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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT EASTERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

VADIM BUKHBINOLER on behalf of himself and all other similarly situated consumers

Plaintiff,

-against-

STONELEIGH RECOVERY ASSOCIATES, LLC

Defendant.

CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT

Introduction

 Plaintiff, Vadim Bukhbinoler, brings this action against Stoneleigh Recovery Associates, LLC for violations of the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, 15 U.S.C. § 1692, et *seq*. ("FDCPA"). The FDCPA prohibits debt collectors from engaging in abusive, deceptive and unfair collection practices while attempting to collect on debts.

Parties

- 2. Plaintiff is a citizen of the State of New York who resides within this District.
- 3. Plaintiff is a consumer as that term is defined by Section 1692(a)(3) of the FDCPA, in that the alleged debt that Defendant sought to collect from Plaintiff a consumer debt.
- Upon information and belief, Defendant's principal place of business is located in Lombard, Illinois.
- 5. Defendant is regularly engaged, for profit, in the collection of debts allegedly owed by consumers.

6. Defendant is a "debt collector" as that term is defined by the FDCPA, 15 U.S.C. § 1692(a)(6).

Jurisdiction and Venue

- This Court has federal question jurisdiction under 15 U.S.C. § 1692k(d) and 28 U.S.C. § 1331.
- 8. Venue is proper in this district pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1391(b), as the acts and transactions that give rise to this action occurred, in substantial part, in this district.

Allegations Particular to Vadim Bukhbinoler

- 9. Upon information and belief, on a date better known by Defendant, Defendant began to attempt to collect an alleged consumer debt from the Plaintiff.
- 10. On or about February 3, 2016, Defendant sent the Plaintiff a collection letter.
- 11. The said letter was an effort to collect on a defaulted consumer debt.
- 12. Such a collection letter, like the said February 3, 2016 collection letter, is open to one of multiple interpretations and would likely be misunderstood by an unsophisticated consumer.
- § 1692e requires debt collectors, when informing debtors of their account balance, to disclose whether the balance may increase due to interest and fees. <u>Avila v. Riexinger</u> <u>Associates, LLC, 817 F.3d 72, 76 (2d Cir. 2016)</u>.
- 14. Defendant's collection letter fails to include the safe harbor language set out in <u>Avila v.</u> <u>Riexinger Associates, LLC, 817 F.3d 72, 76 (2d Cir. 2016).</u>
- 15. An unsophisticated consumer would be left uncertain by the said letter as to whether the said account was accruing interest or not.
- 16. Pursuant to section 5001 of New York Civil Practice Law and Rules, a creditor shall

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recover prejudgment interest "upon a sum awarded because of a breach of performance of a contract." N.Y. C.P.L.R. § 5001(a); see also <u>Rhodes v. Davis, 628 Fed. Appx. 787, 794</u> (2d Cir. 2015) (Under New York Law, "[i]nterest is generally mandatory "upon a sum awarded because of a breach of performance of a contract" (citing Id. § 5001(a))).

- 17. Section 5004 sets the rate of prejudgment interest at nine percent. N.Y. C.P.L.R. § 5004.When calculating the interest due, it "shall be computed from the earliest ascertainable date the cause of action existed." Id. § 5001(b).
- 18. "In New York, a breach of contract cause of action accrues at the time of the breach." <u>Ely-Cruikshank Co. v. Bank of Montreal, 81 N.Y.2d 399, 402, 615 N.E.2d 985, 599</u> <u>N.Y.S.2d 501 (1993)</u> (citations omitted).
- 19. Prejudgment interest on defaulted debt obligations "shall be computed from the earliest ascertainable date the cause of action existed," which is when the debtor fails to make the monthly payment. N.Y. C.P.L.R. § 5001(b).
- 20. "New York law provides that "[i]nterest shall be recovered upon a sum awarded because of a breach of performance of a contract," N.Y. C.P.L.R. § 5001(a), and that interest is to be computed "from the earliest date the cause of action existed," N.Y. C.P.L.R. § 5001(b), at the rate of nine percent per annum, N.Y. C.P.L.R. § 5004. Accordingly, Plaintiffs are entitled to prejudgment interest on the installments that were not timely paid." Kasperek v. City Wire Works, Inc., No. 03 CV 3986 (RML), 2009 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 19803, at *8 (E.D.N.Y. Mar. 12, 2009).
- 21. The said February 3, 2016 letter failed to correctly state the in full the amount of the debt allegedly owed.
- 22. Though the February 3, 2016 letter listed a "Balance Due" and demanded payment in

