UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT EASTERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

FLOR VILLOMIL, on behalf of herself and all others similarly situated,

Plaintiffs,

-against-

MIDLAND CREDIT MANAGEMENT, INC.

Defendants.

CIVIL ACTION

CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT AND DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL

Plaintiff FLOR VILLOMIL (hereinafter, "Plaintiff"), a New York resident, brings this class action complaint by and through her attorney, Daniel Cohen, PLLC, against Defendants MIDLAND CREDIT MANAGEMENT, INC. (hereinafter "Defendant"), individually and on behalf of a class of all others similarly situated, pursuant to Rule 23 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, based upon information and belief of Plaintiff's counsel, except for allegations specifically pertaining to Plaintiff, which are based upon Plaintiff's personal knowledge.

INTRODUCTION/PRELIMINARY STATEMENT

- 1. Congress enacted the FDCPA in 1977 in response to the "abundant evidence of the use of abusive, deceptive, and unfair debt collection practices by many debt collectors." 15 U.S.C. § 1692(a). At that time, Congress was concerned that "abusive debt collection practices contribute to the number of personal bankruptcies, to material instability, to the loss of jobs, and to invasions of individual privacy." *Id.* Congress concluded that "existing laws . . . [we]re inadequate to protect consumers," and that "the effective collection of debts" does not require "misrepresentation or other abusive debt collection practices." 15 U.S.C. §§ 1692(b) & (c).
- 2. Congress explained that the purpose of the Act was not only to eliminate abusive debt collection practices, but also to "insure that those debt collectors who refrain from using

abusive debt collection practices are not competitively disadvantaged." *Id.* § 1692(e). After determining that the existing consumer protection laws were inadequate, *id.* § 1692(b), Congress gave consumers a private cause of action against debt collectors who fail to comply with the Act. *Id.* § 1692k.

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

- 3. The Court has jurisdiction over this class action under 28 U.S.C. § 1331, 15 U.S.C. § 1692 *et seq.* and 28 U.S.C. § 2201. If applicable, the Court also has pendent jurisdiction over the state law claims in this action pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1367(a).
- 4. Venue is proper in this judicial district pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1391(b)(2).

NATURE OF THE ACTION

- 5. Plaintiff brings this class action on behalf of a class of New York consumers seeking redress for Defendant's actions of using an unfair and unconscionable means to collect a debt.
- 6. Defendant's actions violated § 1692 et seq. of Title 15 of the United States Code, commonly referred to as the Fair Debt Collections Practices Act ("FDCPA") which prohibits debt collectors from engaging in abusive, deceptive and unfair practices.
- 7. Plaintiff is seeking damages, and declaratory and injunctive relief.

PARTIES

- 8. Plaintiff is a natural person and a resident of the State of New York, and is a "Consumer" as defined by 15 U.S.C. §1692(a)(3).
- 9. Defendant is a collection agency with its principal office located in San Diego, California.
- 10. Defendant is a company that uses the mail, telephone, and facsimile and regularly engages in business the principal purpose of which is to attempt to collect debts alleged to be due another.
- 11. Defendant is a "debt collector," as defined under the FDCPA under 15 U.S.C. § 1692a(6).

CLASS ALLEGATIONS

- 12. Plaintiff brings claims, pursuant to the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure (hereinafter "FRCP")
 Rule 23, individually and on behalf of the following consumer class (the "Class"):
 - All New York consumers who received a collection Letter from Defendant attempting to collect an obligation owed to or allegedly owed to Midland Funding LLC, that contains the alleged violation arising from Defendant's failure to adequately advise the consumer of their right to dispute the debt in violation of 15 U.S.C. §1692e, et seq.
 - The Class period begins one year to the filing of this Action.
- 13. The Class satisfies all the requirements of Rule 23 of the FRCP for maintaining a class action:
 - Upon information and belief, the Class is so numerous that joinder of all members is impracticable because there are hundreds and/or thousands of persons who have received debt collection Letter and/or notices from Defendant that fail to adequately advise the consumer of their right to dispute the debt in violation of the FDCPA. Plaintiff is complaining of a standard form Letter and/or notice that is sent to hundreds of persons (*See* Exhibit A, except that the undersigned attorney has, in accordance with Fed. R. Civ. P. 5.2 partially redacted the financial account numbers in an effort to protect Plaintiff's privacy);
 - There are questions of law and fact which are common to the Class and which
 predominate over questions affecting any individual Class member. These
 common questions of law and fact include, without limitation:
 - a. Whether Defendant violated various provisions of the FDCPA;
 - b. Whether Plaintiff and the Class have been injured by Defendant's conduct;

