UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT WESTERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS AUSTIN DIVISION

ERICA PATTERSON, individually and on behalf of all others similarly situated,

Plaintiff,

C.A. No: 1:18-cv-183

CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT

DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL

-v.-

MERCHANTS & PROFESSIONAL CREDIT BUREAU, INC. and JOHN DOES 1-25,

Defendants.

Plaintiff Erica Patterson (hereinafter, "Plaintiff"), a Texas resident, brings this Class Action Complaint by and through her attorneys, RC Law Group, PLLC, against Defendant Merchants & Professional Credit Bureau, Inc. (hereinafter "Defendant" or "Merchants"), 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

1. Congress enacted the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act ("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

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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 FDCPA 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." ld. § 1692(e). After determining that the existing consumer protection laws were inadequate, Congress created a private cause of action to provide consumers with a remedy against debt collectors who fail to comply with the FDCPA. Id. § 1692k.

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

3. The Court has jurisdiction over this class action pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1331, as well as 15 U.S.C. § 1692 et. seq. The Court also has pendent jurisdiction over any 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.

5. Venue is also proper in this judicial district pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1391(b)(1) as this is where the defendant resides.

NATURE OF THE ACTION

6. 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

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

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PARTIES

Plaintiff is a resident of the State of Texas, County of Travis, residing at 6503 Bluff
 Springs Road, Apt. 1508, Austin, TX 78744.

9. Defendant Merchants & Professional Credit Bureau, Inc. is a "debt collector" as the phrase is defined in <u>15 U.S.C. § 1692(a)(6)</u> and used in the FDCPA with an address at 5508 Parkcrest Drive, Suite 210, Austin, TX 78731.

10. Upon information and belief, 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).

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

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 Merchants & Professional Credit Bureau, Inc. sent a collection letter attempting to collect a consumer debt;
- c. regarding collection of a debt;

- d. that overshadowed the consumers' rights provided for under 15 U.S.C. § 1692g (known as the "G Notice");
- e. by making threats to the consumer within the G Notice (first 30 day) period;
- f. that would coerce the consumer from using her rights as provided by the FDCPA to request validation of the alleged debt;
- g. 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 (2l) 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, 1692f and 1692g.

18. The Plaintiff's claims are typical of the class members, as all are based upon the same facts and legal theories. The Plaintiff will fairly and adequately protect the interests of the Plaintiff Classes 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

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nor her 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. <u>Numerosity:</u> The Plaintiff is informed and believe, and on that basis alleged, that the Plaintiff Classes defined above are 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 Classes and those questions predominance 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 § 1692e and §1692f and § 1692g.
- c. <u>Typicality</u>: The Plaintiff's claims are typical of the claims of the class members. The Plaintiff and all members of the Plaintiff Classes have claims arising out of the Defendants' 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 her counsel has 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.

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, Plaintiff 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 March 17, 2017, an obligation was allegedly incurred by Plaintiff.

24. The alleged obligation arose out of a transaction involving a medical debt allegedly incurred by Plaintiff with Austin Regional CL-TCMS in which money, property, insurance or services, which are the subject of the transaction, are primarily for personal, family or household purposes.

25. The Austin Regional CL-TCMS is a "debt" as defined by 15 U.S.C.§ 1692a(5).

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26. The owner of the alleged Austin Regional CL-TCMS obligation is a "creditor" as defined by 15 U.S.C.§ 1692a(4).

27. The owner of the Austin Regional CL-TCMS obligation contracted the Defendant to collect the alleged debt.

28. 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.

Violation I – March 17, 2017 Collection Letter

29. On or about March 17, 2017, Defendant sent the Plaintiff a collection letter (the "Letter") seeking to collect an alleged debt. See March 17, 2017 Collection Letter – Attached hereto as Exhibit A.

30. The March 17, 2017 letter acknowledges that Defendant Merchants is contacting Plaintiff during the thirty (30) day G Notice period.

31. Specifically the letter states "You have time remaining within the 30 day notification rule to contact us if you disagree with our facts of this account."

32. The letter goes on to threaten "You still have an opportunity to keep this item from being on your credit report."

33. When a debt collector solicits payment from a consumer, it must, within five days of an initial communication, provide the consumer with a written validation notice which must include the following information:

(1) the amount of the debt;

(2) the name of the creditor to whom the debt is owed;

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(3) 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;

(4) a statement that if the consumer notifies the debt collector in writing within the thirty-day period that the debt, or any portion thereof, is disputed, the debt collector will obtain verification of the debt or a copy of the judgment against the consumer and a copy of such verification or judgment will be mailed to the consumer by the debt collector; and

(5) a statement that, upon the consumer's written request within the thirty-day period, the debt collector will provide the consumer with the name and address of the original creditor, if different from the current creditor 15 U.S.C. § 1692g(a).

