BARSHAY SANDERS, PLLC

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Attorneys for Plaintiffs
Our File No.: 112277

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT EASTERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

Robert J. Paulson and Bernard Roth, individually and on behalf of all others similarly situated,

Docket No:

Plaintiffs,

COMPLAINT

VS.

JURY TRIAL DEMANDED

Stoneleigh Recovery Associates, LLC and Bureaus Investment Group Portfolio No. 15, LLC,

Defendants.

Robert J. Paulson and Bernard Roth, individually and on behalf of all others similarly situated, (hereinafter referred to as "*Plaintiffs*"), by and through the undersigned counsel, complains, states and alleges against Stoneleigh Recovery Associates, LLC and Bureaus Investment Group Portfolio No. 15, LLC (hereinafter referred to collectively as "*Defendants*"), as follows:

INTRODUCTION

1. This action seeks to recover for violations of the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, 15 U.S.C. § 1692, *et seq.*, ("FDCPA").

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

2. This Court has federal subject matter jurisdiction pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §1331 and 15 U.S.C. § 1692k(d).

- 3. Venue is proper under 28 U.S.C. §1391(b) because a substantial part of the events or omissions giving rise to the claim occurred in this Judicial District.
- 4. At all relevant times, Defendants conducted business within the State of New York.

PARTIES

- 5. Plaintiff Robert J. Paulson is an individual who is a citizen of the State of New York residing in Suffolk County, New York.
- 6. Plaintiff Bernard Roth is an individual who is a citizen of the State of New York residing in Nassau County, New York.
 - 7. Plaintiffs are "consumers" as defined by 15 U.S.C. § 1692a(3).
- 8. On information and belief, Defendant Stoneleigh Recovery Associates, LLC, is an Illinois Limited Liability Company with a principal place of business in Dupage County, Illinois.
- 9. On information and belief, Defendant Bureaus Investment Group Portfolio No. 15, LLC, is an Illinois Limited Liability Company with a principal place of business in Cook County, Illinois.
- 10. Defendants are regularly engaged, for profit, in the collection of debts allegedly owed by consumers.
 - 11. Defendants are "debt collectors" as defined by 15 U.S.C. § 1692a(6).

ALLEGATIONS

- 12. Defendants allege Plaintiffs owe certain debts.
- 13. The debts were primarily for personal, family or household purposes and are therefore "debts" as defined by 15 U.S.C. § 1692a(5).
- 14. Sometime after the incurrence of the debts Plaintiffs fell behind on payments owed.
- 15. Thereafter, at an exact time known only to Defendants, the debts were assigned or otherwise transferred to Defendants for collection.
- 16. In their efforts to collect the debt alleged owed by Plaintiff Paulson, Defendants contacted Plaintiff Paulson by letter ("the Paulson Letter") dated August 23, 2016. ("<u>Exhibit</u> <u>1</u>.")
 - 17. In their efforts to collect the debt alleged owed by Plaintiff Roth, Defendants

contacted Plaintiff Roth by letter ("the Roth Letter") dated May 4, 2016. ("Exhibit 1.")

- 18. The Paulson Letter was the initial communication Plaintiff Paulson received from Defendants.
 - 19. The letters are "communications" as defined by 15 U.S.C. § 1692a(2).

FIRST COUNT Violation of 15 U.S.C. § 1692g Failure to Adequately Convey the Amount of the Debt AS TO PLAINTIFF PAULSON

- 20. Plaintiff Paulson repeats and realleges the foregoing paragraphs as if fully restated herein.
- 21. 15 U.S.C. § 1692g provides that within five days after the initial communication with a consumer in connection with the collection of any debt, a debt collector shall, unless the information is contained in the initial communication or the consumer has paid the debt, send the consumer a written notice containing certain enumerated information.
- 22. 15 U.S.C. § 1692g(a)(1) requires the written notice provide "the amount of the debt."
- 23. The question of whether a written notice adequately provides "the amount of the debt" is determined from the perspective of the "least sophisticated consumer."
- 24. The written notice, to comply with 15 U.S.C. § 1692g(a)(1), must convey the amount of the debt clearly from the perspective of the least sophisticated consumer.
- 25. The written notice, to comply with 15 U.S.C. § 1692g(a)(1), must convey the amount of the debt accurately from the perspective of the least sophisticated consumer.
- 26. The written notice, to comply with 15 U.S.C. § 1692g(a)(1), must convey the amount of the debt without ambiguity from the perspective of the least sophisticated consumer.
- 27. The written notice, to comply with 15 U.S.C. § 1692g(a)(1), must allow the least sophisticated consumer to determine the minimum amount she owes at the time of the notice.
- 28. The written notice, to comply with 15 U.S.C. § 1692g(a)(1), must allow the least sophisticated consumer to determine what she will need to pay to resolve the debt at any given moment in the future.
- 29. The written notice, to comply with 15 U.S.C. § 1692g(a)(1), must contain an explanation, understandable by the least sophisticated consumer, of any fees or interest that may

cause the balance to increase at any time in the future.

