

with Parent, “Sandy Spring”).

2. On May 15, 2017, WashingtonFirst’s Board of Directors (the “Board” or “Individual Defendants”) caused the Company to enter into an agreement and plan of merger (the “Merger Agreement”) with Sandy Spring. Pursuant to the terms of the Merger Agreement, stockholders of WashingtonFirst will receive 0.8713 shares of Sandy Spring common stock for each share owned of WashingtonFirst common stock.

3. On July 20, 2017, defendants filed a Form S-4 Registration Statement (the “Registration Statement”) with the United States Securities and Exchange Commission (“SEC”) in connection with the Proposed Transaction.

4. The Registration Statement omits material information with respect to the Proposed Transaction, which renders the Registration Statement false and misleading. Accordingly, plaintiff alleges herein that defendants violated Sections 14(a) and 20(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the “1934 Act”) in connection with the Registration Statement.

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

5. This Court has jurisdiction over the claims asserted herein pursuant to Section 27 of the 1934 Act because the claims asserted herein arise under Sections 14(a) and 20(a) of the 1934 Act and Rule 14a-9.

6. This Court has jurisdiction over defendants because each defendant is either a corporation that conducts business in and maintains operations within this District, or is an individual with sufficient minimum contacts with this District so as to make the exercise of jurisdiction by this Court permissible under traditional notions of fair play and substantial justice.

7. Venue is proper under 28 U.S.C. § 1391(b) because a substantial portion of the transactions and wrongs complained of herein occurred in this District.

PARTIES

8. Plaintiff is, and has been continuously throughout all times relevant hereto, the owner of WashingtonFirst common stock.

9. Defendant WashingtonFirst is a Virginia corporation and maintains its principal executive offices at 11921 Freedom Drive, Suite 250, Reston, Virginia 20190. The Company is the bank holding company for WashingtonFirst Bank. WashingtonFirst's common stock is traded on the NasdaqCM under the ticker symbol "WFBI."

10. Defendant Shaza L. Andersen ("Andersen") is a director, President, and Chief Executive Officer ("CEO") of WashingtonFirst.

11. Defendant Charles Elliott Andrews ("Andrews") has served as a director of WashingtonFirst since 2012.

12. Defendant Joseph S. Bracewell ("Bracewell") is a director and Chairman of the Board of WashingtonFirst.

13. Defendant Josephine S. Cooper ("Cooper") has served as a director of WashingtonFirst since 2009.

14. Defendant Stephen M. Cumbie ("Cumbie") is a director of WashingtonFirst.

15. Defendant John H. Dalton ("Dalton") has served as a director of WashingtonFirst since 2009.

16. Defendant Richard D. Horn ("Horn") has served as a director of WashingtonFirst since 2009.

17. Defendant Juan A. Mencia ("Mencia") has served as a director of WashingtonFirst since 2009.

18. Defendant Obiora Menkiti ("Menkiti") is a director of WashingtonFirst.

19. Defendant Caren D. Merrick (“Merrick”) is a director of WashingtonFirst.

20. Defendant Larry D. Meyers (“Meyers”) has served as a director of WashingtonFirst since 2009.

21. Defendant Mark C. Michael (“Michael”) has served as a director of WashingtonFirst since 2009.

22. Defendant Madhu K. Mohan (“Mohan”) has served as a director of WashingtonFirst since 2009.

23. Defendant Ken Morrissette (“Morrissette”) has served as a director of WashingtonFirst since 2010.

24. Defendant James P. Muldoon (“Muldoon”) has served as a director of WashingtonFirst since 2009.

25. Defendant William C. Oldaker (“Oldaker”) has served as a director of WashingtonFirst since 2009.

26. Defendant Jon M. Peterson (“Peterson”) has served as a director of WashingtonFirst since 2013.

27. Defendant Randall S. Peyton (“Peyton”) has served as a director of WashingtonFirst since 2009.

28. Defendant Joe R. Reeder (“Reeder”) has served as a director of WashingtonFirst since 2009.

29. Defendant William G. Reilly (“Reilly”) has served as a director of WashingtonFirst since 2009.

30. Defendant Gail R. Steckler (“Steckler”) has served as a director of WashingtonFirst since 2009.

31. Defendant Johnnie E. Wilson (“Wilson”) has served as a director of WashingtonFirst since 2009.

32. The defendants identified in paragraphs 10 through 31 are collectively referred to herein as the “Individual Defendants.”

