UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT MIDDLE DISTRICT OF FLORIDA

SCOMA CHIROPRACTIC, P.A., a Florida)	
corporation, individually and as the)	
representative of a class of similarly-situated)	
persons,)	
)	
Plaintiff,) Civi	l Action No:
)	
V.) CLA	ASS ACTION
)	
ALL CARE CONSULTANTS, INC., a)	
Florida corporation, and JOHN DOES 1-5,)	
)	
Defendants.)	
)	

CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT

Plaintiff, SCOMA CHIROPRACTIC, P. A. ("Plaintiff"), brings this action on behalf of itself and all others similarly situated, through its attorneys, and except as to those allegations pertaining to Plaintiff or its attorneys, which allegations are based upon personal knowledge, alleges the following upon information and belief against Defendants, ALL CARE CONSULTANTS, INC. and JOHN DOES 1-5 ("Defendants"):

PRELIMINARY STATEMENT

1. This case challenges Defendants' practice of sending unsolicited facsimiles.

2. The federal Telephone Consumer Protection Act of 1991, as amended by the Junk Fax Prevention Act of 2005, 47 USC § 227 ("JFPA" or the "Act"), and the regulations promulgated under the Act, prohibit a person or entity from faxing or having an agent fax advertisements without the recipient's prior express invitation or permission. The JFPA provides a private right of action and provides statutory damages of \$500 per violation. Upon information and belief, Defendants have sent facsimile transmissions of unsolicited advertisements to Plaintiff and the Class in violation of the JFPA, including, but not limited to, the facsimile

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transmission of an unsolicited advertisement on or about November 21, 2016 ("the Fax"), a true and correct copy of which is attached hereto as <u>Exhibit A</u>, and made a part hereof. The Fax describes the commercial availability or quality of Defendants' products, goods and services. Plaintiff is informed and believes, and upon such information and belief avers, that Defendants have sent, and continue to send, unsolicited advertisements via facsimile transmission in violation of the JFPA, including but not limited to those advertisements sent to Plaintiff.

3. Unsolicited faxes damage their recipients. A junk fax recipient loses the use of its fax machine, paper, and ink toner. An unsolicited fax wastes the recipient's valuable time that would have been spent on something else. A junk fax interrupts the recipient's privacy. Unsolicited faxes prevent fax machines from receiving authorized faxes, prevent their use for authorized outgoing faxes, cause undue wear and tear on the recipients' fax machines, and require additional labor to attempt to discern the source and purpose of the unsolicited message.

4. On behalf of itself and all others similarly situated, Plaintiff brings this case as a class action asserting claims against Defendants under the JFPA. Plaintiff seeks to certify a class including faxes sent to Plaintiff and other advertisements sent without proper opt-out language or without prior express invitation or permission, whether sent to Plaintiff or not.

5. Plaintiff is informed and believes, and upon such information and belief avers, that this action is based upon a common nucleus of operative facts because the facsimile transmissions at issue were and are being done in the same or similar manner. This action is based on the same legal theory, namely liability under the JFPA. This action seeks relief expressly authorized by the JFPA: (i) injunctive relief enjoining Defendants, their employees, agents, representatives, contractors, affiliates, and all persons and entities acting in concert with them, from sending unsolicited advertisements in violation of the JFPA; and (ii) an award of

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statutory damages in the minimum amount of \$500 for each violation of the JFPA, and to have such damages trebled, as provided by § 227(b)(3) of the Act.

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

This Court has subject matter jurisdiction under 28 U.S.C. § 1331 and 47 U.S.C.
§ 227.

7. This court has personal jurisdiction over Defendants because Defendants transact business within this judicial district, have made contacts within this judicial district, and/or have committed tortious acts within this judicial district.