- 30. The failure to include the foregoing information renders an otherwise accurate statement of the "amount of the debt," violative of 15 U.S.C. § 1692g(a)(1).
- 31. Even if a debt collector accurately conveys the foregoing information, the written notice nevertheless violates 15 U.S.C. § 1692g(a)(1) if the least sophisticated consumer could inaccurately interpret the message.
 - 32. The debt was incurred on a credit card issued by Capital One, N.A.
 - 33. At all relevant times herein, the debt accrued, and was subject to, interest.
 - 34. At all relevant times herein, the debt accrued, and was subject to, late fees.
 - 35. The Paulson Letter sets forth a "Current Balance Due."
 - 36. The Paulson Letter fails to state what part of the amount stated is principal.
 - 37. The Paulson Letter fails to state what part of the amount stated is interest.
 - 38. The Paulson Letter fails to state what part of the amount stated is late fees.
- 39. The Paulson Letter fails to disclose whether the amount stated may increase due to additional interest.
- 40. The Paulson Letter fails to disclose whether the amount stated may increase due to additional late fees.
- 41. The Paulson Letter fails to indicate whether payment of the amount stated would satisfy the debt.
- 42. The Paulson Letter fails to indicate whether payment of the amount stated by any date certain would satisfy the debt.
- 43. The Paulson Letter fails to indicate the minimum amount Plaintiff owed at the time of the Letter.
- 44. The Paulson Letter fails to provide any information that would allow Plaintiff to determine what Plaintiff will need to pay to resolve the debt at any given moment in the future.
- 45. The Paulson Letter fails to include any "safe harbor" language concerning the accrual of interest.
- 46. The Paulson Letter fails to include any "safe harbor" language concerning the accrual of late fees.
- 47. The Paulson Letter, because of the aforementioned failures, and especially because of the use of the word "Current," would render the least sophisticated consumer unable to

determine the minimum amount owed at the time of the Letter.

- 48. The Paulson Letter, because of the aforementioned failures, and especially because of the use of the word "Current," would render the least sophisticated consumer unable to determine what she will need to pay to resolve the debt at any given moment in the future.
- 49. The Paulson Letter, because of the aforementioned failures, and especially because of the use of the word "Current," would render the least sophisticated consumer unable to determine the amount of his or her debt.
- 50. The Paulson Letter, because of the aforementioned failures, and especially because of the use of the word "Current," would render the least sophisticated consumer unable to determine the amount of her debt because the consumer would not know whether interest and fees would continue to accrue, or whether the amount of the debt was static.
- 51. The Paulson Letter, because of the aforementioned failures, and especially because of the use of the word "Current," would render the least sophisticated consumer unable to determine the value of Defendant's settlement offer because the consumer would not know whether interest and fees would continue to accrue, or whether the amount of the debt was static, if the settlement was not accepted.
- 52. The least sophisticated consumer, because of the aforementioned failures, could reasonably believe that the debt could be satisfied by remitting the amount stated at any time after receipt of the Letter.
- 53. The least sophisticated consumer, because of the aforementioned failures, could also reasonably believe that the amount stated was accurate only on the date of the Letter because of the continued accumulation of interest.
- 54. The least sophisticated consumer, because of the aforementioned failures, could also reasonably believe that the amount stated was accurate only on the date of the Letter because of the continued accumulation of late fees.
- 55. If interest is continuing to accrue, the least sophisticated consumer would not know how to satisfy the debt because the Letter fails to indicate the applicable interest rate.
- 56. If interest is continuing to accrue, the least sophisticated consumer would not know how to satisfy the debt because the Letter fails to indicate the date of accrual of interest.
- 57. If interest is continuing to accrue, the least sophisticated consumer would not know how to satisfy the debt because the Letter fails to provide the amount of interest during any

measurable period.

- 58. If interest is continuing to accrue, the least sophisticated consumer would not know how to satisfy the debt because the Letter fails to provide any information that would enable to consumer to determine what she will need to pay to resolve on any date after the date of the Letter.
- 59. If interest is continuing to accrue, the least sophisticated consumer would not know how to satisfy the debt because the Letter fails to provide any information that would enable to consumer to determine what she will need to pay to resolve the debt in the future.
- 60. If late fees are continuing to accrue, the least sophisticated consumer would not know how to satisfy the debt because the Letter fails to indicate the amount of late fees.
- 61. If late fees are continuing to accrue, the least sophisticated consumer would not know how to satisfy the debt because the Letter fails to indicate the date such fees will be added.
- 62. If late fees are continuing to accrue, the least sophisticated consumer would not know how to satisfy the debt because the Letter fails to provide the amount of late fees during any measurable period.
- 63. If late fees are continuing to accrue, the least sophisticated consumer would not know how to satisfy the debt because the Letter fails to provide any information that would enable to consumer to determine what she will need to pay to resolve on any date after the date of the Letter.
- 64. If late fees are continuing to accrue, the least sophisticated consumer would not know how to satisfy the debt because the Letter fails to provide any information that would enable to consumer to determine what she will need to pay to resolve the debt in the future.
- 65. The failure to include the foregoing information could lead the least sophisticated consumer to inaccurately interpret the message.
- 66. The failure to include the foregoing information renders the Letter's statement of the amount of the debt, even if otherwise accurate, incomplete.
- 67. The failure to include the foregoing information renders the Letter's statement of the amount of the debt, even if otherwise accurate, insufficient.
- 68. The failure to include the foregoing information renders the Letter's statement of the amount of the debt, even if otherwise accurate, violative of 15 U.S.C. § 1692g(a)(1).
 - 69. For these reasons, Defendants violated 15 U.S.C. § 1692g(a)(1).

