Please contact our office at 877-870-7255 for details.

Exhibit E.

47. Six payments of \$143.74 would total \$862.44, slightly less than \$862.52. On the face of Exhibit E it is impossible to determine whether Transworld, or the creditor, would report

that the debt was "paid in full" or "settled in full" if a consumer made payments according to the schedule stated in Exhibit E.

- 48. Upon information and belief, the statement that "This offer may expire without notice," is a material false, deceptive, and misleading statement.
- 49. The alleged debt referenced in <u>Exhibit E</u> is an unsecured medical debt. Upon information and belief, the payment plan stated, payment of the balance in six equal, consecutive, monthly payments of \$143.74 would be available at any time. Six payments of \$143.74 would total \$862.44, or 99.99% of the alleged total balance stated in <u>Exhibit E</u>, \$862.52.
- 50. The statement that "This offer may expire without notice," is intended to confuse and intimidate the unsophisticated consumer into paying the debt rather than attempting to resolve the account some other way, such as by disputing the debt or filing a bankruptcy. *See DeKoven v. Plaza Assocs.*, 599 F.3d 578, 579 (7th Cir. 2010).
- 51. A statement that an offer "expires" when it does not is a material false statement. *DeKoven*, 599 F.3d at 579 ("while a debt collector can, if authorized by the creditor whom he is representing, make his initial offer a final one, he cannot pretend that it is final if it is not, in the hope that the debtor will think it final.").
- 52. Moreover, the purported offer is unclear as to whether payment would satisfy the debt stated in Exhibits A-D, which is associated with a slightly lower balance and an almost, but not quite, identical account number to the debt stated in Exhibit E. See Aker v. Americollect, Inc., 854 F.3d 397, 399-400 (7th Cir. 2017) (discussing the charging of interest in the context of medical debts in Wisconsin).

FDCPA Violations

- 53. The statement in <u>Exhibit E</u> that "This offer may expire without notice" is false, deceptive, misleading, and confusing and to the unsophisticated consumer. Such broad, openended language is inherently confusing to the consumer and an unfair collection practice.
- 54. The consumer has no way to know from Exhibit E whether the debt collector and/or the creditor would treat a payment of the purported "settlement" amount as an actual settlement (i.e. releasing Plaintiff from any remaining liability) of the alleged debt. The debt collector, or the creditor, could potentially charge interest on the account.
- 55. Transworld's language leaves open the possibility that the consumer will make a payment of the offered amounts, only to be informed that the offer has since expired and Transworld, or the creditor, will continue to collect on the remaining balance.
- 56. The consequences of misleading a consumer with respect to settling a debt are much greater than misleading about the amount of the debt. A payment of the entire debt would leave pennies or, at most, a few dollars left over for payment later. *See eg. Miller v. McCalla, Raymer, Padrick, Cobb, Nichols, & Clark, L.L.C.*, 214 F.3d 872, 876 (7th Cir. 2000). Due to an "unsatisfied" settlement, however, Transworld could continue to collect the remaining balance 40% of the alleged debt, plus any additional interest that had accrued.
- 57. An unsophisticated consumer would interpret the statement that she must tender payment "promptly" to mean that, "if they don't pay by the deadline, they will have no further chance to settle their debt for less than the full amount" *Al v. Van Ru Credit Corp.*, No. 17-CV-1738-JPS, 2018 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 70321 *8-10 (E.D. Wis. Apr. 26, 2018); *Evory v. RJM Acquisitions Funding L.L.C.*, 505 F.3d 769, 775 (7th Cir. 2007).

- 58. A false statement that a settlement offer is only available for a limited time is a material false statement because it imparts a false belief in the unsophisticated consumer that he or she must hurry to take advantage of the limited-time opportunity, when in reality, there is no such time limit. *See Nelson-McGourty v. L. & P Fin. Adjusters, Inc.*, 2010 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 81819, *44 (N.D. Ill. Aug. 12, 2010); *see also Ozkaya v. Telecheck Servs.*, 982 F. Supp. 578, 584 (N.D. Ill. Oct. 23, 1997); *Evory*, 505 F.3d at 775.
- 59. In order to preserve debt collectors' negotiating positions and prevent the settlement process from disintegrating, while still enforcing the congressional mandate prohibiting debt collectors from making false, deceptive, and misleading representations, the Seventh Circuit has established "safe harbor" language regarding settlement offers in collection letters:

As in previous cases in which we have created safe-harbor language for use in cases under the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, we think the present concern can be adequately addressed yet the unsophisticated consumer still be protected against receiving a false impression of his options by the debt collector's including with the offer the following language: "We are not obligated to renew this offer." The word "obligated is strong and even the unsophisticated consumer will realize that there is a renewal possibility but that it is not assured.

Evory, 505 F.3d 769 at 775-76.

- 60. The Seventh Circuit developed this language with the express purpose of preventing debt collectors from using confusing, intimidating, and threatening statements that impart a false sense of urgency in consumers.
- 61. Rather than using the safe-harbor language prescribed by the Seventh Circuit for debt collectors stating an offer will "expire," Transworld used language that is even more openended, confusing, intimidating, and threatening, and leaves consumers with an even greater sense of uncertainty and urgency regarding the proposed offer.