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full, the letter did not state on which date the "Balance Due" was calculated, and did not explain that contractual or statutory prejudgment interest and/or legal fees would continue to accrue on the unpaid principal; thus, the Plaintiff's total balance might be greater on the date he makes a payment.

- 23. A reasonable consumer could read the notice and be misled into believing that he or she could pay her debt in full by paying the amount listed on the notice.
- 24. However, since contractual or statutory prejudgment interest is automatically accruing daily, and if there are undisclosed legal fees that will accrue, a consumer who pays the "Balance Due" stated on the notice will not know whether the debt has been paid in full.
- 25. The debt collector could still seek the automatically accrued contractual or statutory prejudgment interest that accumulated after the notice was sent but before the balance was paid, or sell the consumer's debt to a third party, which itself could seek the interest and fees from the consumer.
- 26. The statement of a "Balance Due," without notice that the amount is already increasing due to accruing automatically accruing contractual or statutory prejudgment interest or other charges, would mislead the least sophisticated consumer into believing that payment of the amount stated will clear his or her account.
- 27. The FDCPA requires debt collectors, when notifying consumers of their account balance, to disclose that the balance may increase due to interest and fees; failure to include such disclosures would harm consumers such as the Plaintiff who may hold the reasonable but mistaken belief, that timely payment will satisfy their debts and it would abrogate the Congressional purpose of full and fair disclosure to consumers that is embodied in Section 1692e.

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- 28. Pursuant to New York state law, prejudgment interest starts to accrue on the debt from the date of the breach of contract at the rate of 9% per annum.
- 29. The amount of the contractual or prejudgment interest automatically increases each day that the defaulted debt remains unpaid due to the automatically contractual or statutory accrued interest.
- 30. Collection notices that state only the "Balance Due," but fail to disclose that the balance might increase due to interest and fees, are "misleading" within the meaning of Section 1692e.
- 31. To the extent that the Creditor or the Defendant intended to waive the automatically accrued and accruing interest, it was required to disclose that in the most conspicuous of terms.
- 32. Stoneleigh Recovery Associates, LLC was required to include a disclosure that the automatically accrued interest <u>was</u> accruing, or in the alternative, Stoneleigh Recovery Associates, LLC was required to disclose that the creditor has made an intentional decision to waive the automatically accruing interest; nonetheless it did not make any of those disclosures in violation of 1692e.
- 33. Failure to disclose such a waiver of the automatically accruing interest is in of itself deceptive and "misleading" within the meaning of Section 1692e.
- 34. Stoneleigh Recovery Associates, LLC knew that the balance would increase due to interest, fees and/or disbursements.
- 35. "Applying these principles, we hold that Plaintiffs have stated a claim that the collection notices at issue here are misleading within the meaning of Section 1692e... a consumer who pays the "current balance" stated on the notice will not know whether the debt has

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been paid in full." <u>Avila v. Riexinger & Assocs., LLC, Nos. 15-1584(L), 15-1597(Con),</u> 2016 U.S. App. LEXIS 5327, at *10-11 (2d Cir. Mar. 22, 2016)