SECOND COUNT Violation of 15 U.S.C. § 1692e False or Misleading Representations AS TO PLAINTIFF PAULSON

- 70. Plaintiff Paulson repeats and realleges the foregoing paragraphs as if fully restated herein.
- 71. 15 U.S.C. § 1692e prohibits a debt collector from using any false, deceptive, or misleading representation or means in connection with the collection of any debt.
- 72. While § 1692e specifically prohibits certain practices, the list is non-exhaustive, and does not preclude a claim of falsity or deception based on any non-enumerated practice.
- 73. The question of whether a collection letter is deceptive is determined from the perspective of the "least sophisticated consumer."
- 74. A collection letter is deceptive under 15 U.S.C. § 1692e if it can reasonably be read by the least sophisticated consumer to have two or more meanings, one of which is inaccurate.
- 75. A collection letter is also deceptive under 15 U.S.C. § 1692e if it is reasonably susceptible to an inaccurate reading by the least sophisticated consumer.
- 76. 15 U.S.C. § 1692e requires debt collectors, when they notify consumers of their account balance, to disclose whether the balance may increase due to interest and fees.
 - 77. The amount of the debt is a material piece of information to a consumer.
- 78. Knowing the amount of the debt affects how a consumer responds to a debt collector's attempts to collect the debt.
- 79. As previously alleged, the least sophisticated consumer could reasonably read the Paulson Letter to mean that the amount stated was static.
- 80. As previously alleged, the least sophisticated consumer could also reasonably read the Paulson Letter to mean that the amount stated was dynamic due to the continued accumulation of interest and/or late fees.
 - 81. Because the Paulson Letter can reasonably be read by the least sophisticated

consumer to have two or more meanings, one of which is inaccurate, as described, it is deceptive under 15 U.S.C. § 1692e.

- 82. Because the Paulson Letter is susceptible to an inaccurate reading by the least sophisticated consumer, it is deceptive under 15 U.S.C. § 1692e.
 - 83. For these reasons, Defendants violated 15 U.S.C. § 1692e.

THIRD COUNT Violation of 15 U.S.C. § 1692e False or Misleading Representations AS TO PLAINTIFF ROTH

- 84. Plaintiff Roth repeats and realleges the foregoing paragraphs as if fully restated herein.
- 85. 15 U.S.C. § 1692e prohibits a debt collector from using any false, deceptive, or misleading representation or means in connection with the collection of any debt.
- 86. While § 1692e specifically prohibits certain practices, the list is non-exhaustive, and does not preclude a claim of falsity or deception based on any non-enumerated practice.
- 87. The question of whether a collection letter is deceptive is determined from the perspective of the "least sophisticated consumer."
- 88. A collection letter is deceptive under 15 U.S.C. § 1692e if it can reasonably be read by the least sophisticated consumer to have two or more meanings, one of which is inaccurate.
- 89. A collection letter is also deceptive under 15 U.S.C. § 1692e if it is reasonably susceptible to an inaccurate reading by the least sophisticated consumer.
- 90. A debt collector has the obligation not just to convey the amount of the debt, but to convey such clearly.
- 91. 15 U.S.C. § 1692e requires debt collectors, when they notify consumers of their account balance, to disclose whether the balance may increase due to interest and fees.
 - 92. The amount of the debt is a material piece of information to a consumer.
- 93. Knowing the amount of the debt affects how a consumer responds to a debt collector's attempts to collect the debt.
- 94. A statement as to the amount of the debt must convey the amount of the debt clearly from the perspective of the least sophisticated consumer.
 - 95. A statement as to the amount of the debt must convey the amount of the debt

accurately from the perspective of the least sophisticated consumer.

- 96. A statement as to the amount of the debt must convey the amount of the debt without ambiguity from the perspective of the least sophisticated consumer.
- 97. A statement as to the amount of the debt must allow the least sophisticated consumer to determine the minimum amount she owes at the time of the notice.
- 98. A statement as to the amount of the debt must allow the least sophisticated consumer to determine what she will need to pay to resolve the debt at any given moment in the future.
- 99. A statement as to the amount of the debt must contain an explanation, understandable by the least sophisticated consumer, of any fees or interest that may cause the balance to increase at any time in the future.
- 100. The failure to include the foregoing information renders an otherwise accurate statement of the "amount of the debt," deceptive under 15 U.S.C. § 1692e.
- 101. Even if a debt collector accurately conveys the foregoing information, the written notice nevertheless violates 15 U.S.C. § 1692e if the least sophisticated consumer could inaccurately interpret the message.
 - 102. The Debt was incurred on a credit card issued by Capital One, N.A.
 - 103. At all relevant times herein, the Debt accrued, and was subject to, interest.
 - 104. At all relevant times herein, the Debt accrued, and was subject to, late fees.
 - 105. The Letter sets forth a "Current Balance Due."
 - 106. The Letter fails to state what part of the amount stated is principal.
 - 107. The Letter fails to state what part of the amount stated is interest.
 - 108. The Letter fails to state what part of the amount stated is late fees.
- 109. The Letter fails to disclose whether the amount stated may increase due to additional interest.
- 110. The Letter fails to disclose whether the amount stated may increase due to additional late fees.
 - 111. The Letter includes a settlement offer.
- 112. The Letter fails to indicate whether the amount stated may increase due to additional interest if the settlement is not accepted.
 - 113. The Letter fails to indicate whether the amount stated may increase due to

additional late fees if the settlement is not accepted.