- c. Whether Plaintiff and the Class have sustained damages and are entitled to restitution as a result of Defendant's wrongdoing and if so, what is the proper measure and appropriate statutory formula to be applied in determining such damages and restitution; and
- d. Whether Plaintiff and the Class are entitled to declaratory and/or injunctive relief.
- Plaintiff's claims are typical of the Class, which all arise from the same operative facts and are based on the same legal theories.
- Plaintiff has no interest adverse or antagonistic to the interest of the other members of the Class.
- Plaintiff will fairly and adequately protect the interest of the Class and has retained experienced and competent attorneys to represent the Class.
- A Class Action is superior to other methods for the fair and efficient adjudication of the claims herein asserted. Plaintiff anticipates that no unusual difficulties are likely to be encountered in the management of this class action.
- A Class Action will permit large numbers of similarly situated persons to prosecute their common claims in a single forum simultaneously and without the duplication of effort and expense that numerous individual actions would engender. Class treatment will also permit the adjudication of relatively small claims by many Class members who could not otherwise afford to seek legal redress for the wrongs complained of herein. Absent a Class Action, class members will continue to suffer losses of statutory protected rights as well as monetary damages. If

- Defendant's conduct is allowed to proceed without remedy they will continue to reap and retain the proceeds of their ill-gotten gains.
- Defendant has acted on grounds generally applicable to the entire Class, thereby
 making appropriate final injunctive relief or corresponding declaratory relief
 with respect to the Class as a whole.

ALLEGATIONS OF FACT PARTICULAR TO FLOR VILLOMIL

- 14. Plaintiff repeats, reiterates and incorporates the allegations contained in paragraphs numbered "1" through "13" herein with the same force and effect as if the same were set forth at length herein.
- 15. Defendant collects and attempts to collect debts incurred or alleged to have been incurred for personal, family or household purposes on behalf of creditors using the United States Postal Services, telephone and Internet.
- 16. Upon information and belief, within the last year Defendant commenced efforts to collect an alleged consumer "debt" as defined by 15 U.S.C. 1692a(5), when it mailed a Collection Letter to Plaintiff seeking to collect on an unpaid account originally owed to Midland Funding LLC.
- 17. On a date known only by Defendant, Defendant sent Plaintiff a collection letter (the "Letter").

 See Exhibit A.
- 18. The Letter was sent or caused to be sent by persons employed by Defendant, as "any person that uses any instrumentality of interstate commerce or the mails in any business the principal purpose of which is the collection of any debts..." as defined by 15 U.S.C. §1692a(6).
- 19. The Letter is a "communication" as defined by 15 U.S.C. §1692a(2).
- 20. The Letter was an initial communication between Plaintiff and Defendant.
- 21. As a result of the following Counts Defendant violated the FDCPA.

Firsts Count 15 U.S.C. §1692g(a)(3) Suggesting a Dispute Must be Made in Writing

- 22. Plaintiff repeats, reiterates and incorporates the allegations contained in paragraphs numbered "1" through "21" herein with the same force and effect as if the same were set forth at length herein.
- 23. 15 U.S.C. § 1692g(3) requires the notice to include a statement that unless the consumer, within thirty days after receipt of the notice, disputes the validity of the debt, or any portion thereof, the debt will be assumed to be valid by the debt collector.
- 24. There is no requirement that the consumer dispute the debt in writing.
- 25. It is a violation of FDCPA to require disputes be made in writing.
- 26. It is a violation of the FDCPA to include language in the Letter that overshadows the required 15 U.S.C. § 1692g(3) statement.
- 27. It is a violation of the FDCPA to include language in the Letter that contradicts the required 15 U.S.C. § 1692g(3) statement.
- 28. It is a violation of the FDCPA to include language in the Letter that, when examined from the perspective of the least sophisticated consumer, overshadows the required § 1692g(a)(3) statement.
- 29. It is a violation of the FDCPA to include language in the Letter that, when examined from the perspective of the least sophisticated consumer, contradicts the required § 1692g(a)(3) statement.
- 30. It is a violation of the FDCPA to include language in the Letter that, when examined from the perspective of the least sophisticated consumer, leads the least sophisticated consumer to believe that her dispute must be in writing.
- 31. Defendant's Letter provides, on the back thereof, in bold type-face, "**Mail Disputes to:**" and proceeds to provide a mailing address for which to mail such disputes.

