

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS
BEAUMONT DIVISION

Sally Young, individually and on behalf of all others
similarly situated;

Plaintiff,

-v.-

Total Card, Inc.,
Cavalry SPV I, LLC and
John Does 1-25

Defendant.

Civil Action No: _____

**CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT
DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL**

Plaintiff Sally Young (hereinafter, "Plaintiff" or "Young"), a Texas resident, brings this Class Action Complaint by and through her attorneys, RC Law Group, PLLC, against Defendant Total Card, Inc. (hereinafter "Defendant Total Card") and Defendant Cavalry SPV I, LLC (hereinafter "Defendant Cavalry"), 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 pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1331 and 15 U.S.C. § 1692 et. seq. 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), as this is where a substantial part of the events or omissions giving rise to the claim occurred.

NATURE OF THE ACTION

5. Plaintiff brings this class action on behalf of a class of Texas consumers under §1692 et seq. of Title 15 of the United States Code, commonly referred to as the Fair Debt Collections Practices Act ("FDCPA"), and

6. Plaintiff is seeking damages and declaratory and injunctive relief.

PARTIES

7. Plaintiff is a resident of the State of Texas, County of Jefferson, residing at 5090 Allen Drive, Beaumont, TX 77708.

8. Defendant Total Card is a "debt collector" as the phrase is defined in 15 U.S.C. § 1692(a)(6) and used in the FDCPA with an address at 5109 S. Broadband Lane, Sioux Falls, SD 57108.

9. Upon information and belief, Defendant Total Card 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.

10. Defendant Cavalry is a "debt collector" as the phrase is defined in 15 U.S.C. § 1692(a)(6) and used in the FDCPA with an address at 500 Summit Lake Drive, Valhalla, NY 10595.

11. Upon information and belief, Defendant Cavalry 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.

12. John Does 1-25, are fictitious names of individuals and businesses alleged for the purpose of substituting names of Defendants whose identities will be disclosed in discovery and should be made parties to this action.

CLASS ALLEGATIONS

13. Plaintiffs bring this claim on behalf of the following case, pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 23(a) and 23(b)(3).

14. The Class consists of:

- a. all individuals with addresses in the State of Texas;
- b. to whom Defendant Total Card, Inc. sent a collection letter attempting to collect a consumer debt;

- c. whose letter states that Defendant Cavalry will not sue the consumer;
- d. without clearly stating that the consumer could no longer be sued by any party;
- e. Additionally the letter, fails to disclose that the previously-lapsed statute of limitations to file a lawsuit to collect the debt will recommence upon payment;
- f. which letter was sent on or after a date one (1) year prior to the filing of this action and on or before a date twenty-one (21) days after the filing of this action.

15. The identities of all class members are readily ascertainable from the records of Defendants and those companies and entities on whose behalf they attempt to collect and/or have purchased debts.

16. Excluded from the Plaintiff Classes are the Defendants and all officer, members, partners, managers, directors and employees of the Defendants and their respective immediate families, and legal counsel for all parties to this action, and all members of their immediate families.

17. There are questions of law and fact common to the Plaintiff Classes, which common issues predominate over any issues involving only individual class members. The principal issue is whether the Defendants' written communications to consumers, in the forms attached as Exhibits A, violate 15 U.S.C. §§ 1692e.

18. The Plaintiffs' claims are typical of the class members, as all are based upon the same facts and legal theories. The Plaintiffs will fairly and adequately protect the interests of the Plaintiff Classes defined in this complaint. The Plaintiffs have retained counsel with experience in handling consumer lawsuits, complex legal issues, and class actions, and neither the Plaintiffs nor their attorneys have any interests, which might cause them not to vigorously pursue this action.

19. 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. **Numerosity:** The Plaintiffs are informed and believe, and on that basis allege, that the Plaintiff Classes defined above are so numerous that joinder of all members would be impractical.
- b. **Common Questions Predominate:** Common questions of law and fact exist as to all members of the Plaintiff Classes and those questions predominate over any questions or issues involving only individual class members. The principal issue is whether the Defendants' written communications to consumers, in the forms attached as Exhibit A violate 15 USC §1692e.
- c. **Typicality:** The Plaintiffs' claims are typical of the claims of the class members. The Plaintiffs and all members of the Plaintiff Classes have claims arising out of the Defendants' common uniform course of conduct complained of herein.
- d. **Adequacy:** The Plaintiffs will fairly and adequately protect the interests of the class members insofar as Plaintiffs have no interests that are adverse to the absent class members. The Plaintiffs are committed to vigorously litigating this matter. Plaintiffs have also retained counsel experienced in handling consumer lawsuits, complex legal issues, and class actions. Neither the Plaintiffs nor their 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.

20. 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 Classes predominate over any questions affecting an individual member, and a class action is superior to other available methods for the fair and efficient adjudication of the controversy.

21. Depending on the outcome of further investigation and discovery, Plaintiffs may, at the time of class certification motion, seek to certify a class(es) only as to particular issues pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 23(c)(4).

FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS

22. Plaintiff repeats, reiterates and incorporates the allegations contained in paragraphs numbered above herein with the same force and effect as if the same were set forth at length herein.