- 114. The Letter fails to indicate the minimum amount Plaintiff owed at the time of the Letter.
- 115. The Letter fails to provide any information that would allow Plaintiff to determine what Plaintiff will need to pay to resolve the debt at any given moment in the future.
- 116. The Letter fails to include any "safe harbor" language concerning the accrual of interest.
- 117. The Letter fails to include any "safe harbor" language concerning the accrual of late fees.
- 118. The Letter, because of the aforementioned failures, and especially because of the use of the word "Current," would render the least sophisticated consumer unable to determine the minimum amount owed at the time of the Letter.
- 119. The Letter, because of the aforementioned failures, and especially because of the use of the word "Current," would render the least sophisticated consumer unable to determine what she will need to pay to resolve the debt at any given moment in the future.
- 120. The Letter, because of the aforementioned failures, and especially because of the use of the word "Current," would render the least sophisticated consumer unable to determine the amount of his or her debt.
- 121. The Letter, because of the aforementioned failures, and especially because of the use of the word "Current," would render the least sophisticated consumer unable to determine the amount of her debt because the consumer would not know whether interest and fees would continue to accrue, or whether the amount of the debt was static.
- 122. The Letter, because of the aforementioned failures, and especially because of the use of the word "Current," would render the least sophisticated consumer unable to determine the value of Defendants' settlement offer because the consumer would not know whether interest and fees would continue to accrue, or whether the amount of the debt was static, if the settlement was not accepted.
- 123. The least sophisticated consumer, because of the aforementioned failures, could reasonably believe that the debt could be satisfied by remitting the amount stated at any time after receipt of the Letter.
 - 124. The least sophisticated consumer, because of the aforementioned failures, could

also reasonably believe that the amount stated was accurate only on the date of the Letter because of the continued accumulation of interest.

- 125. The least sophisticated consumer, because of the aforementioned failures, could also reasonably believe that the amount stated was accurate only on the date of the Letter because of the continued accumulation of late fees.
- 126. If interest is continuing to accrue, the least sophisticated consumer would not know how to satisfy the debt because the Letter fails to indicate the applicable interest rate.
- 127. If interest is continuing to accrue, the least sophisticated consumer would not know how to satisfy the debt because the Letter fails to indicate the date of accrual of interest.
- 128. If interest is continuing to accrue, the least sophisticated consumer would not know how to satisfy the debt because the Letter fails to provide the amount of interest during any measurable period.
- 129. If interest is continuing to accrue, the least sophisticated consumer would not know how to satisfy the debt because the Letter fails to provide any information that would enable to consumer to determine what she will need to pay to resolve on any date after the date of the Letter.
- 130. If interest is continuing to accrue, the least sophisticated consumer would not know how to satisfy the debt because the Letter fails to provide any information that would enable to consumer to determine what she will need to pay to resolve the debt in the future.
- 131. If late fees are continuing to accrue, the least sophisticated consumer would not know how to satisfy the debt because the Letter fails to indicate the amount of late fees.
- 132. If late fees are continuing to accrue, the least sophisticated consumer would not know how to satisfy the debt because the Letter fails to indicate the date such fees will be added.
- 133. If late fees are continuing to accrue, the least sophisticated consumer would not know how to satisfy the debt because the Letter fails to provide the amount of late fees during any measurable period.
- 134. If late fees are continuing to accrue, the least sophisticated consumer would not know how to satisfy the debt because the Letter fails to provide any information that would enable to consumer to determine what she will need to pay to resolve on any date after the date of the Letter.
 - 135. If late fees are continuing to accrue, the least sophisticated consumer would not

know how to satisfy the debt because the Letter fails to provide any information that would enable to consumer to determine what she will need to pay to resolve the debt in the future.

- 136. The failure to include the foregoing information could lead the least sophisticated consumer to inaccurately interpret the message.
- 137. The failure to include the foregoing information renders the Letter's statement of the amount of the debt, even if otherwise accurate, incomplete.
- 138. The failure to include the foregoing information renders the Letter susceptible to an inaccurate reading by the least sophisticated consumer.
- 139. The failure to include the foregoing information allows the Letter to be read by the least sophisticated consumer to have two or more meanings, one of which is inaccurate.
- 140. The failure to include the foregoing information renders the Letter's statement of the amount of the debt, even if otherwise accurate, insufficient.
- 141. The failure to include the foregoing information renders the Letter's statement of the amount of the debt, even if otherwise accurate, deceptive under 15 U.S.C. § 1692e.
 - 142. For these reasons, Defendants violated 15 U.S.C. § 1692e.