- 36. Although the February 3, 2016 letter stated a "Balance Due" and demanded payment in full, the letter also failed to disclose to the Plaintiff that the Defendant would attempt to collect the additional accruing interest at a later date.
- 37. Absent a disclosure by the holder of the debt that the automatic interest is waived, even if the debtor pays the "Balance Due" the Defendant and or the creditor <u>could</u> still seek the automatic interest that accumulated after the breach of contract, or sell the consumer's debt to a third party, which itself could seek the automatic interest and from the consumer. *Avila*, at *10-11.
- 38. Upon receiving the February 3, 2016 letter, the Plaintiff was uncertain whether the "Balance Due" was accruing interest as there was no disclosure or admonition indicating otherwise.
- 39. A debtor who pays the "Balance Due" stated in the collection letter will be left unsure as to whether or not the debt has been paid in full, as the Defendant could still attempt to collect on any interest and fees that accumulated after the letter was sent but before the balance was paid.
- 40. The February 3, 2016 letter would cause the unsophisticated consumer uncertainty and force him to guess how much money he allegedly owed to the Defendant, how much money would accrue daily on his alleged debt, how much additional money he would owe if he paid the amount demanded in the February 3, 2016 letter, and if or when the Defendant's collection efforts would actually discontinue if he remitted "Balance Due" that the Defendant demanded.

- 41. Section 1692e of the FDCPA prohibits a debt collector from using any false, or any deceptive or misleading representation or means in connection with the collection of a debt, including the false representation of the character, amount or legal status of any debt, see, 15 U.S.C. § 1692e(2)(A) and § 1692e(10).
- 42. Upon information and belief, such actions are part of a scheme or business of the Defendant when attempting to collect alleged debts from consumers in the State of New York.
- 43. Upon information and belief, the Defendant's collection letters, such as the said February3, 2016 collection letter, number in at least the hundreds.
- 44. The Defendant, by failing to state that it would add interest to the amount of the debt, made materially false statements, in violation of 15 U.S.C. § 1692e of the FDCPA.
- 45. Defendant's February 3, 2016 letter is in violation of 15 U.S.C. §§ 1692e, 1692e(2)(A) and 1692e(10) of the FDCPA for the use of any false representation or deceptive means to collect or attempt to collect any debt and for misrepresenting the amount of the debt owed by the Plaintiff.
- Plaintiff suffered injury in fact by being subjected to unfair and abusive practices of the Defendant.
- 47. Plaintiff suffered actual harm by being the target of the Defendant's misleading debt collection communications.
- 48. Defendant violated the Plaintiff's right not to be the target of misleading debt collection communications.
- 49. Defendant violated the Plaintiff's right to a truthful and fair debt collection process.
- 50. Defendant used materially false, deceptive, misleading representations and means in its

attempted collection of Plaintiff's alleged debt.

- 51. Defendant's communications were designed to cause the debtor to suffer a harmful disadvantage in charting a course of action in response to the Defendant's collection efforts.
- 52. The FDCPA ensures that consumers are fully and truthfully apprised of the facts and of their rights, the act enables them to understand, make informed decisions about, and participate fully and meaningfully in the debt collection process. The purpose of the FDCPA is to provide information that helps consumers to choose intelligently. The Defendant's false representations misled the Plaintiff in a manner that deprived him of his right to enjoy these benefits, these materially misleading statements trigger liability under section 1692e of the Act.
- 53. These deceptive communications additionally violated the FDCPA since they frustrate the consumer's ability to intelligently choose his or her response.
- 54. Plaintiff seeks to end these violations of the FDCPA. Plaintiff has suffered damages including but not limited to, fear, stress, mental anguish, emotional stress and acute embarrassment. Plaintiff and putative class members are entitled to preliminary and permanent injunctive relief, including, declaratory relief, and damages.

CLASS ALLEGATIONS

55. This action is brought as a class action. Plaintiff brings this action on behalf of himself and on behalf of all other persons similarly situated pursuant to Rule 23 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure.