- 62. Moreover, Transworld's failure to provide an expiration date for its settlement offer is a material misrepresentation because it misleads the unsophisticated consumer about a material term of the settlement offer. *Evory*, 505 F.3d at 775-76; *see Smith v. Nat'l Enter. Sys., Inc.*, 2017 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 47701, *13 (W.D. Okla. Mar. 30, 2017) (because debt collector's purported time-sensitive settlement offer included an obviously misprinted expiration date that had already passed, "any consumer receiving [it] would be left to wonder about a material term of the offer, that is, the deadline for acceptance.").
- 63. The unsophisticated consumer, being told she must take advantage of the offer before it expires---without notice---would feel intimidated into paying. *Muha v. Encore Receivable Mgmt.*, 558 F.3d 623, 629 ("Confusing language in a dunning letter can have an intimidating effect by making the recipient feel that he is in over his head and had better pay up rather than question the demand for payment.").
- 64. Moreover, the instruction to call Transworld to confirm that the offer is still available prior to paying is a false, deceptive, misleading, and unfair means of attempting to collect the debt.
- 65. Upon information and belief, the offer is available at any time. The purpose of instructing the consumer to call Transworld is to induce alleged debtors to call Transworld's offices, whereupon Transworld uses high-pressure tactics to induce alleged debtors into paying those debts. *DeGeorge v. Fin. Recovery Servs.*, 2012 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 140966, at *25 (E.D. Penn. Sept. 27, 2012) (plaintiff stated claim that defendant engaged in unfair debt collection practices by sending letters that "required plaintiff to contact defendant to take advantage of a discount, thereby exposing plaintiff to additional pressures of in-person communication.").

- 66. Exhibit A falsely threatens that Transworld, or the creditor, will revoke the payment plan offered in Exhibit A. See Al v. Van Ru Credit Corp., 2018 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 70321, at *8-10 (E.D. Wis. Apr. 26, 2018).
 - 67. Plaintiff was deceived, misled, and confused by Exhibit A.
- 68. The unsophisticated consumer would be deceived, misled, and confused by Exhibit A.
- 69. Plaintiff had to spend time and money investigating Exhibit A, and the consequences of any potential responses to Exhibit A.

The FDCPA

70. The FDCPA creates substantive rights for consumers; violations cause injury to consumers, and such injuries are concrete and particularized *Derosia v. Credit Corp. Solutions*, 2018 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 50016, *12, 2018 WL 1513043 (E.D. Wis. March 27, 2018); *Pogorzelski v. Patenaude & Felix APC*, No. 16-C-1330, 2017 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 89678 *9 (E.D. Wis. June 12, 2017) ("A plaintiff who receives misinformation from a debt collector has suffered the type of injury the FDCPA was intended to protect against."); *Spuhler v. State Collection Servs.*, No. 16-CV-1149, 2017 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 177631 (E.D. Wis. Oct. 26, 2017) ("As in Pogorzelski, the Spuhlers' allegations that the debt collection letters sent by State Collection contained false representations of the character, amount, or legal status of a debt in violation of their rights under the FDCPA sufficiently pleads a concrete injury-in-fact for purposes of standing."); *Lorang v. Ditech Fin. LLC*, 2017 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 169286, at *6 (W.D. Wis. Oct. 13, 2017) ("the weight of authority in this circuit is that a misrepresentation about a debt is a sufficient injury for standing because a primary purpose of the FDCPA is to protect consumers from receiving false and misleading information."); *Qualls v. T-H Prof'l & Med. Collections, Ltd.*, 2017 U.S. Dist.

LEXIS 113037, at *8 (C.D. Ill. July 20, 2017) ("Courts in this Circuit, both before and after Spokeo, have rejected similar challenges to standing in FDCPA cases.") (citing "Hayes v. Convergent Healthcare Recoveries, Inc., 2016 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 139743 (C.D. Ill. 2016)); Long v. Fenton & McGarvey Law Firm P.S.C., 223 F. Supp. 3d 773, 777 (S.D. Ind. Dec. 9, 2016) ("While courts have found that violations of other statutes . . . do not create concrete injuries in fact, violations of the FDCPA are distinguishable from these other statutes and have been repeatedly found to establish concrete injuries."); Bock v. Pressler & Pressler, LLP, No. 11-7593, 2017 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 81058 *21 (D.N.J. May 25, 2017) ("through [s]ection 1692e of the FDCPA, Congress established 'an enforceable right to truthful information concerning' debt collection practices, a decision that 'was undoubtedly influenced by congressional awareness that the intentional provision of misinformation' related to such practices, 'contribute[s] to the number of personal bankruptcies, to marital instability, to the loss of jobs, and to invasions of individual privacy,"); Quinn v. Specialized Loan Servicing, LLC, No. 16 C 2021, 2016 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 107299 *8-13 (N.D. Ill. Aug. 11, 2016) (rejecting challenge to Plaintiff's standing based upon alleged FDCPA statutory violation); Lane v. Bayview Loan Servicing, LLC, No. 15 C 10446, 2016 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 89258 *9-10 (N.D. Ill. July 11, 2016) ("When a federal statute is violated, and especially when Congress has created a cause of action for its violation, by definition Congress has created a legally protected interest that it deems important enough for a lawsuit."); Church v. Accretive Health, Inc., No. 15-15708, 2016 U.S. App. LEXIS 12414 *7-11 (11th Cir. July 6, 2016) (same); see also Mogg v. Jacobs, No. 15-CV-1142-JPG-DGW, 2016 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 33229, 2016 WL 1029396, at *5 (S.D. Ill. Mar. 15, 2016) ("Congress does have the power to enact statutes creating legal rights, the invasion of which creates standing, even though no injury would exist without the statute," (quoting Sterk v. Redbox Automated