CLASS ALLEGATIONS

- 143. Plaintiffs brings this action individually and as a class action on behalf of all persons similarly situated in the State of New York from whom Defendants attempted to collect a consumer debt without disclosing in their collection letter whether interest and late fees were continuing to accrue, from one year before the date of this Complaint to the present.
- 144. This action seeks a finding that Defendants' conduct violates the FDCPA, and asks that the Court award damages as authorized by 15 U.S.C. § 1692k.
 - 145. Defendants regularly engage in debt collection.
- 146. The Class consists of more than 35 persons from whom Defendants attempted to collect delinquent consumer debts without disclosing in their collection letter whether interest and late fees were continuing to accrue.
- 147. Plaintiffs' claims are typical of the claims of the Class. Common questions of law or fact raised by this class action complaint affect all members of the Class and predominate over any individual issues. Common relief is therefore sought on behalf of all members of the Class. This class action is superior to other available methods for the fair and efficient adjudication of

this controversy.

- 148. The prosecution of separate actions by individual members of the Class would create a risk of inconsistent or varying adjudications with respect to the individual members of the Class, and a risk that any adjudications with respect to individual members of the Class would, as a practical matter, either be dispositive of the interests of other members of the Class not party to the adjudication, or substantially impair or impede their ability to protect their interests. Defendants have acted in a manner applicable to the Class as a whole such that declaratory relief is warranted.
- 149. Plaintiffs will fairly and adequately protect and represent the interests of the Class. The management of the class action proposed is not extraordinarily difficult, and the factual and legal issues raised by this class action complaint will not require extended contact with the members of the Class, because Defendants' conduct was perpetrated on all members of the Class and will be established by common proof. Moreover, Plaintiffs have retained counsel experienced in actions brought under consumer protection laws.

JURY DEMAND

150. Plaintiffs hereby demand a trial of this action by jury.

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, Plaintiffs respectfully request judgment as follows:

- a. Certify this action as a class action; and
- b. Appoint Plaintiffs as Class Representative of the Class, and Plaintiffs' attorneys as Class Counsel; and
- c. Find that Defendants' actions violate the FDCPA; and
- d. Grant damages against Defendants pursuant to 15 U.S.C. § 1692k; and
- e. Grant Plaintiffs' attorneys' fees pursuant to 15 U.S.C. § 1692k; and
- f. Grant Plaintiffs' costs; together with
- g. Such other relief that the Court determines is just and proper.

DATED: April 24, 2017

BARSHAY SANDERS, PLLC

By: <u>/s/ Craig B. Sanders</u>
Craig B. Sanders, Esq.
100 Garden City Plaza, Suite 500
Garden City, New York 11530

Tel: (516) 203-7600 Fax: (516) 706-5055 csanders@barshaysanders.com

Attorneys for Plaintiffs

Our File No.: 112277

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



PO Box 1479 Lombard, IL 60148-8479 • Toll Free: 866-724-2330 Monday-Thursday 8AM-8PM (CST) • Friday 8AM-5PM (CST)

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May 4, 2016

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BERNARD ROTH 63 PROSPECT AVE APT 7A HEWLETT NY 11557-1626

	<u> </u>
Original Creditor:	CAPITAL ONE, N.A.
Orig, Acct. Last Four Digits:	8029
Current Creditor:	BUREAUS INVESTMENT GROUP PORTFOLIO NO 15 LLC
SRA File No.:	0008
Current Balance Due:	\$5,938.84
Settlement Offer:	\$4,394.74
Due Date:	05/27/2016

IMPORTANT SETTLEMENT OFFER

Dear Bernard Roth,

We have previously notified you of your past due balance of \$5,938.84 that BUREAUS INVESTMENT GROUP PORTFOLIO NO 15 LLC placed with our office.

We have been authorized to accept a \$4,394.74 settlement on the total balance as settlement in full, until 05/27/2016. If you accept this offer it means you will only have to pay \$4,394.74 to settle your account in full. This offer is only open for a limited time and will end after 05/27/2016. We are not obligated to extend or renew this offer.

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 866-724-2330; Monday through Thursday between 8:00 AM and 8:00 PM (CST) or Friday between 8:00 AM and 5:00 PM (CST).

Or you can send a check or money order BEFORE 05/27/2016 to:

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

Please call with any questions or to verify your settlement amount: 866-724-2330.

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 unfair 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) Spousal 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) Nincty percent of your wages or salary earned in the last sixty days.

PO BOX 1118 Charlotte, NC 28201-1118 Personal & Confidential STONELEIGH Recovery Associates Alping you make a better tomorrow, TODAY

PO Box 1479 Lombard, IL 60148-8479 • Toll Free: 866-724-2330 Monday-Thursday 8AM-8PM (CST) • Friday 8AM-5PM (CST)

Original Creditor: CAPITAL ONE, N.A.

Orig. Acct. Last Four Digits: 8029

Current Creditor: BUREAUS INVESTMENT GROUP PORTFOLIO NO 15 LLC

SRA File No.: 0008

Current Balance Due: \$5,938.84

Settlement Offer: \$4,394.74

Due Date: 05/27/2016



May 4, 2016

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BERNARD ROTH 63 PROSPECT AVE APT 7A HEWLETT NY 11557-1626

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We have been authorized to accept a \$4,394.74 settlement on the total balance as settlement in full, until 05/27/2016. If you accept this offer it means you will only have to pay \$4,394.74 to settle your account in full. This offer is only open for a limited time and will end after 05/27/2016. We are not obligated to extend or renew this offer.

f 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 oll free 866-724-2330; Monday through Thursday between 8:00 AM and 8:00 PM (CST) or Friday between 8:00 AM and 5:00 PM (CST).