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- 56. The identities of all class members are readily ascertainable from the records of Stoneleigh Recovery Associates, LLC and those business and governmental entities on whose behalf it attempts to collect debts.
- 57. Excluded from the Plaintiff's Class is the Defendant and all officers, members, partners, managers, directors, and employees of Stoneleigh Recovery Associates, LLC, and all of their respective immediate families, and legal counsel for all parties to this action and all members of their immediate families.
- 58. There are questions of law and fact common to the Plaintiff's Class, which common issues predominate over any issues involving only individual class members. The principal issues are whether the Defendant's communications with the Plaintiff, such as the above stated claims, violate provisions of the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act.
- 59. The Plaintiff's claims are typical of the class members, as all are based upon the same facts and legal theories.
- 60. The Plaintiff will fairly and adequately protect the interests of the Plaintiff's Class defined in this complaint. The Plaintiff has retained counsel with experience in handling consumer lawsuits, complex legal issues, and class actions, and neither the Plaintiff nor his attorneys have any interests, which might cause them not to vigorously pursue this action.
- 61. This action has been brought, and may properly be maintained, as a class action pursuant to the provisions of Rule 23 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure because there is a well-defined community interest in the litigation:

- (a) <u>Numerosity:</u> The Plaintiff is informed and believes, and on that basis alleges, that the Plaintiff's Class defined above is so numerous that joinder of all members would be impractical.
- (b) <u>Common Questions Predominate:</u> Common questions of law and fact exist as to all members of the Plaintiff's Class and those questions predominate over any questions or issues involving only individual class members. The principal issues are whether the Defendant's communications with the Plaintiff, such as the above stated claims, violate provisions of the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act.
- (c) <u>Typicality:</u> The Plaintiff's claims are typical of the claims of the class members. Plaintiff and all members of the Plaintiff's Class defined in this complaint have claims arising out of the Defendant's common uniform course of conduct complained of herein.
- (d) <u>Adequacy:</u> The Plaintiff will fairly and adequately protect the interests of the class members insofar as Plaintiff has no interests that are adverse to the absent class members. The Plaintiff is committed to vigorously litigating this matter. Plaintiff has also retained counsel experienced in handling consumer lawsuits, complex legal issues, and class actions. Neither the Plaintiff nor his counsel have any interests, which might cause them not to vigorously pursue the instant class action lawsuit.
- (e) <u>Superiority:</u> A class action is superior to the other available means for the fair and efficient adjudication of this controversy because individual joinder of all members would be impracticable. Class action treatment

will permit a large number of similarly situated persons to prosecute their common claims in a single forum efficiently and without unnecessary duplication of effort and expense that individual actions would engender. Certification of a class under Rule 23(b)(l)(A) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure is appropriate because adjudications with respect to individual members create a risk of inconsistent or varying adjudications which could establish incompatible standards of conduct for Defendant who, on information and belief, collects debts throughout the United States of America.

- 62. Certification of a class under Rule 23(b)(2) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure is also appropriate in that a determination that the above stated claims, violate provisions of the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, and is tantamount to declaratory relief and any monetary relief under the FDCPA would be merely incidental to that determination.
- 63. Certification of a class under Rule 23(b)(3) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure is also appropriate in that the questions of law and fact common to members of the Plaintiff's Class predominate over any questions affecting an individual member, and a class action is superior to other available methods for the fair and efficient adjudication of the controversy.
- 64. Further, Defendant has acted, or failed to act, on grounds generally applicable to the Rule(b)(l)(A) and (b)(2) Class, thereby making appropriate final injunctive relief with respect to the Class as a whole.

65. Depending on the outcome of further investigation and discovery, Plaintiff may, at the time of class certification motion, seek to certify one or more classes only as to particular issues pursuant to Fed. R.Civ. P. 23(c)(4).

AS AND FOR A FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION

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

- 66. Plaintiff repeats, reiterates, and incorporates the allegations contained in paragraphs numbered one (1) through sixty five (65) herein with the same force and effect is if the same were set forth at length herein.
- 67. This cause of action is brought on behalf of Plaintiff and the members of a class.
- 68. The class involves all individuals whom Defendant's records reflect resided in the State of New York and who were sent a collection letter in substantially the same form letter as the letter sent to the Plaintiff on or about February 3, 2016; and (a) the collection letter was sent to a consumer seeking payment of a personal debt; and (b) the collection letter was not returned by the postal service as undelivered; and (c) the Plaintiff asserts that the letter contained violations of 15 U.S.C. §§ 1692e, 1692e(2)(A) and 1692e(10) of the FDCPA for the use of any false representation or deceptive means to collect or attempt to collect any debt and for misrepresenting the amount of the debt owed by the Plaintiff.