- 32. Disputes need not be in writing. *Hooks v. Forman, Holt, Eliades & Ravin, LLC*, 717 F.3d 282 (2d Cir. 2013).
- 33. Disputes may be made orally.
- 34. The language concerning written disputes overshadows the required 15 U.S.C. § 1692g(3) statement.
- 35. The language concerning written disputes contradicts the required 15 U.S.C. § 1692g(3) statement.
- 36. The language concerning written disputes, when examined from the perspective of the least sophisticated consumer, overshadows the required § 1692g(a)(3) statement.
- 37. The language concerning written disputes, when examined from the perspective of the least sophisticated consumer, contradicts the required § 1692g(a)(3) statement.
- 38. The language concerning written disputes, when examined from the perspective of the least sophisticated consumer, leads the least sophisticated consumer to believe that her dispute must be in writing.
- 39. Defendant has violated § 1692g as the above-referenced language overshadows the information required to be provided by that Section. See *Vetrano v. CBE Grp., Inc.*, 2016 WL 4083384 (E.D.N.Y. Aug. 1, 2016).

Second Count Violation of 15 U.S.C. § 1692e, et seq False and Misleading Representations

- 40. Plaintiff repeats, reiterates and incorporates the allegations contained in paragraphs numbered "1" through "39" herein with the same force and effect as if the same were set forth at length herein.
- 41. 15 U.S.C. § 1692e prohibits a debt collector from using any false, deceptive, or misleading representation or means in connection with the collection of any debt.

- 42. While § 1692e specifically prohibits certain practices, the list is non-exhaustive, and does not preclude a claim of falsity or deception based on non-enumerated practice.
- 43. For purposes of 15 U.S.C. § 1692e, the failure to clearly provide the consumer with complete and accurate information notifying them of their rights and obligations is unfair and deceptive to the least sophisticated consumer.
- 44. Collection notices are deceptive if they can be reasonably read to have two or more different meanings, one of which is inaccurate.
- 45. The question of whether a collection Letter is deceptive is determined from the perspective of the "least sophisticated consumer."
- 46. Because the collection Letter in the instant case was reasonably susceptible to an inaccurate reading concerning Plaintiff's right to dispute the debt by something other than in writing, it is deceptive within the meaning of the FDCPA.
- 47. When confronted with Defendant's Letter which stated, "Mail Disputes To," it is reasonable for the least sophisticated consumer to believe that all disputes would be needed in writing. That is inaccurate since you can also call to orally dispute the debt.
- 48. When confronted with Defendant's Letter which states, "Mail Disputes To:" it would be reasonable for the least sophisticated consumer to understand that statement to mean that in order to dispute the debt she must send it in writing. That would be inaccurate since she can dispute the debt verbally.
- 49. The least sophisticated consumer would likely be deceived by Defendants' conduct.
- 50. The least sophisticated consumer would likely be deceived in a material way by Defendant's conduct.

51. The least sophisticated consumer would be unsure as to whether a writing or oral

communication is necessary to dispute the underlying debt.

52. Defendant's conduct violated 15 U.S.C. §1692e. There is no requirement that the consumer

dispute the debt in writing.

53. Because the Letter, for the reasons described above, could be read by the least sophisticated

consumer to have two or more meanings, one of which is inaccurate, such violates 15 U.S.C. §

1692e. See Balke v. Alliance One Receivables Management, Inc., No. 16-CV 5624(ADS)(AKT),

2017 WL 2634653 (E.D.N.Y. June 19, 2017).

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff demands judgment against Defendants as follows:

(a) Declaring that this action is properly maintainable as a Class Action and

certifying Plaintiff as Class representative and Daniel Cohen, PLLC, as

Class Counsel;

(b) Awarding Plaintiff and the Class statutory damages;

(c) Awarding Plaintiff and the Class actual damages;

(d) Awarding Plaintiff costs of this Action, including reasonable attorneys'

fees and expenses;

(e) Awarding pre-judgment interest and post-judgment interest; and

(f) Awarding Plaintiff and the Class such other and further relief as this Court

may deem just and proper.