Or you can send a check or money order BEFORE 05/27/2016 to:

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

Please call with any questions or to verify your settlement amount: 866-724-2330.

Sincerely,

Francis Goldstein

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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

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) Spousal Public or private pensions; (9) Veterans' benefits; (10) Foderal 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.

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.

A Please Detach And Return in The Enclosed Envelope With Your Payment

BERNARD ROTH 63 PROSPECT AVE APT 7A HEWLETT NY 11557-1626

Original Creditor:	CAPITAL ONE, N.A.
Orig. Acct. Last Four Digits:	8029
Current Creditor;	BUREAUS INVESTMENT GROUP PORTFOLIO NO 15 LLC
SRA File No.:	0008
Current Balance Due:	\$5,938.84
Settlement Offer:	\$4,394.74
Due Date:	05/27/2016
Enclosed Amount:	

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

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

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Case 2:17-cv-02637 Document 1-1 Filed 05/02/17 Fage:4 of 4 PageID #: 18

PO BOX 1118 Charlotte, NC 28201-1118 Personal & Confidential Helping you make a better tomorrow, **TODAY**I

Recovery Associates

August 23, 2016

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ROBERT PAULSON 50 PAMEECHES PATH EAST MORICHES NY 11940-1312

Original Creditor:	CAPITAL ONE, N.A.			
Orig. Acct. Last Four Digits:	6972			
Current Creditor:	BUREAUS INVESTMENT GROUP PORTFOLIO NO 15 LLC			
SRA File No.:	5453			
Current Balance Due:	\$5,813.55			

PO Box 1479 Lombard, IL 60148-8479 • Toll Free: 866-724-2330 Monday-Thursday 8AM-8PM (CST) ◆ Friday 8AM-5PM (CST)

Dear Robert Paulson,

We would like to take this opportunity to inform you that BUREAUS INVESTMENT GROUP PORTFOLIO NO 15 LLC has purchased your account from CAPITAL ONE, N.A., BUREAUS INVESTMENT GROUP PORTFOLIO NO 15 LLC has referred your delinquent account of \$5,813.55 to this agency for collection.

This notice has been sent by a collection agency. This is an attempt to collect a debt. Any information obtained will be used for that purpose. Unless you notify this office within thirty (30) days after receiving this notice that you dispute the validity of this debt or any portion thereof, this office will assume this debt is valid. If you notify this office in writing within thirty (30) days from receiving this notice that you dispute the validity of this debt or any portion thereof, this office will obtain verification of the debt or obtain a copy of a judgment and mail you a copy of such judgment or verification. If you request in writing within 30 days after receiving this notice this office will provide you with the name and address of the original creditor, if different from the current creditor. The law does not require us to wait until the end of the 30 day period before taking further collection efforts. But, if disputed, this office will cease collection activities until we provide you with the requested validation information.

If you have any questions or for further information, write the undersigned or call toll-free at 866-724-2330 Monday through Thursday between 8:00 AM and 8:00 PM (CST) or Friday between 8:00 AM and 5:00 PM (CST).

Regards, Francis Goldstein

Francis Goldstein

Stoneleigh Recovery Associates, LLC

Total debt amount due as of charge-off: \$5813.55

Total interest amount accrued since charge-off: \$0.00 Total non-interest charges/fees accrued since charge-off: \$0.00

Total payments made since charge-off: \$0.00

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 unfair 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) Spousal 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.

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 Envelope With Your Payment ▲

ROBERT PAULSON 50 PAMEECHES PATH EAST MORICHES NY 11940-1312

Original Creditor:	CAPITAL ONE, N.A.
Orig. Acct. Last Four Digits:	6972
Current Creditor:	BUREAUS INVESTMENT GROUP PORTFOLIO NO 15 LLC
SRA File No.:	5453
Current Balance Due:	\$5,813.55
Enclosed Amount:	

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

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

JS 44 (Rev. 07/16) Case 2:17-cv-02637 Dequirent 10 Files 05/02/17 Page 1 of 2 PageID #: 19