23. Some time prior to May 8, 2017, an obligation was allegedly incurred to HSBC Bank Nevada, N.A. / Capital One Bank (USA), N.A. by the Plaintiff.

24. HSBC Bank Nevada, N.A. / Capital One Bank (USA), N.A. obligation arose out of Capital One Bank credit card transactions in which money, property, insurance or services, which are the subject of the transaction, were primarily for personal, family or household purposes.

25. The alleged HSBC Bank Nevada, N.A. / Capital One Bank (USA), N.A. obligation is a "debt" as defined by 15 U.S.C. § 1692a(5).

26. Due to her financial constraints, Plaintiff could not pay the alleged debt, and it went into default.

27. Sometime thereafter, Defendant Cavalry purportedly purchased the alleged debt.

28. Defendant Cavalry, a subsequent owner of the HSBC Bank Nevada, N.A. / Capital One Bank (USA), N.A. debt, contracted the Defendant Total Card to collect the alleged debt.

29. Defendant Total Card 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.

Violation I – May 8, 2017 Collection Letter

30. On or about May 8, 2017, Defendant Total Card sent the Plaintiff a collection letter (the “Letter”) regarding the alleged debt owed to Defendant Cavalry. **See Exhibit A.**

31. The very bottom of the Collection Letter states in part: “The law limits how long you can be sued on a debt. Because of the age of your debt, Cavalry SPV I, LLC will not sue you for it...”

32. The alleged debt is time-barred, meaning that Defendant Cavalry cannot sue Plaintiff.

33. The Letter implies that Defendant Cavalry has chosen not to sue (“will not sue you”), instead of the true fact that neither Defendant Cavalry, nor Defendant Total Card, nor any subsequent creditor/collector can file a lawsuit.

34. The statement contained in Defendant Total Card’s letter is materially deceptive to the unsophisticated consumer, who would believe that Defendant Cavalry or a subsequent creditor has the option to change its mind should he/she not pay the alleged debt.

35. Moreover, the Collection Letter is completely silent as to the rights of the debt collector, Defendant Total Card, to file a lawsuit against the consumer.

36. Finally, the Collection Letter is materially deceptive as it fails to disclose that the previously-lapsed statute of limitations to file a lawsuit to collect the debt will recommence upon payment by Plaintiff.

37. Defendants made deceptive and misleading representations when they communicated to Plaintiff that Defendant Cavalry was opting not to sue Plaintiff, when in fact, it was not permitted to sue as a matter of law, in violation of 15 U.S.C. §§1692e, 1692e(2), 1692e(5) and 1692e(10).

38. As a result of Defendant's deceptive, misleading and unfair debt collection practices, Plaintiff has been damaged.

COUNT I
VIOLATIONS OF THE FAIR DEBT COLLECTION PRACTICES ACT 15 U.S.C. §1692e
et seq.

39. Plaintiff repeats, reiterates and incorporates the allegations contained in paragraphs above herein with the same force and effect as if the same were set forth at length herein.

40. Defendants' debt collection efforts attempted and/or directed towards the Plaintiff violated various provisions of the FDCPA, including but not limited to 15 U.S.C. § 1692e.

41. Pursuant to 15 U.S.C. §1692e, a debt collector may not use any false, deceptive, or misleading representation or means in connection with the collection of any debt.

42. Defendants made deceptive and misleading representations when they communicated to Plaintiff that Defendant Cavalry was choosing not to sue Plaintiff, when in fact, it was not permitted to sue as a matter of law, in violation of 15 U.S.C. §§1692e, 1692e(2), 1692e(5) and 1692e(10).

43. Further, Defendants failed to advise that any payment made on the debt by Plaintiff would restart the statute of limitations for bringing a lawsuit.

44. By reason thereof, Defendant is liable to Plaintiff for judgment that Defendant's conduct violated Section 1692e et seq. of the FDCPA, actual damages, statutory damages, costs and attorneys' fees.

DEMAND FOR TRIAL BY JURY

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

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff Sally Young, individually and on behalf of all others similarly situated, demands judgment from Defendant Total Card, Inc. and Defendant Cavalry SPV I, LLC, as follows:

1. Declaring that this action is properly maintainable as a Class Action and certifying Plaintiff as Class representative, and Yaakov Saks, Esq. as Class Counsel;
2. Awarding Plaintiff and the Class statutory damages;
3. Awarding Plaintiff and the Class actual damages;
4. Awarding Plaintiff costs of this Action, including reasonable attorneys' fees and expenses;
5. Awarding pre-judgment interest and post-judgment interest; and
6. Awarding Plaintiff and the Class such other and further relief as this Court may deem just and proper.

Dated: May 1, 2018

Respectfully Submitted,

RC LAW GROUP, PLLC

/s/ Yaakov Saks

Yaakov Saks, Esq.