PARTIES

8. Plaintiff, SCOMA CHIROPRACTIC, P. A., is a Florida corporation.

9. On information and belief, Defendant, ALL CARE CONSULTANTS, INC. is a Florida corporation.

10. JOHN DOES 1-5 will be identified through discovery, but are not presently known.

FACTS

11. On information and belief, on or about November 21, 2016, Defendants used a telephone facsimile machine, computer, or other device to send an unsolicited facsimile to Plaintiff. A copy of the facsimile is attached hereto as <u>Exhibit A</u>.

12. On information and belief, Defendants receive some or all of the revenues from the sale of the products, goods and services advertised on Exhibit A, and Defendants profit and benefit from the sale of the products, goods and services advertised on Exhibit A.

13. Plaintiff did not give prior express invitation or permission to Defendants to send the fax.

14. On information and belief, Defendants faxed the same and other unsolicited facsimiles without the required opt-out language to Plaintiff and at least 40 other recipients or sent the same and other advertisements by fax with the required opt-out language but without first receiving the recipients' express invitation or permission and without having an established business relationship as defined by the TCPA and its regulations.

15. There is no reasonable means for Plaintiff (or any other class member) to avoid receiving unauthorized faxes. Fax machines are left on and ready to receive the urgent communications their owners desire to receive.

16. Defendants' facsimile attached as Exhibit A does not display a proper opt-out notice as required by 47 C.F.R. § 64.1200.

CLASS ACTION ALLEGATIONS

17. In accordance with Fed. R. Civ. P. 23(b)(1), (b)(2) and (b)(3), Plaintiff brings this class action pursuant to the JFPA, on behalf of the following class of persons:

All persons who (1) on or after four years prior to the filing of this action, (2) were sent telephone facsimile messages of material advertising the commercial availability or quality of any property, goods, or services by or on behalf of Defendants, (3) from whom Defendants did not obtain "prior express invitation or permission" to send fax advertisements, or (4) with whom Defendants did not have an established business relationship, and/or (5) which did not display a proper opt-out notice.

Excluded from the Class are the Defendants, their employees, agents and members of the Judiciary. Plaintiff seeks to certify a class which include but are not limited to the fax advertisements sent to Plaintiff. Plaintiff reserves the right to amend the class definition upon completion of class certification discovery.

18. <u>Class Size (Fed. R. Civ. P. 23(a)(1))</u>: Plaintiff is informed and believes, and upon such information and belief avers, that the number of persons and entities of the Plaintiff Class is

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numerous and joinder of all members is impracticable. Plaintiff is informed and believes, and upon such information and belief avers, that the number of class members is at least forty.

19. <u>Commonality (Fed. R. Civ. P. 23 (a) (2))</u>: Common questions of law and fact apply to the claims of all class members. Common material questions of fact and law include, but are not limited to, the following:

(a) Whether the Defendants sent unsolicited fax advertisements;

(b) Whether Defendants' faxes sent to other persons, not the Plaintiff, constitute advertisements;

(c) Whether the Defendants' faxes advertised the commercial availability or quality of property, goods, or services;

(d) The manner and method the Defendants used to compile or obtain the list of fax numbers to which they sent Exhibit A, other unsolicited faxed advertisements or other advertisements without the required opt-out language;

(e) Whether the Defendants faxed advertisements without first obtaining the recipient's prior invitation or permission;

(f) Whether the Defendants sent the faxed advertisements knowingly;

(g) Whether the Defendants violated the provisions of 47 U.S.C. § 227 and the regulations promulgated thereunder;

(h) Whether the faxes contain an "opt-out notice" that complies with the requirements of (b)(1)(C)(iii) of the Act, and the regulations promulgated thereunder, and the effect of the failure to comply with such requirements;

(i) Whether the Defendants should be enjoined from faxing advertisements in the future;

(j) Whether the Plaintiff and the other members of the class are entitled to statutory damages; and

(k) Whether the Court should award treble damages.