- Retail, LLC, 770 F.3d 618, 623 (7th Cir. 2014)). For this reason, and to encourage consumers to bring FDCPA actions, Congress authorized an award of statutory damages for violations. 15 U.S.C. § 1692k(a).
- 71. Moreover, Congress has explicitly described the FDCPA as regulating "abusive practices" in debt collection. 15 U.S.C. §§ 1692(a) 1692(e). Any person who receives a debt collection letter containing a violation of the FDCPA is a victim of abusive practices. *See* 15 U.S.C. §§ 1692(e) ("It is the purpose of this subchapter to eliminate abusive debt collection practices by debt collectors, to insure that those debt collectors who refrain from using abusive debt collection practices are not competitively disadvantaged, and to promote consistent State action to protect consumers against debt collection abuses").
- 72. 15 U.S.C. § 1692e generally prohibits a debt collector from using "any false, deceptive, or misleading representation or means in connection with the collection of any debt."
- 73. 15 U.S.C. § 1692e(2)(A) specifically prohibits "the false representation of the character, amount, or legal status of any debt."
- 74. 15 U.S.C. § 1692e(5) specifically prohibits debt collectors from making a "threat to take any action that cannot legally be taken or that is not intended to be taken."
- 75. 15 U.S.C. § 1692e(10) specifically prohibits the "use of any false representation or deceptive means to collect or attempt to collect any debt."
- 76. 15 U.S.C. § 1692f generally prohibits "unfair or unconscionable means to collect or attempt to collect any debt."

The WCA

- 77. The Wisconsin Consumer Act ("WCA") was enacted to protect consumers against unfair, deceptive, and unconscionable business practices and to encourage development of fair and economically sound practices in consumer transactions. Wis. Stat. § 421.102(2).
- 78. The Wisconsin Supreme Court has favorably cited authority finding that the WCA "goes further to protect consumer interests than any other such legislation in the country," and is "probably the most sweeping consumer credit legislation yet enacted in any state." *Kett* v. *Community Credit Plan, Inc.*, 228 Wis. 2d 1, 18 n.15, 596 N.W.2d 786 (1999) (citations omitted).
- 79. To further these goals, the Act's protections must be "liberally construed and applied." Wis. Stat. § 421.102(1); see also § 425.301.
- 80. "The basic purpose of the remedies set forth in Chapter 425, Stats., is to induce compliance with the WCA and thereby promote its underlying objectives." *First Wisconsin Nat'l Bank v. Nicolaou*, 113 Wis. 2d 524, 533, 335 N.W.2d 390 (1983). Thus, private actions under the WCA are designed to both benefit consumers whose rights have been violated and also competitors of the violators, whose competitive advantage should not be diminished because of their compliance with the law.
- 81. To carry out this intent, the WCA provides Wisconsin consumers with an array of protections and legal remedies. The Act contains significant and sweeping restrictions on the activities of those attempting to collect debts. *See* Wis. Stats. § 427.104.
- 82. The Act limits the amounts and types of additional fees that may be charged to consumers in conjunction with transactions. Wis. Stats. § 422.202(1). The Act also provides injured consumers with causes of action for class-wide statutory and actual damages and injunctive remedies against defendants on behalf of all customers who suffer similar injuries. *See*

- Wis. Stats. §§ 426.110(1); § 426.110(4)(e). Finally, "a customer may not waive or agree to forego rights or benefits under [the Act]." Wis. Stat. § 421.106(1).
- 83. Consumers' WCA claims under Wis. Stat. § 427.104(1) are analyzed using the same methods as claims under the FDCPA. Indeed, the WCA itself requires that the court analyze the WCA "in accordance with the policies underlying a federal consumer credit protection act," including the FDCPA. Wis. Stat. § 421.102(1).
- 84. Further, the Wisconsin Supreme Court has held that WCA claims relating to debt collection are to be analyzed under the "unsophisticated consumer" standard. *Brunton v. Nuvell Credit Corp.*, 785 N.W.2d 302, 314-15. In *Brunton*, the Wisconsin Supreme Court explicitly adopted and followed the "unsophisticated consumer" standard, citing and discussing *Gammon v. GC Servs. Ltd. P'ship*, 27 F.3d 1254, 1257 (7th Cir. 1994). *Id*.
- 85. Wis. Stat. § 427.104(1)(g) states that a debt collector may not: "Communicate with the customer or a person related to the customer with such frequency of at such unusual hours or in such a manner as can reasonably be expected to threaten or harass the customer."
- 86. Wis. Stat. § 427.104(1)(h) states that a debt collector may not: "Engage in other conduct . . . in such a manner as can reasonably be expected to threaten or harass the customer."
- 87. The Wisconsin Department of Financial Institutions, which is tasked with regulating licensed collection agencies, has found that "conduct which violates the Federal Fair Debt Collection Practices Act" can reasonably be expected to threaten or harass the customer. *See* Wis. Admin. Code DFI-Bkg 74.16(9) ("Oppressive and deceptive practices prohibited."). *See Al*, 2018 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 70321, at *5, *10-11 n.2.

COUNT I – FDCPA

- 88. Plaintiff incorporates by reference as if fully set forth herein the allegations contained in the preceding paragraphs of this Complaint.
- 89. <u>Exhibit E</u> includes an offer that is misleading as to the amount necessary to effectuate the settlement and when the offer may expire.
- 90. A consumer who mails a payment in the full amount of the "settlement amount" listed on the letter, on or near the deadline on the letter, may not have actually settled the claim if Transworld decides, on its own whim, that the offer expired prior to the payment.
- 91. A consumer who receives a letter that includes a "Limited Time" settlement offer that does not contain an expiration date would be deceived, misled, and confused about the deadline for acceptance, which is a material term of the offer. *See Smith*, 2017 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 47701 at *14; *Al*, 2018 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 70321, at *6-8.
 - 92. Defendant violated 15 U.S.C. §§ 1692e, 1692e(2)(A), 1692e(10), and 1692f.