33. Defendant Parent is a Maryland corporation with its principal executive offices located at 17801 Georgia Avenue, Olney, Maryland 20832.

34. Defendant Merger Sub is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Parent and a party to the Merger Agreement.

CLASS ACTION ALLEGATIONS

35. Plaintiff brings this action as a class action on behalf of himself and the other public stockholders of WashingtonFirst (the “Class”). Excluded from the Class are defendants herein and any person, firm, trust, corporation, or other entity related to or affiliated with any defendant.

36. This action is properly maintainable as a class action.

37. The Class is so numerous that joinder of all members is impracticable. As of May 10, 2017, there were approximately 12,238,573 shares of WashingtonFirst common stock outstanding, held by hundreds, if not thousands, of individuals and entities scattered throughout the country.

38. Questions of law and fact are common to the Class, including, among others: (i) whether defendants violated the 1934 Act; and (ii) whether defendants will irreparably harm plaintiff and the other members of the Class if defendants’ conduct complained of herein continues.

39. Plaintiff is committed to prosecuting this action and has retained competent counsel experienced in litigation of this nature. Plaintiff’s claims are typical of the claims of the other members of the Class and plaintiff has the same interests as the other members of the Class.

Accordingly, plaintiff is an adequate representative of the Class and will fairly and adequately protect the interests of the Class.

40. The prosecution of separate actions by individual members of the Class would create the risk of inconsistent or varying adjudications that would establish incompatible standards of conduct for defendants, or adjudications that would, as a practical matter, be dispositive of the interests of individual members of the Class who are not parties to the adjudications or would substantially impair or impede those non-party Class members' ability to protect their interests.

41. Defendants have acted, or refused to act, on grounds generally applicable to the Class as a whole, and are causing injury to the entire Class. Therefore, final injunctive relief on behalf of the Class is appropriate.

SUBSTANTIVE ALLEGATIONS

Background of the Company

42. WashingtonFirst is the parent company of the WashingtonFirst Bank, a \$2 billion dollar bank headquartered in Reston, Virginia.

43. With nineteen offices in the greater Washington, D.C. metropolitan area, WashingtonFirst Bank is a community oriented bank that provides financial services to local businesses and consumers.

44. In addition, the Company provides wealth management services through its subsidiary, 1st Portfolio Wealth Advisors, and mortgage banking services through WashingtonFirst Bank's subsidiary, WashingtonFirst Mortgage Corporation.

The Registration Statement Omits Material Information, Rendering It False and Misleading

45. Defendants filed the Registration Statement with the SEC in connection with the Proposed Transaction.

46. The Registration Statement omits material information with respect to the Proposed

Transaction, which renders the Registration Statement false and misleading.

47. First, the Registration Statement omits material information regarding WashingtonFirst's financial projections, Sandy Spring's financial projections, and the financial analyses performed by the Company's financial advisor, Keefe, Bruyette & Woods, Inc. ("KBW").

48. With respect to WashingtonFirst's projections, while the Registration Statement discloses estimated earnings per share ("EPS") and tangible book value per share for years 2017 through 2021, the Registration Statement fails to disclose any other projection line items for the Company, including, *inter alia*: net income; assets; dividends; loans; total deposits; total equity; return on average assets; return on average equity; and cash flow and its constituent line items. The Registration Statement further fails to disclose the estimated EPS for WashingtonFirst for years 2019 through 2023 as used in KBW's *Relative Contribution Analysis* and *WashingtonFirst Discounted Cash Flow Analysis*.

49. With respect to Sandy Spring's projections, while the Registration Statement discloses estimated EPS and tangible book value per share for years 2017 through 2021, the Registration Statement fails to disclose any other projection line items for Sandy Spring, including, *inter alia*: net income; assets; dividends; loans; total deposits; total equity; return on average assets; return on average equity; and cash flow and its constituent line items.

50. With respect to KBW's *WashingtonFirst Discounted Cash Flow Analysis*, the Registration Statement fails to disclose: (i) the financial forecasts and projections relating to the net income and assets of WashingtonFirst as provided by WashingtonFirst management; (ii) the inputs and assumptions underlying the discount rates ranging from 10.0% to 14.0%; (iii) the estimated excess cash flows for WashingtonFirst and the constituent line items; and (iv) WashingtonFirst's implied terminal value.