Dated: Brooklyn, New York

July 13, 2017

Respectfully submitted,

By: /s/ Daniel Cohen____

Daniel Cohen, Esq. Daniel Cohen, PLLC

300 Cadman Plaza W, 12th floor

Brooklyn, New York 11201

Phone: (646) 645-8482 Fax: (347) 665-1545 Email: Dan@dccohen.com Attorney for Plaintiff

DEMAND FOR TRIAL BY JURY

Pursuant to Rule 38 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, Plaintiff hereby requests a trial by jury on all issues so triable.

/s/ Daniel Cohen
Daniel Cohen, Esq.

Dated: Brooklyn, New York

July 13, 2017

JS 44 (Rev. 07/16)

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			
FLOR VILLOMIL, on behalf of herself and all others similarly situate			MIDLAND CREDI	MIDLAND CREDIT MANAGEMENT, INC.		
(b) County of Residence of	of First Listed Plaintiff		County of Residence	County of Residence of First Listed Defendant		
(EZ	XCEPT IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CA	SES)		(IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES O	,	
				ONDEMNATION CASES, USE TI OF LAND INVOLVED.	HE LOCATION OF	
(c) Attorneys (Firm Name, A	Address, and Telephone Numbe	r)	Attorneys (If Known)			
DANIEL COHEN, PLLC, NY 11201, (646) 645-848		est, 12th Floor, Brook	lyn,			
II. BASIS OF JURISDI	ICTION (Place an "X" in O	ne Box Only)	I. CITIZENSHIP OF P (For Diversity Cases Only)	RINCIPAL PARTIES	(Place an "X" in One Box for Plaintif and One Box for Defendant)	
☐ 1 U.S. Government	★ 3 Federal Question		P	TF DEF	PTF DEF	
Plaintiff	(U.S. Government)	Not a Party)	Citizen of This State	1 Incorporated or Pri of Business In T		
☐ 2 U.S. Government Defendant	☐ 4 Diversity (Indicate Citizensh	ip of Parties in Item III)	Citizen of Another State	1 2		
			Citizen or Subject of a Foreign Country	□ 3 Foreign Nation	□ 6 □ 6	
IV. NATURE OF SUIT			EODEELEN DE DEN AT DEN	D A NIZ DA IDICINA	OWNER COLUMNIA	
CONTRACT ☐ 110 Insurance	PERSONAL INJURY	PERSONAL INJURY	FORFEITURE/PENALTY ☐ 625 Drug Related Seizure	BANKRUPTCY 422 Appeal 28 USC 158	OTHER STATUTES ☐ 375 False Claims Act	
☐ 120 Marine	☐ 310 Airplane	☐ 365 Personal Injury -	of Property 21 USC 881	☐ 423 Withdrawal	□ 376 Qui Tam (31 USC	
☐ 130 Miller Act ☐ 140 Negotiable Instrument	☐ 315 Airplane Product Liability	Product Liability 367 Health Care/	☐ 690 Other	28 USC 157	3729(a)) ☐ 400 State Reapportionment	
☐ 150 Recovery of Overpayment & Enforcement of Judgment	☐ 320 Assault, Libel & Slander	Pharmaceutical Personal Injury		PROPERTY RIGHTS ☐ 820 Copyrights	☐ 410 Antitrust ☐ 430 Banks and Banking	
☐ 151 Medicare Act	330 Federal Employers'	Product Liability		☐ 830 Patent	☐ 450 Commerce	
☐ 152 Recovery of Defaulted Student Loans	Liability ☐ 340 Marine	☐ 368 Asbestos Personal Injury Product		□ 840 Trademark	☐ 460 Deportation☐ 470 Racketeer Influenced and	
(Excludes Veterans)	☐ 345 Marine Product	Liability	LABOR	SOCIAL SECURITY	Corrupt Organizations	
☐ 153 Recovery of Overpayment of Veteran's Benefits	Liability 350 Motor Vehicle	PERSONAL PROPERTY ☐ 370 Other Fraud	7 710 Fair Labor Standards Act	☐ 861 HIA (1395ff) ☐ 862 Black Lung (923)	■ 480 Consumer Credit ■ 490 Cable/Sat TV	
☐ 160 Stockholders' Suits ☐ 190 Other Contract	☐ 355 Motor Vehicle Product Liability	☐ 371 Truth in Lending ☐ 380 Other Personal	☐ 720 Labor/Management Relations	☐ 863 DIWC/DIWW (405(g)) ☐ 864 SSID Title XVI	☐ 850 Securities/Commodities/ Exchange	
☐ 195 Contract Product Liability	☐ 360 Other Personal	Property Damage	☐ 740 Railway Labor Act	☐ 865 RSI (405(g))	☐ 890 Other Statutory Actions	
☐ 196 Franchise	Injury ☐ 362 Personal Injury -	☐ 385 Property Damage Product Liability	☐ 751 Family and Medical Leave Act		☐ 891 Agricultural Acts ☐ 893 Environmental Matters	
REAL PROPERTY	Medical Malpractice CIVIL RIGHTS		☐ 790 Other Labor Litigation	FEDERAL TAX SUITS	☐ 895 Freedom of Information	
☐ 210 Land Condemnation	☐ 440 Other Civil Rights	PRISONER PETITIONS Habeas Corpus:	☐ 791 Employee Retirement Income Security Act	☐ 870 Taxes (U.S. Plaintiff	Act ☐ 896 Arbitration	
☐ 220 Foreclosure ☐ 230 Rent Lease & Ejectment	☐ 441 Voting ☐ 442 Employment	☐ 463 Alien Detainee ☐ 510 Motions to Vacate		or Defendant) ☐ 871 IRS—Third Party	☐ 899 Administrative Procedure Act/Review or Appeal of	
☐ 240 Torts to Land	□ 443 Housing/	Sentence		26 USC 7609	Agency Decision	
☐ 245 Tort Product Liability ☐ 290 All Other Real Property	Accommodations 445 Amer. w/Disabilities -	☐ 530 General ☐ 535 Death Penalty	IMMIGRATION	-	☐ 950 Constitutionality of State Statutes	
1 ,	Employment	Other:	☐ 462 Naturalization Application	1		
	☐ 446 Amer. w/Disabilities - Other	☐ 540 Mandamus & Other☐ 550 Civil Rights	☐ 465 Other Immigration Actions			
	☐ 448 Education	☐ 555 Prison Condition ☐ 560 Civil Detainee -				
		Conditions of Confinement				
V. ORIGIN (Place an "X" is	n One Roy Only)	Commentent				
X 1 Original □ 2 Re	moved from 3	Remanded from Appellate Court		erred from		
VI CAUGE OF A COV	L15 USC 1692	tute under which you are f	iling (Do not cite jurisdictional sta	,	Bhoot The	
VI. CAUSE OF ACTIO	Brief description of ca Defendant violate	nuse: ed the FDCPA				
VII. REQUESTED IN COMPLAINT:	CHECK IF THIS UNDER RULE 2	IS A CLASS ACTION 3, F.R.Cv.P.	DEMAND \$	CHECK YES only JURY DEMAND:	if demanded in complaint:	
VIII. RELATED CASI					_	
IF ANY	(See instructions):	JUDGE	NEW OF PERSON	DOCKET NUMBER		
DATE 07/13/2017 FOR OFFICE USE ONLY		signature of attor /s/ Daniel Cohen	RNEY OF RECORD			
	MOUNT	APPLYING IFP	JUDGE	MAG. JUI	DGE	