COUNT II – FDCPA

- 93. Plaintiff incorporates by reference as if fully set forth herein the allegations contained in the preceding paragraphs of this Complaint.
- 94. Exhibit E includes false statements that mislead consumers to believe that any settlement offer made is a limited time offer and failure to accept the offer before its "expiration" would result in the debtors' inability to settle the debt for less than the full amount. *Evory*, 505 F.3d at 775-76; *Al*, 2018 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 70321, at *8-10.
 - 95. Defendant violated 15 U.S.C. §§ 1692e, 1692e(10), 1692f.

COUNT III – FDCPA

- 96. Plaintiff incorporates by reference as if fully set forth herein the allegations contained in the preceding paragraphs of this Complaint.
- 97. <u>Exhibit E</u> includes threats to revoke the settlement offers at any time and without notice even though neither Transworld nor the creditor intended to revoke these offers. *Al*, 2018 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 70321, at *8-10.
 - 98. Defendant violated 15 U.S.C. §§ 1692e, 1692e(5), 1692e(10), and 1692f.

COUNT IV – WCA

- 99. Plaintiff incorporates by reference as if fully set forth herein the allegations contained in the preceding paragraphs of this Complaint.
 - 100. Transworld is a licensed Collection Agency.
 - 101. Transworld's conduct violates the Federal Fair Debt Collection Practices Act.
 - 102. Defendant violated Wis. Stat. §§ 427.104(1)(g) and 427.104(1)(h).

CLASS ALLEGATIONS

- 103. Plaintiff brings this action on behalf of a Class, consisting of (a) all natural persons in the State of Wisconsin (b) who were sent a collection letter in the form represented by Exhibit E to the complaint in this action, (c) seeking to collect a debt for personal, family or household purposes, (d) between July 2, 2017 and July 2, 2018, inclusive, (e) that was not returned by the postal service.
- 104. The Class is so numerous that joinder is impracticable. Upon information and belief, there are more than 50 members of the Class.
- 105. There are questions of law and fact common to the members of the class, which common questions predominate over any questions that affect only individual class members.

The predominant common question is whether the Defendant complied with the FDCPA and the WCA.

106. Plaintiff's claims are typical of the claims of the Class members. All are based on the same factual and legal theories.

107. Plaintiff will fairly and adequately represent the interests of the Class members. Plaintiff has retained counsel experienced in consumer credit and debt collection abuse cases.

108. A class action is superior to other alternative methods of adjudicating this dispute. Individual cases are not economically feasible.

JURY DEMAND

109. Plaintiff hereby demands a trial by jury.

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff requests that the Court enter judgment in favor of Plaintiff and the Class and against Defendant for:

- (a) actual damages;
- (b) statutory damages;
- (c) attorneys' fees, litigation expenses and costs of suit; and
- (d) such other or further relief as the Court deems proper.

Dated: July 2, 2018

ADEMI & O'REILLY, LLP

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EXHIBIT A

TRANSWORLD SYSTEMS INC. COLLECTION AGENCY 500 VIRGINIA DR. SUITE 514 FT WASHINGTON, PA 19034 877-420-4789 OFFICE HOURS: 8AM - 5PM ET MON - FRI PHYSICIANS OF OB-GYN ACCT #: CLIENT REF

CURRENT BALANCE DUE: \$851.46

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03/23/17



JENNIFER TORRES 3009 W WANDA AVE MILWAUKEE WI 53221-4153

COURTESY NOTICE - - The creditor has requested that we contact you regarding the abovereferenced account. Please be advised that the account remains unpaid.

This is an attempt to collect a debt. Any information obtained will be used for that purpose. This is a communication from a debt collector. Calls to or from this company may be monitored or recorded for quality assurance.

Send correspondence, other than payment, to this collection agency at P.O. BOX 17221, WILMINGTON, DE 19850.

Please send payment to: PHYSICIANS OF OB-GYN Aurora Health Center 4202 W Oakwood Park Ct #120 FRANKLIN WI 53132

Our Client's Phone: 414-855-2822

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 receiving this notice. creditor.

Notice: See Reverse Side for Important Information.
We are required under some states' laws to notify consumers of certain rights as detailed in the list on the back of this notice. Consumers have rights under state and federal law that are not described in this letter or in the list on the back of this notice.

MAKE CHECK OR MONEY ORDER PAYABLE TO -PHYSICIANS OF OB-GYN Please see reverse for additional payment options

PHYSICIANS OF OB-GYN Aurora Health Center 4202 W Oakwood Park Ct #120 FRANKLIN WI 53132 Iddaallaalladladddal

1 \$851.46

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Jennifer Torres



Transworld Systems Inc.

500 Virginia Dr. Suite 514 Ft Washington, PA 19034 877-420-4789

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

WISCONSIN

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

TENNESSEE

This collection agency is licensed by the Collection Service Board, State Department of Commerce and Insurance.

COLORADO

3. A consumer has the right to request in writing that a debt collector or collection agency cease further communication with the consumer. A written request to cease communication will not prohibit the debt collector or collection agency from taking other action authorized by law to collect the debt. FOR INFORMATION ABOUT THE COLORADO FAIR DEBT COLLECTION PRACTICES ACT, SEE WWW.COAG.GOV/CAR.