51. With respect to KBW's *Forecasted Pro Forma Financial Impact Analysis*, the Registration Statement fails to disclose: (i) the closing balance sheet estimates as of December 31, 2017 for Sandy Spring and WashingtonFirst; (ii) the consensus street estimates of Sandy Spring for 2017 and 2018 and the assumed long-term growth rates for Sandy Spring as provided by Sandy Spring management; (iii) the consensus street estimates of WashingtonFirst for 2017, 2018, and 2019 as discussed with KBW by Sandy Spring management; and (iv) the pro forma assumptions provided by Sandy Spring management.

52. With respect to KBW's *Relative Contribution Analysis*, the Registration Statement fails to disclose: (i) the balance sheet and net income data for Sandy Spring and WashingtonFirst as of/for the twelve month period ended March 31, 2017; (ii) the 2017 and 2018 net income estimates for Sandy Spring; (iii) the financial forecasts and projections relating to the net income of WashingtonFirst as provided by WashingtonFirst management; and (iv) the market price data as of May 12, 2017.

53. With respect to KBW's *WashingtonFirst Selected Companies Analysis*, the Registration Statement fails to disclose the individual multiples and financial metrics for the companies observed by KBW in the analysis.

54. With respect to KBW's *Sandy Spring Selected Companies Analysis*, the Registration Statement fails to disclose the individual multiples and financial metrics for the companies observed by KBW in the analysis.

55. With respect to KBW's *Selected Transactions Analysis*, the Registration Statement fails to disclose the individual multiples and financial metrics for the transactions observed by KBW in the analysis.

56. The disclosure of projected financial information is material because it provides

stockholders with a basis to project the future financial performance of a company, and allows stockholders to better understand the financial analyses performed by the company's financial advisor in support of its fairness opinion. Moreover, when a banker's endorsement of the fairness of a transaction is touted to shareholders, the valuation methods used to arrive at that opinion as well as the key inputs and range of ultimate values generated by those analyses must also be fairly disclosed.

57. The omission of this material information renders the Registration Statement false and misleading, including, *inter alia*, the following sections of the Registration Statement: (i) "Background of the Transactions"; (ii) "WashingtonFirst's Reasons for the Transactions; Recommendation of WashingtonFirst Board"; (iii) "Opinion of WashingtonFirst's Financial Advisor"; and (iv) "Certain Unaudited Prospective Financial Information."

58. Second, the Registration Statement omits material information regarding potential conflicts of interest of the Company's officers and directors.

59. Specifically, the Registration Statement fails to disclose the timing and nature of all communications regarding future employment and directorship of WashingtonFirst's officers and directors, including who participated in all such communications.

60. Communications regarding post-transaction employment during the negotiation of the underlying transaction must be disclosed to stockholders. This information is necessary for stockholders to understand potential conflicts of interest of management and the Board, as that information provides illumination concerning motivations that would prevent fiduciaries from acting solely in the best interests of the Company's stockholders.

61. The omission of this material information renders the Registration Statement false and misleading, including, *inter alia*, the following sections of the Registration Statement: (i)

“Background of the Transactions”; (ii) “WashingtonFirst’s Reasons for the Transactions; Recommendation of WashingtonFirst Board”; and (iii) “Interests of Certain WashingtonFirst Directors and Executive Officers in the Transactions.”

62. Third, the Registration Statement omits material information regarding potential conflicts of interest of KBW.

63. Specifically, the Registration Statement fails to disclose the amount of compensation KBW received for the past services it provided to WashingtonFirst and its affiliates.

64. Full disclosure of investment banker compensation and all potential conflicts is required due to the central role played by investment banks in the evaluation, exploration, selection, and implementation of strategic alternatives.

65. The omission of this material information renders the Registration Statement false and misleading, including, *inter alia*, the following sections of the Registration Statement: (i) “Background of the Transactions”; (ii) “WashingtonFirst’s Reasons for the Transactions; Recommendation of WashingtonFirst Board”; and (iii) “Opinion of WashingtonFirst’s Financial Advisor.”

66. Fourth, the Registration Statement fails to disclose whether any non-disclosure agreements executed by WashingtonFirst and the prospective bidders contained standstill and/or “don’t ask, don’t waive” provisions that are or were preventing those counterparties from submitting superior offers to acquire the Company.

67. Without this information, stockholders may have the mistaken belief that, if these potentially interested parties wished to come forward with a superior offer, they are or were permitted to do so, when in fact they are or were contractually prohibited from doing so.