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, DANIEL	ole for c	, counsel for PLAINTIFF, do hereby certify that the above captioned civil action is ompulsory arbitration for the following reason(s):		
mengn		ompuisory arottation for the following reason(s).		
	\boxtimes	monetary damages sought are in excess of \$150,000, exclusive of interest and costs,		
		the complaint seeks injunctive relief,		
	X	Questions of law rather than questions of fact predominate <u>DISCLOSURE STATEMENT - FEDERAL RULES CIVIL PROCEDURE 7.1</u>		
NONE		Identify any parent corporation and any publicly held corporation that owns 10% or more or its stocks:		
		RELATED CASE STATEMENT (Section VIII on the Front of this Form)		
provides because same jud case: (A	that "A c the cases lge and m) involves	s 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) ivil case is "related" to another civil case for purposes of this guideline when, because of the similarity of facts and legal issues or arise from the same transactions or events, a substantial saving of judicial resources is likely to result from assigning both cases to the agistrate judge." Rule 50.3.1 (b) provides that "A civil case shall not be deemed "related" to another civil case merely because the civil identical legal issues, or (B) involves the same parties." Rule 50.3.1 (c) further provides that "Presumptively, and subject to the power mine otherwise pursuant to paragraph (d), civil cases shall not be deemed to be "related" unless both cases are still pending before the		
		NY-E DIVISION OF BUSINESS RULE 50.1(d)(2)		
1.)	Is the c County	ivil action being filed in the Eastern District removed from a New York State Court located in Nassau or Suffolk		
2.)		answered "no" above: the events or omissions giving rise to the claim or claims, or a substantial part thereof, occur in Nassau or Suffolk ? NO		
	b) Did to	the events or omissions giving rise to the claim or claims, or a substantial part thereof, occur in the Eastern		
Suffolk	County, olk Coun	o question 2 (b) is "No," does the defendant (or a majority of the defendants, if there is more than one) reside in Nassau or or, in an interpleader action, does the claimant (or a majority of the claimants, if there is more than one) reside in Nassau ty?		
	`			
BAR ADMISSION				
I am cu	rrently ac	dmitted in the Eastern District of New York and currently a member in good standing of the bar of this court. No		
Are you	ı currentl	y the subject of any disciplinary action (s) in this or any other state or federal court? Yes (If yes, please explain) No		