MINNESOTA

4. This collection agency is licensed by the Minnesota Department of Commerce.

CALIFORNIA

5. The state Rosenthal Fair Debt Collection Practices Act and the federal Fair Debt Collection Practices Act require that, except under unusual circumstances, collectors may not contact you before 8:00 a.m. or after 9:00 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.

MASSACHUSETTS

6. 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.

Federal and state law prohibit certain methods of debt collection, and require that we treat you fairly. If you have a complaint about the way we are collecting your debt, please visit our website https://www.transworldpayments.com or contact the FTC online at www.ftc.gov; by phone at 1-877-FTC-HELP; or by mail at 600 Pennsylvania Ave., NW, Washington, DC 20580. If you want information about your rights when you are contacted by a debt collector, please contact the FTC online at www.ftc.gov.

PAP-1098-F-0 Rev Date 1/16

VISA (MasterCard)	AMERICAN DIC WER
Cardholder name_	
Billing Address	
City	StateZip
Card #	
Amount	Exp. date
Signature	Date

Exhibit B



TRANSWORLD SYSTEMS INC.

500 VIRGINIA DR. SUITE 514 FT WASHINGTON, PA 19034877-420-4789 OFFICE HOURS: 8AM - 5PM ET MON - FRI

իշկերիիսիՈրագույննիրին կրիրայիսիսայի



JENNIFER TORRES

3009 W WANDA AVE MILWAUKEE WI 53221-4153 April 06, 2017

PHYSICIANS OF OB-GYN ACCT #: 9W-9990

CLIENT REF:

CURRENT BALANCE DUE: \$851.46

Jennifer Torres:

The above amount remains unpaid. Our request for payment does not affect your rights as described in our first letter.

Send correspondence, other than payment, to this collection agency at P.O. BOX 17221, WILMINGTON, DE 19850.

Please send payment to: PHYSICIANS OF OB-GYN Aurora Health Center 4202 W Oakwood Park Ct #120 FRANKLIN WI 53132

Our Client's Phone: 414-855-2822

2

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WISCONSIN

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

TENNESSEE

- 2. This collection agency is licensed by the Collection Service Board, State Department of Commerce and Insurance.

 COLORADO
- 3. A consumer has the right to request in writing that a debt collector or collection agency cease further communication with the consumer. A written request to cease communication will not prohibit the debt collector or collection agency from taking any other action authorized by law to collect the debt. FOR INFORMATION ABOUT THE COLORADO FAIR DEBT COLLECTION PRACTICES ACT, SEE www.coag.gov/car.

MINNESOTA

4. This collection agency is licensed by the Minnesota Department of Commerce.

CALIFORNIA

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Federal and state law prohibit certain methods of debt collection, and require that we treat you fairly. If you have a complaint about the way we are collecting your debt, please visit our website https://www.transworldpayments.com or contact the FTC online at www.ftc.gov; by phone at 1-877-FTC-HELP; or by mail at 600 Pennsylvania Ave., NW, Washington, DC 20580. If you want information about your rights when you are contacted by a debt collector, please contact the FTC online at www.ftc.gov.

□ VISA □ (MasterCard)	DAXBRESS DOICOVER
Cardholder name_	
Billing Address	
City	StateZip
Card #	
Amount	Exp. date
Signature	Date

Creditor's name will appear on your credit card statement.

Exhibit C

TRANSWORLD SYSTEMS INC. COLLECTION AGENCY 500 VIRGINIA DR. SUITE 514 FT WASHINGTON, PA 19034 877-420-4789 OFFICE HOURS: 8AM - 5PM ET MON - FRI PHYSICIANS OF OB-GYN 9VV-ACCT #:

CLIENT REF:

CURRENT BALANCE DUE: \$851.46

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04/20/17



JENNIFER TORRES 3009 W WANDA AVE MILWAUKEE WI 53221-4153

The above amount remains unpaid. Our request for payment does not affect your rights described in our

Send correspondence, other than payment, to this collection agency at P.O. BOX 17221, WILMINGTON, DE 19850.

Please send payment to: PHYSICIANS OF OB-GYN Aurora Health Center 4202 W Oakwood Park Ct #120 FRANKLIN WI 53132

Our Client's Phone: 414-855-2822

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Notice: See Reverse Side for Important Information.

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MAKE CHECK OR MONEY ORDER PAYABLE TO -PHYSICIANS OF OB-GYN Please see reverse for additional payment options

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PHYSICIANS OF OB-GYN Aurora Health Center 4202 W Oakwood Park Ct #120 FRANKLIN WI 53132 Idalaa Haadka Haadda Had

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Jennifer Torres

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Transworld Systems Inc.

500 Virginia Dr. Suite 514 Ft Washington, PA 19034 877-420-4789

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

WISCONSIN

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CALIFORNIA

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Federal and state law prohibit certain methods of debt collection, and require that we treat you fairly. If you have a complaint about the way we are collecting your debt, please visit our website https://www.transworldpayments.com or contact the FTC online at www.ftc.gov; by phone at 1-877-FTC-HELP; or by mail at 600 Pennsylvania Ave., NW, Washington, DC 20580. If you want information about your rights when you are contacted by a debt collector, please contact the FTC online at www.ftc.gov.