34. The FDCPA further provides that if the consumer notifies the debt collector in writing within the thirty day period ... that the debt, or any portion thereof, is disputed ... the debt collector shall cease collection ... until the debt collector obtains verification of the debt ... and a copy of such verification is mailed to the consumer by the debt collector. 15 U.S.C. § 1692g(b).

35. The letter is threatening and was sent with the intent of scaring Plaintiff into making payment and preventing her from making a dispute request during the full 30 day time period.

36. This overshadowing subjected Plaintiff to an informational injury as she was not able to fully ascertain or invoke her statutory rights under the FDCPA.

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

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

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38. 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.

39. Defendant's 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.

40. 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.

41. Defendant violated said section

a. by making a false and misleading representation in violation of §1692e(10);

b. by falsely representing the character, amount or legal status of the debt in violation of \$1692e(2)(A);

c. by making the threat to take any action that cannot legally be taken or that is not intended to be taken in violation of §1692e(5).

42. 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.

<u>COUNT II</u> VIOLATIONS OF THE FAIR DEBT COLLECTION PRACTICES ACT 15 U.S.C. §1692f et seq.

43. 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.

44. Defendant's 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. § 1692f.

45. Pursuant to 15 U.S.C. §1692f, a debt collector may not use any unfair or unconscionable means in connection with the collection of any debt.

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46. Defendant violated this section by overshadowing Plaintiff's rights to validate or dispute the debt provided him under the FDCPA.

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

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

48. 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.

49. Defendant's 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. § 1692g.

50. Pursuant to 15 U.S.C. §1692g(b), the language in a debt collector's letter cannot overshadow a plaintiff's right to validate or dispute the debt afforded him by § 1692g.

51. The threatening and harassing language of this letter served to overshadow Plaintiff's rights under the FDCPA.

52. This abusive language caused Plaintiff to become extremely upset and disheartened due to the extremely difficult financial hardship with which she is struggling.

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

DEMAND FOR TRIAL BY JURY

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

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PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff Erica Patterson, individually and on behalf of all others similarly situated demands judgment from Defendant Merchants & Professional Credit Bureau, Inc. 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: February 28, 2018

Respectfully Submitted,

RC LAW GROUP, PLLC

<u>/s/ Yaakov Saks</u> Yaakov Saks, Esq. 285 Passaic Street Hackensack, NJ 07601 ysaks@rclawgroup.com Attorneys For Plaintiff Erica Patterson Case 1:18-cv-00183 Document 1-1 Filed 02/28/18 Page 1 of 2

EXHIBIT A

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PO Box 1938 Southgate, MI 48195-0938

Date: 03/17/17

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Merchants & Professional Credit Bureau, Inc. 5508 Parkcrest Dr. Suite 210 Austin TX 78731

IF YOU WISH TO PAY BY	VISA, MASTERCARD OR AMI THE INFORMATION BELOW	RICAN EXPRESS
Card Number		
Security Code on Back of Card	Payment Amount \$	Expiration Date
Card Holder Name	Signature of Card Holder	Date
Card Holder Billing Address	City	State Zip

փիզիհերիների Merchants&ProfessionalCreditBureau, Inc. PO Box 140675 Austin, TX 78714-0675

Account Number: 4447218

YOU OWE: AUSTIN REGIONAL CL-TCMS

AMOUNT DUE: \$ 117.63

Remit top portion with your payment AS CLAIMS DEPARTMENT PHONE: 512-346-4305 TOLL FREE 1-800-550-7902 Pay online at www.mpbcredit.com/pay

Our records indicate you still have an unpaid balance. You have time remaining within the 30 day notification rule to contact us if you disagree with our facts of this account.

If you agree this balance is owed please pay this past due amount immediately so we can report to our client that you have resolved your account balance.

You still have an opportunity to keep this item from being on your credit record.

***We accept major credit cards and checks by phone, with no fees added ***

Our office hours are 7:45 AM to 4:30 PM (CST) Monday through Friday.

FEDERAL LAW REQUIRES US TO NOTIFY YOU THIS IS AN ATTEMPT TO COLLECT A DEBT, AND ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. WE MAY REPORT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR ACCOUNT TO OTHER CREDIT BUREAUS. LATE PAYMENTS, MISSED PAYMENTS, OR OTHER DEFAULTS ON YOUR ACCOUNT MAY BE REFLECTED IN YOUR CREDIT REPORT.