I certify the accuracy of all information provided above.

Signature: /s/ Daniel Cohen

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

for the

Eastern District of New York

	Eastern District of	New Tork
FLOR VILLOMIL, on behalf of similarly situa		
Plaintiff(s))	
V.)	Civil Action No.
MIDLAND CREDIT MANAGEME) NT. INC.	
)	
	ý ,	
Defendant(s)	
	SUMMONS IN A C	IVIL ACTION
To: (Defendant's name and address)	MIDLAND CREDIT MANAGE C/O CORPORATION SERVIO 80 STATE STREET ALBANY, NEW YORK 12207	CE COMPANY
are the United States or a United P. 12 (a)(2) or (3) — you must sthe Federal Rules of Civil Process whose name and address are:	rvice of this summons on you (r d States agency, or an officer or serve on the plaintiff an answer	ot counting the day you received it) — or 60 days if you employee of the United States described in Fed. R. Civ. to the attached complaint or a motion under Rule 12 of ast be served on the plaintiff or plaintiff's attorney,
If you fail to respond, ju You also must file your answer		red against you for the relief demanded in the complaint.
		DOUGLAS C. PALMER CLERK OF COURT
Date:		
		Signature of Clerk or Deputy Clerk

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

Civil Action No.

PROOF OF SERVICE

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

was rec	This summons for (neeived by me on (date)	ame of individual and title, if an	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·				
	☐ I personally serve	ed the summons on the ind					
			on (date)	; or			
	☐ I left the summons at the individual's residence or usual place of abode with (name)						
	on (date), a person of suitable age and discretion who resides there, on (date), and mailed a copy to the individual's last known address; or						
	☐ I served the summons on (name of individual) , who is designated by law to accept service of process on behalf of (name of organization)						
			on (date)	; or			
	☐ I returned the sun	nmons unexecuted because			; or		
	☐ Other (specify):						
	My fees are \$	for travel and \$	for services, for a tota	nl of \$().00 .		
	I declare under pena	rmation is true.					
Date:							
			Server's signature				
		_	Printed name and title	,			
		_	Server's address				

Additional information regarding attempted service, etc:

Case 1:17-cv-04153 Document 1-3 Filed 07/13/17 Page 1 of 2 PageID #: 15

Enclose \$3,203.19 in the envelope provided or call (855) 977-1969 to resolve this account.

Dear Flor,

On 07-26-2016, your Citibank, N.A. / Sears Premier Card account was sold to MIDLAND FUNDING LLC, which is now the sole owner of this debt. Midland Credit Management, Inc. ("MCM"), a debt collection company, will be collecting on, and servicing your account, on behalf of MIDLAND FUNDING LLC. Your current balance is \$3,203.19.

This account may still be reported on your credit report as unpaid.

YOUR VALIDATION RIGHTS, REQUIRED INITIAL DISCLOSURES, AND ADDITIONAL ACCOUNT INFORMATION:

Debt collectors are prohibited by 15 U.S.C. §1692 et seq., from engaging in abusive, deceptive and unfair collection efforts, including the use or threat of violence, the use of obscene or profane language, and repeated phone calls with the intent to annoy, abuse or harass.