285 Passaic Street

Hackensack, NJ 07601

Tel: 201-282-6500

Fax: 201-282-6501

ysaks@rclawgroup.com

Counsel for Plaintiff Sally Young

EXHIBIT A

5109 S. Broadband Lane
Sioux Falls, SD 57108-0165



Total Card, Inc.
5109 S. Broadband Lane
Sioux Falls, SD 57108
(877) 878-3005 (605) 977-5800
Office Hours:
Mon-Thr 8AM-6PM CST - Fri 8AM-5PM CST



May 8, 2017

SALLY YOUNG

ACCOUNT INFORMATION	
Our File #	5239
Current Creditor	Cavalry SPV I, LLC
Original Creditor Account #	9882
Original Creditor	HSBC Bank Nevada, N. A. Capital One Bank USA, N. A.
Total Balance Due: \$518.09	

Dear SALLY YOUNG:

Your client has agreed to accept 3 monthly payments of \$95 as a full and final resolution on this account!

We represent the above client, Cavalry SPV I, LLC, who is the owner of your account referenced above.

We believe most people want to do the right thing and satisfy their past financial obligations. We also understand that times are tough and it can be difficult to pay the full amount owed. Because of this, we work with our clients to help you satisfy your account in an affordable manner.

By taking advantage of this offer, you will save \$233.09 and have your account resolved!

Resolving the account would put an end to the calls and letters attempting to collect on this account. Keep in mind, our client is not obligated to renew or extend this offer.

Want to save even more? Set up a one-time payment for \$260 to resolve your account in full and save \$258.09!

Thirty days after we receive your final payment, we will send you written confirmation that your account has been resolved and you will not be contacted by us again concerning this debt.

Sincerely,
Brett M.
Operations Manager

The law limits how long you can be sued on a debt. Because of the age of your debt, Cavalry SPV I, LLC will not sue you for it. If you do not pay the debt, Cavalry Portfolio Services, LLC may report or continue to report it to the credit reporting agencies as unpaid.

How Can You Take Advantage Of This Offer?

ONLINE

You can visit [www.totalsolutions.com](#) where we can accept your payments online 24 hours a day. Simply register, referencing your file number on the top of this letter, and you can quickly set up the payments required to resolve this account in full.

BY MAIL

You can make your first payment by mailing in a check or money order, or by completing the debit card information box on the attached payment stub. We will then send out a payment coupon book for the remaining payments.

BY PHONE

You can call us at (877) 878-3005 during our normal business hours and one of our friendly representatives can set up your payments over the phone using a variety of methods. You can also call to discuss alternate payment arrangements.

PLEASE SEE THE BACK OF THIS LETTER FOR IMPORTANT INFORMATION

▼ Detach and Return with Payment ▼

I would like to resolve my account(s) in full by making 3 monthly payments of \$95.

CIVIL COVER SHEET

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

I. (a) PLAINTIFFS

Sally Young, individually and on behalf of all others similarly situated,

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

(c) Attorneys (Firm Name, Address, and Telephone Number) RC Law Group, PLLC 285 Passaic Street, Hackensack, NJ 07601 Phone: 201-282-6500

DEFENDANTS

Total Card, Inc., Cavalry SPV I, LLC and John Does 1-25

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

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

Attorneys (If Known)

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

- 1 U.S. Government Plaintiff
3 Federal Question (U.S. Government Not a Party)
2 U.S. Government Defendant
4 Diversity (Indicate Citizenship of Parties in Item III)

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

Table with columns for Plaintiff (PTF) and Defendant (DEF) citizenship: Citizen of This State, Citizen of Another State, Citizen or Subject of a Foreign Country, Incorporated or Principal Place of Business In This State, Incorporated and Principal Place of Business In Another State, Foreign Nation.

IV. NATURE OF SUIT (Place an "X" in One Box Only)

Large table with categories: CONTRACT, REAL PROPERTY, TORTS, CIVIL RIGHTS, PRISONER PETITIONS, FORFEITURE/PENALTY, LABOR, IMMIGRATION, BANKRUPTCY, SOCIAL SECURITY, FEDERAL TAX SUITS, OTHER STATUTES.

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

- 1 Original Proceeding
2 Removed from State Court
3 Remanded from Appellate Court
4 Reinstated or Reopened
5 Transferred from Another District
6 Multidistrict Litigation

VI. CAUSE OF ACTION

Cite the U.S. Civil Statute under which you are filing (Do not cite jurisdictional statutes unless diversity): Fair Debt Collection Practices Act - 15 USC Sect. 1692 et seq.

Brief description of cause: Improper collection efforts regarding deceptive and misleading collection letter

VII. REQUESTED IN COMPLAINT:

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

VIII. RELATED CASE(S) IF ANY

(See instructions): JUDGE DOCKET NUMBER

DATE 05/01/2018 SIGNATURE OF ATTORNEY OF RECORD /s/ Yaakov Saks

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

RECEIPT # AMOUNT APPLYING IFP JUDGE MAG. JUDGE

Print

Save As...

Reset

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.Cv.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; **NOTE: 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 clerk(s) 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 six 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.
- 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.** Example: 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 actual dollar amount 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.

ClassAction.org

This complaint is part of ClassAction.org's searchable class action lawsuit database and can be found in this post: [Total Card, Cavalry SPV I Misrepresented Woman's Time-Barred Debt, Lawsuit Alleges](#)