20. <u>Typicality (Fed. R. Civ. P. 23 (a) (3))</u>: The Plaintiff's claims are typical of the claims of all class members. The Plaintiff received the same or similar faxes as the faxes sent by or on behalf of the Defendants advertising products, goods and services of the Defendants during the Class Period. The Plaintiff is making the same claims and seeking the same relief for itself and all class members based upon the same federal statute. The Defendants have acted in the same or in a similar manner with respect to the Plaintiff and all the class members by sending Plaintiff and each member of the class the same or similar faxes or faxes which did not contain the proper opt-out language or were sent without prior express invitation or permission.

21. <u>Fair and Adequate Representation (Fed. R. Civ. P. 23 (a) (4))</u>: The Plaintiff will fairly and adequately represent and protect the interests of the class. It is interested in this matter, has no conflicts, and has retained experienced class counsel to represent the class.

22. <u>Need for Consistent Standards and Practical Effect of Adjudication (Fed. R. Civ.</u> <u>P. 23 (b) (1)):</u> Class certification is appropriate because the prosecution of individual actions by class members would: (a) create the risk of inconsistent adjudications that could establish incompatible standards of conduct for the Defendants, and/or (b) as a practical matter, adjudication of the Plaintiff's claims will be dispositive of the interests of class members who are not parties.

23. <u>Common Conduct (Fed. R. Civ. P. 23 (b) (2))</u>: Class certification is also appropriate because the Defendants have acted in the same or similar manner with respect to all class members thereby making injunctive and declaratory relief appropriate. The Plaintiff demands such relief as authorized by 47 U.S.C. §227.

24. <u>Predominance and Superiority (Fed. R. Civ. P. 23 (b) (3))</u>: Common questions of law and fact predominate over any questions affecting only individual members, and a class action is superior to other methods for the fair and efficient adjudication of the controversy because:

(a) Proof of the claims of the Plaintiff will also prove the claims of the class without the need for separate or individualized proceedings;

(b) Evidence regarding defenses or any exceptions to liability that the Defendants may assert and attempt to prove will come from the Defendants' records and will not require individualized or separate inquiries or proceedings;

(c) The Defendants have acted and are continuing to act pursuant to common policies or practices in the same or similar manner with respect to all class members;

(d) The amount likely to be recovered by individual class members does not support individual litigation. A class action will permit a large number of relatively small claims involving virtually identical facts and legal issues to be resolved efficiently in one proceeding based upon common proofs; and

(e) This case is inherently manageable as a class action in that:

(i) The Defendants identified persons to receive the fax transmissions and it is believed that the Defendants' and/or Defendants' agents' computers and business records will enable the Plaintiff to readily identify class members and establish liability and damages;

(ii) Liability and damages can be established for the Plaintiff and the class with the same common proofs;

(iii) Statutory damages are provided for in the statute and are the same for all class members and can be calculated in the same or a similar manner;

(iv) A class action will result in an orderly and expeditious administration of claims and it will foster economics of time, effort and expense;

(v) A class action will contribute to uniformity of decisions concerning the Defendants' practices; and

(vi) As a practical matter, the claims of the class are likely to go unaddressed absent class certification.

Claim for Relief for Violation of the JFPA, 47 U.S.C. § 227 et seq.

25. The JFPA makes it unlawful for any person to "use any telephone facsimile machine, computer or other device to send, to a telephone facsimile machine, an unsolicited advertisement" 47 U.S.C. § 227(b)(1)(C).

26. The JFPA defines "unsolicited advertisement" as "any material advertising the commercial availability or quality of any property, goods, or services which is transmitted to any person without that person's prior express invitation or permission, in writing or otherwise." 47 U.S.C. § 227 (a) (5).

27. **Opt-Out Notice Requirements.** The JFPA strengthened the prohibitions against the sending of unsolicited advertisements by requiring, in (b)(1)(C)(iii) of the Act, that senders of faxed advertisements place a clear and conspicuous notice on the first page of the transmission that contains the following among other things (hereinafter collectively the "Opt-Out Notice Requirements"):

(1) A statement that the recipient is legally entitled to opt-out of receiving future faxed advertisements – knowing that he or she has the legal right to request an opt-out gives impetus for recipients to make such a request, if desired;

A statement that the sender must honor a recipient's opt-out request within
30 days and the sender's failure to do so is unlawful – thereby encouraging recipients to

opt-out, if they did not want future faxes, by advising them that their opt-out requests will have legal "teeth";

(3) A statement advising the recipient that he or she may opt-out with respect to all of his or her facsimile telephone numbers and not just the ones that receive a faxed advertisement from the sender – thereby instructing a recipient on how to make a valid opt-out request for all of his or her fax machines;

(4) The opt-out language must be conspicuous.