If a creditor or debt collector receives a money judgment against you in court, state and federal laws may prevent the following types of income from being taken to pay the debt:

- Supplemental Security income (SSI);
- Social Security;
- Public assistance (welfare);
- Spousal support, maintenance (alimony) or child support;
- Unemployment benefits;
- Disability benefits;
- Workers' compensation benefits;
- Public or private pensions;
- Veterans' benefits;
- Federal student loans, federal student grants, and federal work study funds; and
- Ninety percent of your wages or salary earned in the last sixty days.

purchased by MIDLAND FUNDING LLC, reflect that you are obligated on this account, which is in default. As the owner of this account, but subject to the rights described below, MIDLAND FUNDING LLC is entitled to payment of this account. All communication regarding this account should be addressed to MCM and not the previous owner.

Unless you notify MCM within thirty (30) days after receiving this notice that you dispute the validity of the debt, or any portion thereof, MCM will assume this debt to be valid.

If you notify MCM, in writing, within thirty (30) days after receiving this notice that the debt, or any portion thereof, is disputed, MCM will obtain verification of the debt or a copy of a judgment (if there is a judgment) and MCM will mail you a copy of such verification or judgment. Write to: 2365 Northside Drive, Suite 300, San Diego, CA 92108; Attn: Consumer Support agency if you fail to fulfill the terms of your credit obligations. Services.

The records associated with the CITIBANK, N.A. account If you request, in writing, within thirty (30) days after receiving this notice, MCM will provide you with the name and address of the original creditor. Write to: 2365 Northside Drive, Suite 300, San Diego, CA 92108; Attn: Consumer Support Services.

> If an attorney represents you with regard to this debt, please refer this letter to your attorney. Likewise, if you are involved in an active bankruptcy case, or if this debt has been discharged in a bankruptcy case, please refer this letter to your bankruptcy attorney so that we may be notified.

> Please remember, even if you make a payment within thirty (30) days after receiving this notice, you still have the remainder of the thirty (30) days to exercise the rights described above.

> You are hereby notified that a negative credit report reflecting on your credit record may be submitted to a credit reporting

Sincerely

Tim Bolin, Division Manager

SEE REVERSE SIDE FOR IMPORTANT DISCLOSURE INFORMATION AND SAVINGS OPPORTUNITIES

Hours of Operation: M - Th: 5:00am - 9:00pm PST; Fri: 5:00am - 4:30pm PST; Sat: 5:00am - 4:30pm PST; Sun: 5:00am - 9:00pm PST





Call: (855) 977-1969

Pay Online at:

www.midlandcreditonline.com



Payment Certificate

Payment Certificate

MCM Account Number: **Original Account Number:**

<u>64</u>18 10200

Current Balance:

\$3,203.19

Due Date:

10-13-2016

Amount Enclosed:

Directions:

- 1. Make your check payable to: Midland Credit Management, Inc.
- 2. Fill out the amount enclosed on the Payment Certificate
- 3. Place your check and Payment Certificate in the provided envelope
- 4. Mail Payment Certificate to:

Midland Credit Management, Inc.

P.O. Box 60578

Los Angeles, CA 90060-0578

MCM is committed to maintaining the highest standards of honesty and respect. If you are unable to pay today, please call one of our Account Managers at (855) 977-1969 to discuss other options or visit the Help Center Wizard at www.midlandcreditonline.com.



Experience the MCM Difference

- Enclose \$3,203.19 in the envelope provided or call (855) 977-1969.
- A dedicated Account Manager will be assigned to your account
- Helpful tools and account information are available at www.midlandcreditonline.com
- The highest level of transparency (see reverse side for our quick summary)

Calls to and/or from this company may be monitored or recorded.

RETAIN THE FOLLOWING ADDRESS INFORMATION FOR YOUR RECORDS:

Mail Payments to:

P.O. Box 60578

Los Angeles, CA 90060-0578

Mail Correspondence (NO Payments) to:

2365 Northside Drive Suite 300 San Diego, CA 92108 Mail Disputes to:

ATTN: Consumer Support Services 2365 Northside Drive, Suite 300

San Diego, CA 92108

Mail Credit Reporting Correspondence to:

MCM Credit Reporting Department 2365 Northside Drive, Suite 300

San Diego, CA 92108

We are required under state law to notify consumers of the following rights. This list does not contain a complete list of the rights consumers have under state and federal law:

IF YOU LIVE IN NEW YORK, THIS APPLIES TO YOU:

New York City Department of Consumer Affairs License Number 1140603, 1207829, 1207820, 1227728, 2022587, 2023151, 2023152, 2027429, 2027430, 2027431.

ClassAction.org

This complaint is part of ClassAction.org's searchable class action lawsuit database and can be found in this post: Midland Credit Management Miscommunicates Consumer Rights, Suit Says