Violations of the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act

- 69. The Defendant's actions as set forth above in the within complaint violates the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act.
- 70. Because the Defendant violated the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, the Plaintiff and the members of the class are entitled to damages in accordance with the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act.

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WHEREFORE, Plaintiff, respectfully requests preliminary and permanent injunctive relief, and that this

Court enter judgment in Plaintiff's favor and against the Defendant and award damages as follows:

- (a) Statutory damages provided under the FDCPA, 15 U.S.C. § 1692(k);
- (b) Attorney fees, litigation expenses and costs incurred in bringing this action; and
- (c) Any other relief that this Court deems appropriate and just under the circumstances.

Dated: Brooklyn, New York November 3, 2016

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

Plaintiff requests trial by jury on all issues so triable.

/s/ Maxim Maximov Maxim Maximov, Esq.

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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	5		
VADIM BUKHBINOLEF	2		STONELEIGH F	RECOVERY ASSOCIATE	ES, LLC	
(b) County of Residence of First Listed Plaintiff KINGS			County of Residence of First Listed Defendant			
(E)	XCEPT IN U.S. PLAINTIFF C	ASES)	NOTE: IN LAND C	<i>(IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES C</i> ONDEMNATION CASES, USE T	,	
			THE TRAC	T OF LAND INVOLVED.	HE LOCKHON OF	
(c) Attorneys (Firm Name, A MAXIM MAXIMOV, LLP 1701 AVENUE P BROOKLYN, NEW YORI	OFFICE: FAX: (71	r) (718) 395-3459 8) 408-9570 M@MAXIMOVLAW	Attorneys (If Known,)		
II. BASIS OF JURISDI	CTION (Place an "X" in C	One Box Only)	III. CITIZENSHIP OF F	PRINCIPAL PARTIES	(Place an "X" in One Box for Plaintiff	
□ 1 U.S. Government Plaintiff	■ 3 Federal Question (U.S. Government	Not a Party)		TF DEF □ 1 □ 1 Incorporated or Pr of Business In T		
2 U.S. Government Defendant	☐ 4 Diversity (Indicate Citizensh	ip of Parties in Item III)	Citizen of Another State	2 2 Incorporated and H of Business In A		
			Citizen or Subject of a Foreign Country	3 3 Foreign Nation		
IV. NATURE OF SUIT						
CONTRACT □ 110 Insurance	PERSONAL INJURY	DRTS PERSONAL INJURY	FORFEITURE/PENALTY Y I 625 Drug Related Seizure	BANKRUPTCY □ 422 Appeal 28 USC 158	OTHER STATUTES □ 375 False Claims Act	
 110 Institute 120 Marine 130 Miller Act 140 Negotiable Instrument 	□ 310 Airplane □ 315 Airplane Product Liability	 365 Personal Injury - Product Liability 367 Health Care/ 	of Property 21 USC 881	□ 422 Appear 28 03C 138 □ 423 Withdrawal 28 USC 157	 400 State Reapportionment 410 Antitrust 430 Banks and Banking 	
150 Recovery of Overpayment	320 Assault, Libel &	Pharmaceutical		PROPERTY RIGHTS	□ 450 Commerce	
& Enforcement of Judgment	Slander 330 Federal Employers'	Personal Injury Product Liability		 820 Copyrights 830 Patent 	 460 Deportation 470 Racketeer Influenced and 	
152 Recovery of Defaulted Student Loans	Liability 340 Marine	368 Asbestos Personal Injury Product		□ 840 Trademark	Corrupt Organizations X 480 Consumer Credit	
(Excludes Veterans)	345 Marine Product	Liability	LABOR	SOCIAL SECURITY	□ 490 Cable/Sat TV	