PAP-1098-F-0 Rev Date 1/16

□ VISA □ (Mastercard)	□ STRIESS □ DICOVER
Cardholder name	
Billing Address	
City	StateZip
Card #	
Amount	Exp. date
Signature	Date

Exhibit D

TRANSWORLD SYSTEMS INC.
COLLECTION AGENCY
500 VIRGINIA DR. SUITE 514
FT WASHINGTON, PA 19034
877-420-4789
OFFICE HOURS: 8AM - 5PM ET MON - FRI

CREDITOR: PHYSICIANS OF OB-GYN ACCT #: 9990
CLIENT REF:

CURRENT BALANCE DUE: \$851.46

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05/18/17



JENNIFER TORRES 3009 W WANDA AVE MILWAUKEE WI 53221-4153

The above amount remains unpaid.

Unless payment is made, we may recommend to our client that this account be transferred to our team of professional telephone collectors.

Send correspondence, other than payment, to this collection agency at P.O. BOX 17221, WILMINGTON, DE 19850.

Please send payment to: PHYSICIANS OF OB-GYN Aurora Health Center 4202 W Oakwood Park Ct #120 FRANKLIN WI 53132

Our Client's Phone: 414-855-2822

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MAKE CHECK OR MONEY ORDER PAYABLE TO PHYSICIANS OF OB-GYN
Please see reverse for additional payment options

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PHYSICIANS OF OB-GYN Aurora Health Center 4202 W Oakwood Park Ct #120 FRANKLIN WI 53132 Iddullandan Iddul

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101

Jennifer Torres

Transworld Systems Inc. 500 Virginia Dr. Suite 514 Ft Washington, PA 19034 877-420-4789

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Federal and state law prohibit certain methods of debt collection, and require that we treat you fairly. If you have a complaint about the way we are collecting your debt, please visit our website https://www.transworldpayments.com or contact the FTC online at www.ftc.gov; by phone at 1-877-FTC-HELP; or by mail at 600 Pennsylvania Ave., NW, Washington, DC 20580. If you want information about your rights when you are contacted by a debt collector, please contact the FTC online at www.ftc.gov.

PAP-1098-F-0 Rev Date 1/16

VISA (MasterCard)	D SXEPERS D	ICONER!		
Cardholder name				
Billing Address				
City	State		_Zip	
Card #			,	
Amount	E:	kp. date		
Signature		Da	ite	
O	ill annear on	cour oro	dit oard c	tatamant

Exhibit E

5721.3840.QH4
PO Box 15618
Dept. 938
Wilmington, DE 19850-5618

Transworld Systems Inc. 9525 SWEET VALLEY DRIVE BLDG A VALLEY VIEW, OH 44125 877-870-7255

DATE: 09/11/17

OUR ACCOUNT #: 1009

CREDITOR: PHYSICIANS OF OB-GYN

CREDITOR'S ACCOUNT #: W-9990 9990

CURRENT BALANCE DUE: \$862.52

THE MILE OF THE PROPERTY OF T

You can pay the above account in 6 equal consecutive monthly payments of \$143.74.

This offer may expire without notice. Before making payment, please confirm with one of our representatives that this offer has not expired.

Please contact our office at 877-870-7255 for details.

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

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

You may also make payment by visiting us on-line at www.transworldpayments.com. Your unique registration code is f97.33438101.34131009.1016.

Office Hours: 8am-9pm Monday-Thursday, 8am-5pm Friday, 8am-12pm Saturday (ET).

Notice: See Reverse Side for Important Information.

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

Transworld Systems Inc. 9525 SWEET VALLEY DRIVE BLDG A VALLEY VIEW, OH 44125 877-870-7255

Our Account # Creditor's Account # Current Balance Due
1009 W- 9990 017 \$862.52
JENNIFER TORRES

ILK TORKES

Payment Amount

established the services of

Check here if your address has changed and print your new address in the space provided below.

Make Payment To:

Transworld Systems Inc.
P.O. Box 15520
Wilmington, DE 198505520

2

of 1

Federal and state law prohibit certain methods of debt collection, and require that we treat you fairly. If you have a complaint about the way we are collecting your debt, please visit our website at https://www.transworldpayments.com or contact the FTC online at www.ftc.gov; by phone at 1-877- FTC-HELP; or by mail at 600 Pennsylvania Ave., NW, Washington, DC 20580. If you want information about your rights when you are contacted by a debt collector, please contact the FTC online at www.ftc.gov.

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 THE REVERSE OF THE FORM.)