The requirement of (1) above is incorporated from § (b)(D)(ii) of the Act. The requirement of (2) above is incorporated from § (b)(D)(ii) of the Act and the rules and regulations of the Federal Communications Commission (the "FCC") in ¶ 31 of its 2006 Report and Order (*In the Matter of Rules and Regulations Implementing the Telephone Consumer Protection Act, Junk Prevention Act of 2005,* 21 F.C.C.R. 3787, 2006 WL 901720, which rules and regulations took effect on August 1, 2006). The requirements of (3) above are contained in § (b)(2)(E) of the Act and incorporated into the Opt-Out Notice Requirements via § (b)(2)(D)(ii). Compliance with the Opt-Out Notice Requirements is neither difficult nor costly. The Opt-Out Notice Requirements are important consumer protections bestowed by Congress upon the owners of the telephone lines and fax machines giving them the right, and means, to stop unwanted faxed advertisements.

28. **2006 FCC Report and Order.** The JFPA, in § (b)(2) of the Act, directed the FCC to implement regulations regarding the JFPA, including the JFPA's Opt-Out Notice Requirements and the FCC did so in its 2006 Report and Order, which in addition provides among other things:

A. The definition of, and the requirements for, an established business relationship for purposes of the first of the three prongs of an exemption to liability under

(b)(1)(C)(i) of the Act and provides that the lack of an "established business relationship" precludes the ability to invoke the exemption contained in (b)(1)(C) of the Act (*See* 2006 Report and Order ¶¶ 8-12 and 17-20);

B. The required means by which a recipient's facsimile telephone number must be obtained for purposes of the second of the three prongs of the exemption under § (b)(1)(C)(ii) of the Act and provides that the failure to comply with these requirements precludes the ability to invoke the exemption contained in § (b)(1)(C) of the Act (*See* 2006 Report and Order ¶¶ 13-16);

C. The things that must be done in order to comply with the Opt-Out Notice Requirements for the purposes of the third of the three prongs of the exemption under § (b)(1)(C)(iii) of the Act and provides that the failure to comply with these requirements precludes the ability to invoke the exemption contained in § (b)(1)(C) of the Act (*See* 2006 Report and Order ¶¶ 24-34);

D. The failure of a sender to comply with the Opt-Out Notice Requirements precludes the sender from claiming that a recipient gave "prior express invitation or permission" to receive the sender's fax (*See* Report and Order ¶ 48).

As a result thereof, a sender of a faxed advertisement who fails to comply with the Opt-Out Notice Requirements has, by definition, transmitted an unsolicited advertisement under the JFPA. This is because such a sender can neither claim that the recipients of the faxed advertisement gave "prior express invitation or permission" to receive the fax nor can the sender claim the exemption from liability contained in § (b)(C)(1) of the Act.

29. **The Fax**. Defendants sent the advertisement on or about November 21, 2016, via facsimile transmission from telephone facsimile machines, computers, or other devices to the telephone lines and facsimile machines of Plaintiff and members of the Plaintiff Class. The Fax

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constituted an advertisement under the Act. Defendants failed to comply with the Opt-Out Requirements in connection with the Fax. The Fax was transmitted to persons or entities without their prior express invitation or permission and/or Defendants are precluded from asserting any prior express invitation or permission or that Defendants had an established business relationship with Plaintiff and other members of the class, because of the failure to comply with the Opt-Out Notice Requirements. By virtue thereof, Defendants violated the JFPA and the regulations promulgated thereunder by sending the Fax via facsimile transmission to Plaintiff and members of the Class. Plaintiff seeks to certify a class which includes this Fax and all others sent during the four years prior to the filing of this case through the present.