153 Recovery of Overpayment of Veteran's Benefits	Liability 350 Motor Vehicle	PERSONAL PROPER ☐ 370 Other Fraud	TY 710 Fair Labor Standards Act	 861 HIA (1395ff) 862 Black Lung (923) 	850 Securities/Commodities/ Exchange	
160 Stockholders' Suits	355 Motor Vehicle	371 Truth in Lending	□ 720 Labor/Management	□ 863 DIWC/DIWW (405(g))	890 Other Statutory Actions	
 190 Other Contract 195 Contract Product Liability 	Product Liability 360 Other Personal	380 Other Personal Property Damage	Relations 740 Railway Labor Act 	 864 SSID Title XVI 865 RSI (405(g)) 	 891 Agricultural Acts 893 Environmental Matters 	
196 Franchise	Injury 362 Personal Injury -	385 Property Damage Product Liability	751 Family and Medical Leave Act		895 Freedom of Information Act	
	Medical Malpractice	,	790 Other Labor Litigation		□ 896 Arbitration	
REAL PROPERTY 210 Land Condemnation	CIVIL RIGHTS 440 Other Civil Rights	PRISONER PETITION Habeas Corpus:	IS ☐ 791 Employee Retirement Income Security Act	FEDERAL TAX SUITS 870 Taxes (U.S. Plaintiff	□ 899 Administrative Procedure Act/Review or Appeal of	
□ 220 Foreclosure	441 Voting	□ 463 Alien Detainee		or Defendant)	Agency Decision 950 Constitutionality of	
 230 Rent Lease & Ejectment 240 Torts to Land 	 442 Employment 443 Housing/ 	510 Motions to Vacate Sentence		871 IRS—Third Party 26 USC 7609	State Statutes	
 245 Tort Product Liability 290 All Other Real Property 	Accommodations 445 Amer. w/Disabilities - 	 530 General 535 Death Penalty 	IMMIGRATION	-		
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	 446 Amer. w/Disabilities - Other 448 Education 	 540 Mandamus & Othe 550 Civil Rights 555 Prison Condition 	er 🗇 465 Other Immigration Actions			
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V. ORIGIN (Place an "X" in	n One Box Only)		•			
	moved from \Box 3 te Court	Remanded from Appellate Court	□ 4 Reinstated or Reopened □ 5 Trans: Anoth (specifi	er District Litigation		
	15 U.S.C. SECT	atute under which you ar	e filing (Do not cite jurisdictional sto EBT COLLECTION PRAC	ututes unless diversity): TICES ACT (EDCPA)		
VI. CAUSE OF ACTIO	DN Brief description of c	ause:	T COLLECTION BUSINES	×		
VII. REQUESTED IN COMPLAINT:	CHECK IF THIS UNDER RULE 2	S IS A CLASS ACTION 23, F.R.Cv.P.	DEMAND \$	CHECK YES only JURY DEMAND:	if demanded in complaint:	
VIII. RELATED CASI IF ANY	E(S) (See instructions):	JUDGE		DOCKET NUMBER		
DATE			FORNEY OF RECORD			
11/03/2016		/S/ MAXIM MAX	XIMOV, ESQ.			
FOR OFFICE USE ONLY						
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Local Arbitration Rule 83.10 provides that with certain exceptions, actions seeking money damages only in an amount not in excess of \$150,000, exclusive of interest and costs, are eligible for compulsory arbitration. The amount of damages is presumed to be below the threshold amount unless a certification to the contrary is filed.

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

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

the complaint seeks injunctive relief,

the matter is otherwise ineligible for the following reason

DISCLOSURE STATEMENT - FEDERAL RULES CIVIL PROCEDURE 7.1

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

BAR ADMISSION

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

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

(If yes, please explain)

Yes

No No

I certify the accuracy of all information provided above.

Signature: /S/ MAXIM MAXIMOV, ESQ.