Place an X in the appropriate Box:	Green Bay Division	K.W.,)	<u> </u>	Milwaukee Division	
I. (a) PLAINTIFFS			DEFENDANTS		
JENNIFER TORRE	ES			LD SYSTEMS INC	
(b) County of Residence of First I	Listed Plaintiff Milwaukee U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES)		County of Residence o	f First Listed Defendant (IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES (ONLY)
				CONDEMNATION CASES, US	E THE LOCATION OF THE
			LAND I	NVOLVED.	
(c) Attorney's (Firm Name, Address,			Attorneys (If Known)		
Ademi & O'Reilly, LLP, 3620 E. Lay (414) 482-8000-Telephone (414) 482					
II. BASIS OF JURISDICTIO	N (Place an "X" in One Box Only)	III. CI	[TIZENSHIP OF P] (For Diversity Cases Only)	RINCIPAL PARTIES	Place an "X" in One Box for Plaintiff and One Box for Defendant)
1 U.S. Government 2 3 1	Federal Question (U.S. Government Not a Party)	Citiz		TF DEF 1	PTF DEF incipal Place 4 4
2 U.S. Government 4 Defendant	Diversity		en of Another State	2	· –
	(Indicate Citizenship of Parties in Item	Citize	en or Subject of a	3 Greign Nation	6 6 6
IV. NATURE OF SUIT (Place					
CONTRACT 110 Insurance PERSO	TORTS ONAL INJURY PERSONAL		ORFEITURE/PENALTY 10 Agriculture	BANKRUPTCY ☐ 422 Appeal 28 USC 158	OTHER STATUTES 400 State Reapportionment
□ 120 Marine □ 310 A □ 130 Miller Act □ 315 A □ 140 Negotiable Instrument □ 320 A □ 150 Recovery of Overpayment & Enforcement of Judgment □ 320 A □ 151 Medicare Act □ 330 F □ 152 Recovery of Defaulted Student Loans (Excl. Veterans) □ 345 M □ 153 Recovery of Overpayment of Veteran's Benefits □ 350 M □ 160 Stockholders' Suits □ 355 M □ 190 Other Contract □ 910 Other Contract □ 195 Contract Product Liability □ 360 O □ 196 Franchise □ 360 O □ 220 Foreclosure □ 441 V □ 220 Foreclosure □ 442 W □ 240 Torts to Land □ 443 H □ 245 Tort Product Liability □ 444 W □ 290 All Other Real Property □ 445 A □ 446 A O	Airplane Airplane Product Airplane Product Airplane Product Airplane Product Airplane Product Alander Gederal Employers' Airblity Adrine Product Airblity Alarine Product Alander Grader Employers' Alability Alarine Product Alarine Grader Employers' Alability Alarine Product Alarine Grader Employers' Alability Alarine Product Alarine Grader Free	Injury -	10 Agriculture 20 Other Food & Drug 25 Drug Related Seizure of Property 21 USC 881 30 Liquor Laws 10 R.R. & Truck 50 Airline Regs. 50 Occupational Safety/Health 50 Other LABOR 10 Fair Labor Standards Act 10 Labor/Mgmt. Relations 30 Labor/Mgmt. Reporting & Disclosure Act 10 Railway Labor Act 10 Other Labor Litigation 10 Empl. Ret. Inc. Security Act IMMIGRATION 52 Naturalization Application 53 Habeas Corpus Alien Detainee 55 Other Immigration Actions	422 Appeal 28 USC 158 423 Withdrawal 28 USC 157 PROPERTY RIGHTS 820 Copyrights 830 Patent 840 Trademark 840 Trademark SOCIAL SECURITY 861 HIA (1395ff) 862 Black Lung (923) 863 DIWC/DIW W (405(g)) 864 SSID Title XVI 865 RSI (405(g)) FEDERAL TAX SUITS 870 Taxes (U.S. Plaintiff or Defendant) 871 IRS—Third Party 26 USC 7609	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 810 Selective Service 850 Securities/Commodities/ Exchange 875 Customer Challenge 12 USC 3410 890 Other Statutory Actions 891 Agricultural Acts 892 Economic Stabilization Act 893 Environmental Matters 894 Energy Allocation Act 895 Freedom of Information Act 900Appeal of Fee Determination Under Equal Access to Justice 950 Constitutionality of State Statutes
VI. CAUSE OF ACTION Bri	rom 3 Remanded from Appellate Court te the U.S. Civil Statute under whic U.S.C. 1692 et seq ief description of cause: plation of Fair Debt Collection Practic	Reop th you are filing tees Act and Wisco	pened anothe (specification)	al statutes unless diversity):	
COMPLAINT:	CHECK IF THIS IS A CLASS ACUNDER F.R.C.P. 23	CHON D		JURY DEMAND:	^
VIII. RELATED CASE(S) IF ANY	(See instructions): JUDGE			DOCKET NUMBER	
DATE	SIGNATURE	E OF ATTORNEY	OF RECORD		
July 2, 2018 FOR OFFICE USE ONLY	/s/ Mai	rk A. Eldri	dge		

- Case 2:18-cv-01009 Filed 07/02/18 Page 1 of 2 Document 1-6

INSTRUCTIONS FOR ATTORNEYS COMPLETING CIVIL COVER SHEET FORM JS 44

Authority For Civil Cover Sheet

The JS 44 civil cover sheet and the information contained herein neither replaces nor supplements the filings and service of pleading 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. Consequently, a civil cover sheet is submitted to the Clerk of Court for each civil complaint filed. The attorney filing a case should complete the form as follows:

- I. (a) Plaintiffs-Defendants. Enter names (last, first, middle initial) of plaintiff and defendant. If the plaintiff or defendant is a government agency, use only the full name or standard abbreviations. If the plaintiff or defendant is an official within a government agency, identify first the agency and then the official, giving both name and title.
- (b) County of Residence. For each civil case filed, except U.S. plaintiff cases, enter the name of the county where the first listed plaintiff resides at the time of filing. In U.S. plaintiff cases, enter the name of the county in which the first listed defendant resides at the time of filing. (NOTE: In land condemnation cases, the county of residence of the "defendant" is the location of the tract of land involved.)
- (c) Attorneys. Enter the firm name, address, telephone number, and attorney of record. If there are several attorneys, list them on an attachment, noting in this section "(see attachment)".
- **II. Jurisdiction**. The basis of jurisdiction is set forth under Rule 8(a), F.R.C.P., which requires that jurisdictions be shown in pleadings. Place an "X" in one of the boxes. If there is more than one basis of jurisdiction, precedence is given in the order shown below.

United States plaintiff. (1) Jurisdiction based on 28 U.S.C. 1345 and 1348. Suits by agencies and officers of the United States are included here.