30. **Defendants' Other Violations.** Plaintiff is informed and believes, and upon such information and belief avers, that during the period preceding four years of the filing of this Complaint and repeatedly thereafter, Defendants have sent via facsimile transmission from telephone facsimile machines, computers, or other devices to telephone facsimile machines of members of the Plaintiff Class other faxes that constitute advertisements under the JFPA that were transmitted to persons or entities without their prior express invitation or permission (and/or that Defendants are precluded from asserting any prior express invitation or permission or that Defendants had an established business relationship because of the failure to comply with the Opt-Out Notice Requirements in connection with such transmissions). By virtue thereof, Defendants violated the JFPA and the regulations promulgated thereunder. Plaintiff is informed and believes, and upon such information and belief avers, that Defendants may be continuing to send unsolicited advertisements via facsimile transmission in violation of the JFPA and the regulations promulgated thereunder, will do so in the future.

31. The TCPA/JFPA provides a private right of action to bring this action on behalf of Plaintiff and the Plaintiff Class to redress Defendants' violations of the Act, and provides for statutory damages. 47 U.S.C. § 227(b)(3). The Act also provides that injunctive relief is appropriate. *Id*.

32. The JFPA is a strict liability statute, so the Defendants are liable to the Plaintiff and the other class members even if their actions were only negligent.

33. The Defendants knew or should have known that (a) the Plaintiff and the other class members had not given prior express invitation or permission for the Defendants or anybody else to fax advertisements about the Defendants' products, goods or services; (b) the Plaintiff and the other class members did not have an established business relationship; (c) Defendants transmitted advertisements; (d) the Faxes did not contain the required Opt-Out Notice; and (e) Defendants' transmission of advertisements that did not contain the required opt-out notice or were sent without prior express invitation or permission was unlawful.

34. The Defendants' actions caused damages to the Plaintiff and the other class members. Receiving the Defendants' junk faxes caused Plaintiff and the other recipients to lose paper and toner consumed in the printing of the Defendants' faxes. Moreover, the Defendants' faxes used the Plaintiff's and the other class members' telephone lines and fax machine. The Defendants' faxes cost the Plaintiff and the other class members time, as the Plaintiff and the other class members and their employees wasted their time receiving, reviewing and routing the Defendants' unauthorized faxes. That time otherwise would have been spent on the Plaintiff's and the other class members' business activities. The Defendants' faxes unlawfully interrupted the Plaintiff's and other class members' privacy interests in being left alone.

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WHEREFORE, Plaintiff, SCOMA CHIROPRACTIC, P. A., individually and on behalf of all others similarly situated, demands judgment in its favor and against Defendants, ALL CARE CONSULTANTS, INC. and JOHN DOES 1-5, jointly and severally, as follows:

A. That the Court adjudge and decree that the present case may be properly maintained as a class action, appoint the Plaintiff as the representative of the class, and appoint the Plaintiff's counsel as counsel for the class;

B. That the Court award actual monetary loss from such violations or the sum of five hundred dollars (\$500.00) for each violation, whichever is greater, and that the Court award treble damages of \$1,500.00 if the violations are deemed "willful or knowing";

C. That Court enjoin the Defendants from additional violations; and

D. That the Court award pre-judgment interest, costs, and such further relief as the Court may deem just and proper.

Respectfully submitted,

SCOMA CHIROPRACTIC, P. A., individually, and as the representative of a class of similarly-situated persons

By: <u>/s/ Ryan M. Kelly</u> Ryan M. Kelly – FL Bar No.: 90110

> ANDERSON + WANCA 3701 Algonquin Road, Suite 500 Rolling Meadows, IL 60008 Telephone: 847/368-1500 Fax: 847/368-1501 rkelly@andersonwanca.com

EXHIBIT A

.