The JS 44 civil cover sheet and provided by local rules of court purpose of initiating the civil do	the information contained. This form, approved by thocket sheet. (SEE INSTRUC	herein neither replace nor some Judicial Conference of the CTIONS ON NEXT PAGE	supplem he Unite <i>OF THI</i>	ent the filing and served States in Septembe S FORM.)	vice or r 197	of pleadings or other papers 74, is required for the use of	as required by lathe Clerk of Con	aw, exc art for t	ept as he
I. (a) PLAINTIFFS				DEFENDANTS					
ROBERT J. PAULSON				STONELEIG	SH R	RECOVERY ASSOCIAT	ES, LLC		
(b) County of Residence of (E.	First Listed Plaintiff XCEPT IN U.S. PLAINTIFF C.	SUFFOLK ASES)		County of Residence of First Listed Defendant DUPAC (IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES ONLY) NOTE: IN LAND CONDEMNATION CASES, USE THE LOCAT THE TRACT OF LAND INVOLVED.					
(c) Attorneys (Firm Name, A BARSHAY SAND 100 Garden City P (516) 203-7600	•			Attorneys (If Know	vn)				
II. BASIS OF JURISDI	CTION (Place an "X" in t	One Box Only)	II. CI	LIZENSHIP OF	'PR	INCIPAL PARTIES	(Place an "X" in (ne Bor t	for Plaintiff
O 1 U.S. Government Plaintiff	• 3 Federal Question (U.S. Government)		(For L	n of This State	PTF O 1	F DEF	and One Bo		ndant) DEF
O 2 U.S. Government Defendant	O 4 Diversity (Indicate Citizenshi)	ip of Parties in Item III)	Citize	n of Another State	O 2	O 2 Incorporated and I of Business In A	•	0 5	5 05
NATURE OF CHIE				n or Subject of a reign Country	0 3	O 3 Foreign Nation		0 (5 06
IV. NATURE OF SUIT		DRTS	FO	RFEITURE/PENALT	Y	BANKRUPTCY	OTHER	STATU	TES
O 110 Insurance O 120 Marine O 130 Miller Act O 140 Negotiable Instrument O 150 Recovery of Overpayment & Enforcement of Judgment O 151 Medicare Act O 152 Recovery of Defaulted Student Loans (Excludes Veterans) O 153 Recovery of Overpayment of Veteran's Benefits O 160 Stockholders' Suits O 190 Other Contract O 195 Contract Product Liability O 196 Franchise REAL PROPERTY O 210 Land Condemnation O 220 Foreclosure O 230 Rent Lease & Ejectment O 240 Torts to Land O 245 Tort Product Liability O 290 All Other Real Property	Slander O 330 Federal Employers' Liability O 340 Marine O 345 Marine Product Liability O 350 Motor Vehicle O 355 Motor Vehicle Product Liability O 360 Other Personal Injury O 362 Personal Injury - Medical Malpractice CIVIL RIGHTS O 440 Other Civil Rights O 441 Voting O 442 Employment O 443 Housing/ Accommodations O 445 Amer. w/Disabilities - Employment O 446 Amer. w/Disabilities - Other O 448 Education	PERSONAL INJURY O 365 Personal Injury - Product Liability O 367 Health Care/ Pharmaceutical Personal Injury Product Liability O 368 Asbestos Personal Injury Product Liability PERSONAL PROPERT O 370 Other Fraud O 371 Truth in Lending O 380 Other Personal Property Damage O 385 Property Damage Product Liability PRISONER PETITIONS Habeas Corpus: O 463 Alien Detainee O 510 Motions to Vacate Sentence O 530 General O 535 Death Penalty Other: O 540 Mandamus & Other O 550 Civil Rights O 555 Prison Condition O 560 Civil Detainee Conditions of Confinement	Y O 625 O 690 Y O 710 O 720 O 740 O 751 O 790 O 791	Drug Related Seizure of Property 21 USC 881 Other	f	O 422 Appeal 28 USC 158 O 423 Withdrawal 28 USC 157 PROPERTY RIGHTS O 820 Copyrights O 830 Patent O 840 Trademark SOCIAL SECURITY O 861 HIA (1395ff) O 862 Black Lung (923) O 863 DIWC/DIWW (405(g)) O 864 SSID Title XVI O 865 RSI (405(g)) FEDERAL TAX SUITS O 870 Taxes (U.S. Plaintiff or Defendant) O 871 IRS—Third Party 26 USC 7609	O 375 False C O 400 State R O 410 Antitru O 430 Banks a O 450 Comme O 460 Deporta O 470 Rackete Corrup ● 480 Consum O 490 Cable/S O 850 Securiti Exchar O 890 Other S O 891 Agricul O 893 Environ O 895 Freedor Act O 896 Arbitra O 899 Adminis Act/Re	laims Adeapportics to an Bank arce tition er Influe to Credi at TV es/Comn age tatutory tural Ac mental M n of Info tion strative F view or y Decisic tionality	et comment ing meed and cations it modities/ Actions ts Matters rmation Procedure Appeal of on
V. ORIGIN (Place an "X" in 1 Original Proceeding O 2 Remo Cot	oved from State O 3 Ren Cor	urt	4 Reinsta Reope	ened Anoth (specij	er Dis fy)	strict Litigation – Transfer	Li D	ultidistri tigation irect File	=
VI. CAUSE OF ACTIO		use.		Oo not cite jurisdictional Collection Practices		ttes unless diversity): 15 USC Violation	81692		
VII. REQUESTED IN COMPLAINT:	• CHECK IF THIS I UNDER RULE 2	S A CLASS ACTION 3, F.R.Cv.P.	DI	EMAND \$		CHECK YES on JURY DEMAND:	-	_	
VIII. RELATED CASE IF ANY	$\mathbb{E}(S)$	(See Instructions) JUDGE				DOCKET NUMBER			
DATE		SIGNATURE OF ATTO							
May 2, 2017 FOR OFFICE USE ONLY		/s Cra	ig B. S	Sanders					
	10UNT	APPLYING IFP		JUDGE	Ξ	MAG. JU	DGE		

CERTIFICATION OF ARBITRATION ELIGIBILITY

Local Arbitration Rule 83.10 provides that with certain exceptions, actions seeking money damages only in an amount not in excess of \$150,000, exclusive of interest and costs, are eligible for compulsory arbitration. The amount of damages is presumed to be below the threshold amount unless a certification to the contrary is filed.