United States defendant. (2) When the plaintiff is suing the United States, its officers or agencies, place an "X" in this box.

Federal question. (3) This refers to suits under 28 U.S.C. 1331, where jurisdiction arises under the Constitution of the United States, an amendment to the Constitution, an act of Congress or a treaty of the United States. In cases where the U.S. is a party, the U.S. plaintiff or defendant code takes precedence, and box 1 or 2 should be marked.

Diversity of citizenship. (4) This refers to suits under 28 U.S.C. 1332, where parties are citizens of different states. When Box 4 is checked, the citizenship of the different parties must be checked. (See Section III below; federal question actions take precedence over diversity cases.)

- III. Residence (citizenship) of Principal Parties. This section of the JS 44 is to be completed if diversity of citizenship was indicated above. Mark this section for each principal party.
- IV. Nature of Suit. Place an "X" in the appropriate box. If the nature of suit cannot be determined, be sure the cause of action, in Section VI below, is sufficient to enable the deputy clerk or the statistical clerks in the Administrative Office to determine the nature of suit. If the cause fits more than one nature of suit, select the most definitive.
- V. Origin. Place an "X" in one of the seven boxes.

Original Proceedings. (1) Cases which originate in the United States district courts.

Removed from State Court. (2) Proceedings initiated in state courts may be removed to the district courts under Title 28 U.S.C., Section 1441. When the petition for removal is granted, check this box.

Remanded from Appellate Court. (3) Check this box for cases remanded to the district court for further action. Use the date of remand as the filing date.

Reinstated or Reopened. (4) Check this box for cases reinstated or reopened in the district court. Use the reopening date as the filing date.

Transferred from Another District. (5) For cases transferred under Title 28 U.S.C. Section 1404(a). Do not use this for within district transfers or multidistrict litigation transfers.

Multidistrict Litigation. (6) Check this box when a multidistrict case is transferred into the district under authority of Title 28 U.S.C. Section 1407. When this box is checked, do not check (5) above.

Appeal to District Judge from Magistrate Judgment. (7) Check this box for an appeal from a magistrate judge's decision.

VI. Cause of Action. Report the civil statute directly related to the cause of action and give a brief description of the cause. Do not cite jurisdictional statutes unless diversity.

U.S. Civil Statute: 47 USC 553

Brief Description: Unauthorized reception of cable service

VII. Requested in Complaint. Class Action. Place an "X" in this box if you are filing a class action under Rule 23, F.R.Cv.P.

Demand. In this space enter the dollar amount (in thousands of dollars) being demanded or indicate other demand such as a preliminary injunction.

Jury Demand. Check the appropriate box to indicate whether or not a jury is being demanded.

VIII. Related Cases. This section of the JS 44 is used to reference related pending cases if any. If there are related pending cases, insert the docket numbers and the corresponding judge names for such cases.

Date and Attorney Signature. Date and sign the civil cover sheet.

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

for the Eastern District of Wisconsin

)
))
JENNIFER 7	TORRES)
Plaintif	f(s))
V.) Civil Action No. 18-cv-1009
))
TRANSWORLD S	YSTEMS INC.)
Defendar	nt(s))
	SUMMONS I	IN A CIVIL ACTION
To: (Defendant's name and address)	TRANSWORLD SYSTEM c/o C T Corporation System 301 S. Bedford St. Suite 1 Madison, Wisconsin 53703	1
A lawsuit has been file	ed against you.	
the United States or a United 12(a)(2) or (3) – you must se	States agency, or an officerve on the plaintiff an ans	you (not counting the day you receive it) – or 60 days if you are er or employee of the United States described in Fed. R. Civ. P. wer to the attached complaint or a motion under Rule 12 of the must be served on the plaintiff or the plaintiff's attorney, whose
If you fail to respond You also must file your answe		be entered against you for the relief demanded in the complaint.
		STEPHEN C. DRIES, CLERK OF COURT
Date:		
		Signature of Clerk or Deputy Clerk

Civil Action No. 18-cv-1009

PROOF OF SERVICE

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

received by me on (date)	·		
☐ I personally serve	d the summons and the attached com	plaint on the individual at (place):	
		On (date)	; or
☐ I left the summons	s and the attached complaint at the ir	ndividual's residence or usual place of a	bode with (name
	, a p	erson of suitable age and discretion who	o resides there,
on (date)	, and mailed a copy	to the individual's last known address;	or
☐ I served the summ	ons and the attached complaint on (r	name of individual)	
who is designated by	law to accept service of process on b	ehalf of (name of organization)	
		on (date)	_; or
☐ I returned the sum	mons unexecuted because		; or
	mons unexecuted because		; or
☐ Other (specify):			; or
Other (specify): My fees are \$		for services, for a total of \$	
Other (specify): My fees are \$	for travel and \$y of perjury that this information is t	for services, for a total of \$ _ rue.	
Other (specify): My fees are \$ I declare under penalt	for travel and \$y of perjury that this information is t	for services, for a total of \$	
Other (specify): My fees are \$ I declare under penalt	for travel and \$y of perjury that this information is t	for services, for a total of \$ _ rue.	
Other (specify): My fees are \$ I declare under penalt	for travel and \$y of perjury that this information is t	for services, for a total of \$ rue. Server's signature	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·

Additional information regarding attempted service, etc.:

ClassAction.org

This complaint is part of ClassAction.org's searchable class action lawsuit database and can be found in this post: <u>Class Action Claims Transworld Systems Sent Misleading Collection Letter</u>