68. The omission of this material information renders the Registration Statement false

and misleading, including, *inter alia*, the following sections of the Registration Statement: (i) “Background of the Transactions”; and (ii) “WashingtonFirst’s Reasons for the Transactions; Recommendation of WashingtonFirst Board.”

69. The above-referenced omitted information, if disclosed, would significantly alter the total mix of information available to WashingtonFirst’s stockholders.

COUNT I

Claim for Violation of Section 14(a) of the 1934 Act and Rule 14a-9 Promulgated Thereunder Against the Individual Defendants and WashingtonFirst

70. Plaintiff repeats and realleges the preceding allegations as if fully set forth herein.

71. The Individual Defendants disseminated the false and misleading Registration Statement, which contained statements that, in violation of Section 14(a) of the 1934 Act and Rule 14a-9, in light of the circumstances under which they were made, omitted to state material facts necessary to make the statements therein not materially false or misleading. WashingtonFirst is liable as the issuer of these statements.

72. The Registration Statement was prepared, reviewed, and/or disseminated by the Individual Defendants. By virtue of their positions within the Company, the Individual Defendants were aware of this information and their duty to disclose this information in the Registration Statement.

73. The Individual Defendants were at least negligent in filing the Registration Statement with these materially false and misleading statements.

74. The omissions and false and misleading statements in the Registration Statement are material in that a reasonable stockholder will consider them important in deciding how to vote on the Proposed Transaction. In addition, a reasonable investor will view a full and accurate disclosure as significantly altering the total mix of information made available in the Registration

Statement and in other information reasonably available to stockholders.

75. The Registration Statement is an essential link in causing plaintiff and the Company's stockholders to approve the Proposed Transaction.

76. By reason of the foregoing, defendants violated Section 14(a) of the 1934 Act and Rule 14a-9 promulgated thereunder.

77. Because of the false and misleading statements in the Registration Statement, plaintiff and the Class are threatened with irreparable harm.

COUNT II

Claim for Violation of Section 20(a) of the 1934 Act Against the Individual Defendants and Sandy Spring

78. Plaintiff repeats and realleges the preceding allegations as if fully set forth herein.

79. The Individual Defendants and Sandy Spring acted as controlling persons of WashingtonFirst within the meaning of Section 20(a) of the 1934 Act as alleged herein. By virtue of their positions as officers and/or directors of WashingtonFirst and participation in and/or awareness of the Company's operations and/or intimate knowledge of the false statements contained in the Registration Statement, they had the power to influence and control and did influence and control, directly or indirectly, the decision making of the Company, including the content and dissemination of the various statements that plaintiff contends are false and misleading.

80. Each of the Individual Defendants and Sandy Spring was provided with or had unlimited access to copies of the Registration Statement alleged by plaintiff to be misleading prior to and/or shortly after these statements were issued and had the ability to prevent the issuance of the statements or cause them to be corrected.

81. In particular, each of the Individual Defendants had direct and supervisory

involvement in the day-to-day operations of the Company, and, therefore, is presumed to have had the power to control and influence the particular transactions giving rise to the violations as alleged herein, and exercised the same. The Registration Statement contains the unanimous recommendation of the Individual Defendants to approve the Proposed Transaction. They were thus directly in the making of the Registration Statement.

82. Sandy Spring also had direct supervisory control over the composition of the Registration Statement and the information disclosed therein, as well as the information that was omitted and/or misrepresented in the Registration Statement.

83. By virtue of the foregoing, the Individual Defendants and Sandy Spring violated Section 20(a) of the 1934 Act.

84. As set forth above, the Individual Defendants and Sandy Spring had the ability to exercise control over and did control a person or persons who have each violated Section 14(a) of the 1934 Act and Rule 14a-9, by their acts and omissions as alleged herein. By virtue of their positions as controlling persons, these defendants are liable pursuant to Section 20(a) of the 1934 Act. As a direct and proximate result of defendants' conduct, plaintiff and the Class are threatened with irreparable harm.