Note, this is a one-time fax.

Please keep for your file or pass along to the doctor or practice manager.

From:

Dr. Lisa Goldberg at All Care Consulting Med Staffing.

We have DC's available for part time or vacation coverage to full time. Details/full brochure call 954 601-4173

If you want vacation coverage, sick-leave coverage, or want to open an additional day or two each week to SERVE more patients..... We staff Chiropractors and MD's. We have doctors in your area that we can provide you whenever you need! We would like the opportunity to help you with vacation coverage or to find you a Full-time or Part-time doctor if needed.

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All Care Consultants

JS 44 (Rev. 12/12) Case 2:17-cv-00183-UA-CM COVER SHEET 31/17 Page 1 of 2 PageID 16

The JS 44 civil cover sheet and the information contained herein neither replace nor supplement the filing and service of pleadings or other papers as required by law, except as provided by local rules of court. This form, approved by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required for the use of the Clerk of Court for the purpose of initiating the civil docket sheet. *(SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON NEXT PAGE OF THIS FORM.)* I. (a) PLAINTIFFS DEFENDANTS Scoma Chiropractic, S.A., a Florida corporation, individually and as the representative of a class of similarly-situated persons ALL CARE CONSULTANTS, INC. and John Does 1-5, (b) County of Residence of First Listed Plaintiff County of Residence of First Listed Defendant Lee (EXCEPT IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES) (IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES ONLY) IN LAND CONDEMNATION CASES, USE THE LOCATION OF THE TRACT OF LAND INVOLVED. NOTE Attorneys (If Known) (c) Attorneys (Firm Name, Address, and Telephone Number) ANDERSON + WANCA 847/368-1500 3701 Algonquin Road, Suite 500 Rolling Meadows, IL 60008 II. BASIS OF JURISDICTION (Place an "X" in One Box Only) III. CITIZENSHIP OF PRINCIPAL PARTIES (Place an "X" in One Box for Plaintiff and One Box for Defendant) (For Diversity Cases Only) DEF □ 1 U.S. Government ■ 3 Federal Ouestion PTF PTF DEF Plaintiff (U.S. Government Not a Party) Citizen of This State **D** 1 □ 1 Incorporated *or* Principal Place **D** 4 **D** 4 of Business In This State □ 2 U.S. Government □ 4 Diversity Citizen of Another State □ 2 **2** Incorporated and Principal Place **D** 5 Defendant (Indicate Citizenship of Parties in Item III) of Business In Another State Citizen or Subject of a **D** 6 **3** 3 Foreign Nation **D** 6 Foreign Country NATURE OF SUIT (Place an "X" in One Box Only, FORFEITURE/PENALTY CONTRACT BANKRUPTCY OTHER STATUTES TORTS PERSONAL INJURY □ 110 Insurance PERSONAL INJURY 625 Drug Related Seizure 422 Appeal 28 USC 158 375 False Claims Act □ 120 Marine □ 310 Airplane □ 365 Personal Injury of Property 21 USC 881 □ 423 Withdrawal 400 State Reapportionment □ 130 Miller Act □ 315 Airplane Product Product Liability □ 690 Other 28 USC 157 410 Antitrust 430 Banks and Banking 140 Negotiable Instrument Liability 367 Health Care/ PROPERTY RIGHTS □ 450 Commerce □ 150 Recovery of Overpayment □ 320 Assault, Libel & Pharmaceutical & Enforcement of Judgmen Slander Personal Injury 820 Copyrights 460 Deportation 151 Medicare Act 330 Federal Employers? Product Liability 830 Patent 470 Racketeer Influenced and 152 Recovery of Defaulted Liability 368 Asbestos Personal 840 Trademark Corrupt Organizations □ 340 Marine Student Loans Injury Product □ 480 Consumer Credit (Excludes Veterans) □ 345 Marine Product Liability SOCIAL SECURIT 490 Cable/Sat TV LABOR □ 153 Recovery of Overpayment PERSONAL PROPERTY □ 850 Securities/Commodities/ Liability 710 Fair Labor Standards 861 HIA (1395ff) □ 350 Motor Vehicle **370** Other Fraud □ 862 Black Lung (923) Exchange of Veteran's Benefits Act □ 863 DIWC/DIWW (405(g)) 160 Stockholders' Suits □ 355 Motor Vehicle □ 371 Truth in Lending 720 Labor/Management ✗ 890 Other Statutory Actions □ 190 Other Contract Product Liability 380 Other Personal Relations 864 SSID Title XVI 891 Agricultural Acts 195 Contract Product Liability □ 360 Other Personal Property Damage 740 Railway Labor Act □ 865 RSI (405(g)) 893 Environmental Matters 751 Family and Medical 196 Franchise Injury 385 Property Damage 895 Freedom of Information 362 Personal Injury -Product Liability Leave Act Act Medical Malpractice 790 Other Labor Litigation 896 Arbitration REAL PROPERTY PRISONER PETITIONS 899 Administrative Procedure CIVIL RIGHTS 791 Employee Retirement FEDERAL TAX SUITS Habeas Corpus: 870 Taxes (U.S. Plaintiff 440 Other Civil Rights 210 Land Condemnation Income Security Act Act/Review or Appeal of □ 220 Foreclosure □ 441 Voting 463 Alien Detainee Agency Decision or Defendant) 950 Constitutionality of □ 442 Employment 871 IRS—Third Party 230 Rent Lease & Ejectment 510 Motions to Vacate 240 Torts to Land □ 443 Housing/ Sentence 26 USC 7609 State Statutes 245 Tort Product Liability Accommodations 530 General 290 All Other Real Property 445 Amer. w/Disabilities 535 Death Penalty IMMIGRATION 462 Naturalization Application Employment Other: □ 446 Amer. w/Disabilities □ 540 Mandamus & Other □ 465 Other Immigration 550 Civil Rights Other Actions □ 448 Education □ 555 Prison Condition □ 560 Civil Detainee Conditions of Confinement V. ORIGIN (Place an "X" in One Box Only) **X**1 Original □ 2 Removed from **3** Remanded from **1**4 Reinstated or **1** 5 Transferred from **1**6 Multidistrict Proceeding State Court Appellate Court Another District Litigation Reopened (specify) Cite the U.S. Civil Statute under which you are filing (Do not cite jurisdictional statutes unless diversity): 47 U.S.C. Section 227 VI. CAUSE OF ACTION Brief description of cause Violation of the Telephone Consumer Protect Act/Junk Fax Prevention Act VII. REQUESTED IN **DEMAND \$** X CHECK IF THIS IS A CLASS ACTION CHECK YES only if demanded in complaint: UNDER RULE 23. F.R.Cv.P. **COMPLAINT:** JURY DEMAND: □ Yes X No VIII. RELATED CASE(S) (See instructions): IF ANY JUDGE DOCKET NUMBER DATE SIGNATURE OF ATTORNEY OF RECORD 03/30/2017 /s/ Ryan M. Kelly - FL #90110 FOR OFFICE USE ONLY RECEIPT # AMOUNT APPLYING IFP IUDGE MAG JUDGE Print Save As.. Reset