2NDNTCR

AFFILIATED WITH OVER 4000 CREDIT BUREAU AND BONDED COLLECTION OFFICES Member

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JS 44 (Rev. 11/15)

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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.)*

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I. (a) PLAINTIFFS Erica Patterson, individu	ally and on behalf of a	ll others similarly site	uated DEFENDANTS Merchants & Prof	S essional Credit Bureau, I	nc. and John Does 1-25	
(b) County of Residence of First Listed Plaintiff <u>Travis</u> (EXCEPT IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES)			NOTE: IN LAND C	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.		
(c) Attorneys (Firm Name, Yaakov Saks, Esq., RC I 285 Passaic St., Hacken 201-282-6500 x 101, ysa	sack, NJ 07601	r)	Attorneys (If Known)		
II. BASIS OF JURISD	CTION (Place an "X" in C	Dne Box Only)	III. CITIZENSHIP OF I	PRINCIPAL PARTIES	(Place an "X" in One Box for Plainti	
□ 1 U.S. Government Plaintiff				PTF DEF D 1 D 1 Incorporated or Pr of Business In D		
□ 2 U.S. Government Defendant	D 4 Diversity (Indicate Citizenship of Parties in Item III)			2 2 Incorporated and I of Business In A	Another State	
			Citizen or Subject of a Foreign Country	3 3 Soreign Nation		
IV. NATURE OF SUIT			EODEEITUDE/DENIAL/982	DANK DUDTOV	OTHED STATUTES	
CONTRACT 110 Insurance 120 Marine 130 Miller Act 140 Negotiable Instrument 150 Recovery of Overpayment & Enforcement of Judgment 151 Medicare Act 152 Recovery of Defaulted Student Loans (Excludes Veterans) 153 Recovery of Overpayment of Veteran's Benefits 160 Stockholders' Suits 190 Other Contract 195 Contract Product Liability 196 Franchise REAL PROPERTY 210 Land Condemnation 220 Foreclosure 230 Rent Lease & Ejectment 240 Torts to Land 245 Tort Product Liability 290 All Other Real Property	PERSONAL INJURY ☐ 310 Airplane ☐ 315 Airplane Product Liability ☐ 320 Assault, Libel &	PRTS PERSONAL INJURY 365 Personal Injury - Product Liability Pharmaceutical Personal Injury Product Liability 368 Asbestos Personal Injury Product Liability PERSONAL PROPERT 370 Other Fraud 371 Truth in Lending 380 Other Personal Property Damage 385 Property Damage 510 Motions to Vacate Sentence 510 Motions to Vacate Sentence 530 General 535 Death Penalty Other: 550 Civil Rights 555 Prison Condition 560 Civil Detainee - Conditions of	of Property 21 USC 881 Geodesic definition of the second	BANKRUPTCY 422 Appeal 28 USC 158 423 Withdrawal 28 USC 157 PROPERTY RIGHTS 820 Copyrights 830 Patent 840 Trademark SOCIAL SECURITY 861 HIA (1395ff) 862 Black Lung (923) 863 DIWC/DIWW (405(g)) 864 SSID Title XVI 865 RSI (405(g)) FEDERAL TAX SUITS 870 Taxes (U.S. Plaintiff or Defendant) 871 IRS—Third Party 26 USC 7609	OTHER STATUTES 375 False Claims Act 376 Qui Tam (31 USC 3729(a)) 400 State Reapportionment 410 Antitrust 430 Banks and Banking 450 Commerce 460 Deportation 470 Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations 480 Consumer Credit 490 Cable/Sat TV 850 Securities/Commodities/ Exchange 891 Agricultural Acts 893 Environmental Matters 895 Freedom of Information Act 896 Arbitration 899 Administrative Procedure Act/Review or Appeal of Agency Decision 950 Constitutionality of State Statutes	
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VI. CAUSE OF ACTION	DN Brief description of ca	ause:				
VII. REQUESTED IN COMPLAINT:		IS A CLASS ACTION	alse and misleading collec DEMAND \$		if demanded in complaint:	
VIII. RELATED CASI IF ANY	E(S) (See instructions):	JUDGE		DOCKET NUMBER		
DATE 02/28/2018		signature of atte /s/Yaakov Saks				
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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: <u>FDCPA Suit Filed in Texas Against Merchants & Professional Credit Bureau</u>