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PO BOX 1118 Charlotte, NC 28201-1118 Personal & Confidential

February 3, 2016

<u>վիլնինինը կնտերունը հինդի</u>սիստնուրին, հիրդին, հեր

VADIM BUKHBINOLER 100 HEMPSTEAD AVE STATEN ISLAND NY 10306-6073



Stoneleigh Recovery Associates, LLC PO Box 1479 Lombard, IL 60148-8479

Toll Free: 877-812-8945 Monday-Thursday 8AM-8PM (CST) Friday 8AM-5PM (CST)

Original Creditor:	SUSSEX HONDA
Creditor:	AMERICAN HONDA FINANCE CORPORATION
Account No.:	
SRA File No.:	
Balance Due:	\$4,557.82
Settlement Offer:	\$3,190.47
Due Date:	02/29/2016

IMPORTANT TAX SEASON SETTLEMENT OFFER

Dear VADIM BUKHBINOLER:

We have previously notified you of your past due balance of \$4,557.82 that AMERICAN HONDA FINANCE CORPORATION placed with our office. At Stoneleigh Recovery Associates, LLC, we understand that times are tough. Tax season has arrived and we would like to give you a special opportunity to utilize your tax return and sive you money! We have heen authorized to accept a 70% settlement on the total balance as settlement in full, until 02/29/2016. If you accept this offer it means you will only have to pay \$3,190.47 to settle your account in full. This offer is only open for a limited time and will end after 02/29/2016. We are not obligated to extend or renew this offer, so take advantage of the savings now!

The balance due on the account is \$4,557.82. However, if you accept the settlement offer outlined in this letter, you will only have to pay \$3,190.47 to settle your account in full.

If you would like to take advantage of this opportunity to pay a considerably lower amount please contact us today. You can pay now by calling toll free 877-812-8945; Monday through Thursday between 8:00 AM and 8:00 PM (CST) or Friday between 8:00 AM and 5:00 PM (CST).

Pay online by credit card! It's fast and secure. Damped You can send a check or money order BEFORE 02/29/2016 to: Stoneleigh Recovery Associates, LLC PO Box 1479 Lombard, IL 60148-8479 Pay online by credit card! It's fast and secure. Simple go to http://www.stoneleighselfpay.com

Sincerely, Francis Goldstein Francis Goldstein Stoneleigh Recovery Associates, LLC

Debt collectors, in accordance with the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act.15 U.S.C. section 1692 et seq., are prohibited from engaging in abusive, deceptive, and unlair debt collection efforts, including but not limited to; (i) the use or threat of violence; (ii) the use of obscene or profane language; and (iii) repeated phone calls made with the intent to annoy, abuse, or harass.

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

New York City Residents: This collection agency is licensed by the New York City Department of Consumer Affairs, license number: 1274118.

This is an attempt to collect a debt; any information obtained will be used for that purpose. This letter has been sent by a debt collector.

• Please Detach And Return in The Enclosed Unvelope With Your Payment +

VADIM BUKHBINOLER 100 HEMPSTEAD AVE STATEN ISLAND NY 10306-6073

Original Creditor:	SUSSEX HONDA
Creditor:	AMERICAN HONDA FINANCE CORPORATION
Account No.:	
SRA File No.;	
Balance Due:	\$4,557.82
Settlement Offer:	\$3,190.47
Due Date:	02/29/2016
Enclosed Amount:	

Change of Address Notification				
Address	Apt#			
City	State Zip			
Home Phone	Business Phone			
() -	() -			

եզիլուել ենդրայլը վինել ինկել է ինկել եզրային հայոր հ Stoneleigh Recovery Associates, LLC PO Box 1479 Lombard, IL 60148-8479



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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT EASTERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

VADIM BUKHBINOLER on behalf of himself and all other similarly situated consumers

Plaintiff,

-against-

STONELEIGH RECOVERY ASSOCIATES, LLC

Defendant.

SUMMONS IN A CIVIL ACTION

TO: STONELEIGH RECOVERY ASSOCIATES, LLC 810 SPRINGER DRIVE LOMBARD, ILLINOIS 60148

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

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

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

CLERK

DATE

BY DEPUTY CLERK

ClassAction.org

This complaint is part of ClassAction.org's searchable class action lawsuit database and can be found in this post: <u>Debt Collection Suit Filed Against Stoneleigh Recovery Associates</u>