INSTRUCTIONS FOR ATTORNEYS COMPLETING CIVIL COVER SHEET FORM JS 44

Authority For Civil Cover Sheet

The JS 44 civil cover sheet and the information contained herein neither replaces nor supplements the filings and service of pleading or other papers as required by law, except as provided by local rules of court. This form, approved by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required for the use of the Clerk of Court for the purpose of initiating the civil docket sheet. Consequently, a civil cover sheet is submitted to the Clerk of Court for each civil complaint filed. The attorney filing a case should complete the form as follows:

- **I.(a) Plaintiffs-Defendants.** Enter names (last, first, middle initial) of plaintiff and defendant. If the plaintiff or defendant is a government agency, use only the full name or standard abbreviations. If the plaintiff or defendant is an official within a government agency, identify first the agency and then the official, giving both name and title.
- (b) County of Residence. For each civil case filed, except U.S. plaintiff cases, enter the name of the county where the first listed plaintiff resides at the time of filing. In U.S. plaintiff cases, enter the name of the county in which the first listed defendant resides at the time of filing. (NOTE: In land condemnation cases, the county of residence of the "defendant" is the location of the tract of land involved.)
- (c) Attorneys. Enter the firm name, address, telephone number, and attorney of record. If there are several attorneys, list them on an attachment, noting in this section "(see attachment)".