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, plaintiff prays for judgment and relief as follows:

- A. Preliminarily and permanently enjoining defendants and all persons acting in concert with them from proceeding with, consummating, or closing the Proposed Transaction;
- B. In the event defendants consummate the Proposed Transaction, rescinding it and setting it aside or awarding rescissory damages;
- C. Directing the Individual Defendants to disseminate a Registration Statement that

does not contain any untrue statements of material fact and that states all material facts required in it or necessary to make the statements contained therein not misleading;

D. Declaring that defendants violated Sections 14(a) and/or 20(a) of the 1934 Act, as well as Rule 14a-9 promulgated thereunder;

E. Awarding plaintiff the costs of this action, including reasonable allowance for plaintiff's attorneys' and experts' fees; and

F. Granting such other and further relief as this Court may deem just and proper.

JURY DEMAND

Plaintiff respectfully requests a trial by jury on all issues so triable.

Dated: August 1, 2017

/s/ Elizabeth K. Tripodi
ELIZABETH K. TRIPODI (VSB #73483)
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CERTIFICATION OF PLAINTIFF

I, Paul Parshall (“Plaintiff”), hereby declare as to the claims asserted under the federal securities laws that:

1. Plaintiff has reviewed the complaint and authorizes its filing.

2. Plaintiff did not purchase the security that is the subject of this action at the direction of Plaintiff’s counsel or in order to participate in any private action.

3. Plaintiff is willing to serve as a representative party on behalf of the class, either individually or as part of a group, and I will testify at deposition or trial, if necessary. I understand that this is not a claim form and that I do not need to execute this Certification to share in any recovery as a member of the class.

4. Plaintiff’s purchase and sale transactions in the WashingtonFirst Bankshares, Inc. (NasdaqCM: WFBI) security that is the subject of this action during the class period is/are as follows:

PURCHASES

Buy Date	Shares	Price per Share
12/16/16	55	\$28.15

SALES

Sell Date	Shares	Price per Share

Please list additional transactions on separate sheet of paper, if necessary.

5. Plaintiff has complete authority to bring a suit to recover for investment losses on behalf of purchasers of the subject securities described herein (including Plaintiff, any co-owners, any corporations or other entities, and/or any beneficial owners).

6. During the three years prior to the date of this Certification, Plaintiff has not moved to serve as a representative party for a class in an action filed under the federal securities laws.

7. Plaintiff will not accept any payment for serving as a representative party on behalf of the class beyond Plaintiff's *pro rata* share of any recovery, except such reasonable costs and expenses (including lost wages) directly relating to the representation of the class as ordered or approved by the Court.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed this 20th day of July, 2017.


PAUL PARSHALL

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 Paul Parshall

DEFENDANTS WashingtonFirst Bankshares, Inc., Shaza L. Andersen, Charles Elliott Andrews, Joseph S. Bracewell, Josephine S. Cooper, Stephen M. Cumbie, John H. Dalton, Richard D. Horn, et al.

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

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)

(c) Attorneys (Firm Name, Address, and Telephone Number) Elizabeth K. Tripodi, Levi & Korsinsky, LLP 1101 30th Street N.W., Suite 115, Washington, D.C. 20007 (202) 524-4290

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

- 1 U.S. Government Plaintiff, 2 U.S. Government Defendant, 3 Federal Question (U.S. Government Not a Party), 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, CIVIL RIGHTS, TORTS, 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 (specify), 6 Multidistrict Litigation - Transfer, 8 Multidistrict Litigation - Direct File

VI. CAUSE OF ACTION

Cite the U.S. Civil Statute under which you are filing (Do not cite jurisdictional statutes unless diversity): 15 U.S.C. §§ 78n(a), 78t(a), and SEC Rule 14a-9, 17 C.F.R. 240.14a-9. Brief description of cause: Violations of Sections 14(a) and 20(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

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 08/01/2017 SIGNATURE OF ATTORNEY OF RECORD /s/ Elizabeth K. Tripodi

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

RECEIPT # AMOUNT APPLYING IFP JUDGE MAG. JUDGE

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 there are multiple nature of suit codes associated with the case, pick the nature of suit code that is most applicable. Click here for: [Nature of Suit Code Descriptions](#).
- 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 – Transfer. (6) Check this box when a multidistrict case is transferred into the district under authority of Title 28 U.S.C. Section 1407.
 Multidistrict Litigation – Direct File. (8) Check this box when a multidistrict case is filed in the same district as the Master MDL docket.
PLEASE NOTE THAT THERE IS NOT AN ORIGIN CODE 7. Origin Code 7 was used for historical records and is no longer relevant due to changes in statute.
- 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: [WashingtonFirst Bankshares, Sandy Spring Sued Over Potential Merger](#)