I, <u>Craig B. Sanders</u> , counsel for <u>Plaintiff</u> , 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:
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?YES
b) Did the events or 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. ■ Yes □ No
Are you currently the subject of any disciplinary action (s) in this or any other state or federal court? ☐ Yes (If yes, please explain) ■ No
I certify the accuracy of all information provided above.

Signature: <u>/s Craig B. Sanders</u>

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

for the

Eastern District of New York

Eastern District of New York					
Robert J. Paulson and Bernard Roth, individually and on behalf of all others similarly situated))))				
Plaintiff(s))				
V.	Civil Action No.				
)				
)				
Stoneleigh Recovery Associates, LLC and Bureaus Investment Group Portfolio No. 15, LLC	,))				
Defendant(s))				
SUMMONS IN	A CIVIL ACTION				
To: (Defendant's name and address) Bureaus Investment Group 650 DUNDEE RD. SUITE 370 NORTHBROOK, ILLINOIS,					
A lawsuit has been filed against you. Within 21 days after service of this summons on you (not counting the day you received it) — or 60 days if you are the United States or a United States agency, or an officer or employee of the United States described in Fed. R. Civ. P. 12 (a)(2) or (3) — you must serve on the plaintiff an answer to the attached complaint or a motion under Rule 12 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure. The answer or motion must be served on the plaintiff or plaintiff's attorney, whose name and address are: Craig B. Sanders, Esq. 100 Garden City Plaza Suite 500 Garden City, New York 11530					
If you fail to respond, judgment by default will be a You also must file your answer or motion with the court.	entered against you for the relief demanded in the complaint.				
	CLERK OF COURT				
Date:					
	Signature of Clerk or Deputy Clerk				

Civil Action No.

PROOF OF SERVICE

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

was re	This summons for (na ceived by me on (date)	ame of individual and title, if an	y)				
	·	d the summons on the indi	ividual at (place)				
	on (date) ; or I left the summons at the individual's residence or usual place of abode with (name)						
		,	a person of suitable age and discretion who res	sides there,			
	on (date)	, and mailed a c	copy to the individual's last known address; or				
	☐ I served the summ	nons on (name of individual)		, who is			
	designated by law to	accept service of process	on behalf of (name of organization)				
			On (date)	; or			
	☐ I returned the sum	nmons unexecuted because		; or			
	☐ Other (specify):						
	My fees are \$	for travel and \$	for services, for a total of \$	0.00			
	I declare under penal	ty of perjury that this info	rmation is true.				
Date:		_	0 ,				
			Server's signature				
		_	Printed name and title				
		_	Server's address				

Additional information regarding attempted service, etc:

Print Save As... Reset

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

for the

Eastern District of New York

Eastern District of New York					
Robert J. Paulson and Bernard Roth, individually and on behalf of all others similarly situated Plaintiff(s)					
v. (Civil Action No.				
Stoneleigh Recovery Associates, LLC and Bureaus)					
Investment Group Portfolio No. 15, LLC					
Defendant(s)					
SUMMONS IN A	CIVIL ACTION				
To: (Defendant's name and address) Stoneleigh Recovery Associa C/O CORPORATION SERV 80 STATE STREET ALBANY, NEW YORK, 1220	ICE COMPANY				
A lawsuit has been filed against you. Within 21 days after service of this summons on you (not counting the day you received it) — or 60 days if you are the United States or a United States agency, or an officer or employee of the United States described in Fed. R. Civ. P. 12 (a)(2) or (3) — you must serve on the plaintiff an answer to the attached complaint or a motion under Rule 12 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure. The answer or motion must be served on the plaintiff or plaintiff's attorney, whose name and address are: Craig B. Sanders, Esq. 100 Garden City Plaza Suite 500 Garden City, New York 11530					
If you fail to respond, judgment by default will be er You also must file your answer or motion with the court.	ntered against you for the relief demanded in the complaint.				
	CLERK OF COURT				
Date:					
Date:	Signature of Clerk or Deputy Clerk				

Civil Action No.

PROOF OF SERVICE

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

was re	This summons for (na. ceived by me on (date)	me of individual and title, if any)	<u> </u>	
	☐ I personally served	I the summons on the indivi	on (data)	; or
	☐ I left the summons		ee or usual place of abode with (name)	- [·]
	on (date)		person of suitable age and discretion who res py to the individual's last known address; or	ides there,
		ons on (name of individual) accept service of process or	n behalf of (name of organization)	, who is
			on (date)	; or
	☐ I returned the sum	mons unexecuted because		; or
	☐ Other (specify):			
	My fees are \$	for travel and \$	for services, for a total of \$	0.00
	I declare under penalt	y of perjury that this inform	nation is true.	
Date:			Server's signature	
			Printed name and title	
			Server's address	

Additional information regarding attempted service, etc:

Print Save As... Reset

ClassAction.org

This complaint is part of ClassAction.org's searchable class action lawsuit database and can be found in this post: Consumers Claim Debt Collectors' Letters Violate FDCPA