II. Jurisdiction. The basis of jurisdiction is set forth under Rule 8(a), F.R.Cv.P., which requires that jurisdictions be shown in pleadings. Place an "X" in one of the boxes. If there is more than one basis of jurisdiction, precedence is given in the order shown below. United States plaintiff. (1) Jurisdiction based on 28 U.S.C. 1345 and 1348. Suits by agencies and officers of the United States are included here. United States defendant. (2) When the plaintiff is suing the United States, its officers or agencies, place an "X" in this box.

Federal question. (3) This refers to suits under 28 U.S.C. 1331, where jurisdiction arises under the Constitution of the United States, an amendment to the Constitution, an act of Congress or a treaty of the United States. In cases where the U.S. is a party, the U.S. plaintiff or defendant code takes precedence, and box 1 or 2 should be marked.

Diversity of citizenship. (4) This refers to suits under 28 U.S.C. 1332, where parties are citizens of different states. When Box 4 is checked, the citizenship of the different parties must be checked. (See Section III below; **NOTE: federal question actions take precedence over diversity cases.**)

- **III. Residence (citizenship) of Principal Parties.** This section of the JS 44 is to be completed if diversity of citizenship was indicated above. Mark this section for each principal party.
- **IV.** Nature of Suit. Place an "X" in the appropriate box. If the nature of suit cannot be determined, be sure the cause of action, in Section VI below, is sufficient to enable the deputy clerk or the statistical clerk(s) in the Administrative Office to determine the nature of suit. If the cause fits more than one nature of suit, select the most definitive.
- V. Origin. Place an "X" in one of the six boxes.

Original Proceedings. (1) Cases which originate in the United States district courts.

Removed from State Court. (2) Proceedings initiated in state courts may be removed to the district courts under Title 28 U.S.C., Section 1441. When the petition for removal is granted, check this box.

Remanded from Appellate Court. (3) Check this box for cases remanded to the district court for further action. Use the date of remand as the filing date.

Reinstated or Reopened. (4) Check this box for cases reinstated or reopened in the district court. Use the reopening date as the filing date. Transferred from Another District. (5) For cases transferred under Title 28 U.S.C. Section 1404(a). Do not use this for within district transfers or multidistrict litigation transfers.

Multidistrict Litigation. (6) Check this box when a multidistrict case is transferred into the district under authority of Title 28 U.S.C. Section 1407. When this box is checked, do not check (5) above.

- VI. Cause of Action. Report the civil statute directly related to the cause of action and give a brief description of the cause. Do not cite jurisdictional statutes unless diversity. Example: U.S. Civil Statute: 47 USC 553 Brief Description: Unauthorized reception of cable service
- VII. Requested in Complaint. Class Action. Place an "X" in this box if you are filing a class action under Rule 23, F.R.Cv.P. Demand. In this space enter the actual dollar amount being demanded or indicate other demand, such as a preliminary injunction. Jury Demand. Check the appropriate box to indicate whether or not a jury is being demanded.
- VIII. Related Cases. This section of the JS 44 is used to reference related pending cases, if any. If there are related pending cases, insert the docket numbers and the corresponding judge names for such cases.

Date and Attorney Signature. Date and sign the civil cover sheet.

ClassAction.org

This complaint is part of ClassAction.org's searchable class action lawsuit database and can be found in this post: <u>All Care Consultants Hit with Lawsuit Over Unsolicited Faxes</u>