UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT EASTERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

MENACHEM TEITLEBAUM on behalf of himself and all other similarly situated consumers

Plaintiff,

-against-

CAPITAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT, INC.

Defendant.

CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT

Introduction

 Plaintiff Menachem Teitlebaum seeks redress for the illegal practices of Capital Resource Management, Inc. concerning the collection of debts, in violation of the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, 15 U.S.C. § 1692, et *seq.* ("FDCPA").

Parties

- 2. Plaintiff is a citizen of the State of New York who resides within this District.
- 3. Plaintiff is a consumer as that term is defined by Section 1692(a)(3) of the FDCPA, in that the alleged debt that Defendant sought to collect from Plaintiff is a consumer debt.
- Upon information and belief, Defendant's principal place of business is located in Merrick, New York.
- 5. Defendant is regularly engaged, for profit, in the collection of debts allegedly owed by consumers.
- 6. Defendant is a "debt collector" as that term is defined by the FDCPA, 15 U.S.C. § 1692(a)(6).

Jurisdiction and Venue

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

Allegations Particular to Menachem Teitlebaum

- 9. Upon information and belief, on a date better known by Defendant, Defendant began to attempt to collect an alleged consumer debt from the Plaintiff.
- 10. On or about November 8, 2016 and January 12, 2017, Defendant sent the Plaintiff collection letters seeking to collect a balance allegedly incurred for personal purposes.
- 11. The January 12, 2017 in particular, stated the following: "Your account has been forwarded to our legal counsel and is currently under review. As of this date you have failed to remit the \$1,087.00 that you owe to our client. As a result of you failure to pay your debt, all available options are being considered to collect on this debt including legal action. If a lawsuit is instituted we will seek the maximum interest and fees as permitted by law."
- 12. On January 18, 2017, following the Defendant's review of Plaintiff's Class Action Complaint, the Defendant's counsel, Laura J. Lowenstein & Associates, LLC stated that the Creditor Dr. Lawrence Tessler, DPM, PLLC was seeking to file a lawsuit against Mr. Teilebaum, to obtain the amount due, and any accruing interest, costs and attorneys' fees, as per the alleged contract.
- 13. Such a statement by the Defendant's counsel was deceptive and misleading as it implied that the Defendant's November 8, 2016 letter merely identified the "BALANCE," yet

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failed to disclose that the balance may increase due to interest and fees.

- 14. The Plaintiff was left uncertain as to whether the "BALANCE" was accruing interest as there was no disclosure that indicated otherwise.
- 15. A reasonable consumer could read the notice and be misled into believing that he could pay his debt in full by paying the amount listed on the notice.
- 16. In fact, however, since interest is accruing daily, or since there are undisclosed late fees, as Defendant had warned as such, in the January 12, 2017 letter, a consumer who pays the "BALANCE" stated in the November 8, 2016 letter will not know whether the debt has been paid in full.
- 17. The debt collector could still seek the interest and fees that accumulated after the notice was sent but before the balance was paid, or sell the consumer's debt to a third party, which itself could seek the interest and fees from the consumer.
- 18. Specifically, the Plaintiff received a subsequent collection letter from the Defendant which informed him that Defendant would seek the maximum interest and fees, in the event that a lawsuit was instituted by the Defendant against him.
- 19. The statement of a "BALANCE", without notice that the amount is already increasing due to accruing interest or other charges, would mislead the least sophisticated consumer into believing that payment of the amount stated will clear his or her account.
- 20. The FDCPA requires debt collectors, when notifying consumers of their account balance, to disclose that the balance may increase due to interest and fees; failure to include such disclosures would harm consumers such as the Plaintiff who may hold the reasonable but mistaken belief, that timely payment will satisfy their debts and it would abrogate the Congressional purpose of full and fair disclosure to consumers that is

embodied in Section 1692e.

- Collection notices that state only the "BALANCE," but do not disclose that the balance might increase due to interest and fees, are "misleading" within the meaning of Section 1692e.
- 22. The Plaintiff and the least sophisticated consumer would be led to believe that the "BALANCE" is static and that his or her payment of the amount due would satisfy the debt irrespective of when payment was remitted.
- In fact, however, interest was accruing daily as implied by the above statement from Defendant's counsel.
- 24. A consumer who pays the "BALANCE" stated on the collection letter will be left unsure as to whether or not the debt has been paid in full, as the Defendant could still attempt to collect on any interest and fees that accumulated after the letter was sent but before the balance was paid.
- 25. The Defendant violated 15 U.S.C. § 1692e(2)(A) for misrepresenting the amount of the debt owed by the Plaintiff.
- 26. A debt collector, when notifying a consumer of his or her account balance, must disclose that the balance may increase due to interest and fees.
- 27. 15 U.S.C. § 1692e provides:

A debt collector may not use any false, deceptive, or misleading representation or means in connection with the collection of any debt. Without limiting the general application of the foregoing, the following conduct is a violation of this section:

- (2) The false representation of --
- (A) the character, amount, or legal status of any debt; or
- (10) the use of any false representation or deceptive means to collect or

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attempt to collect any debt or to obtain information concerning a consumer.

- 28. The said letters are standardized form letters.
- 29. Upon information and belief, the Defendant's collection letters, such as the said collection letters, number in the hundreds.
- 30. Defendant's November 8, 2016 and January 12, 2017 letters is in violation of 15 U.S.C. §§ 1692e, 1692e(2)(A) and 1692e(10) of the FDCPA for the use of any false representation or deceptive means to collect or attempt to collect any debt and for misrepresenting the amount of the debt owed by the Plaintiff.
- 31. The Plaintiff had hired an attorney with regard to the above mentioned debt, and his attorney, Adam J. Fishbein, Esq. had brought this action to the attention of the Defendant for claims under the FDCPA.
- 32. Following the Plaintiff's attorney's correspondence with the Defendant, the Defendant attempted to contact the Plaintiff directly, sending him collection letters, although aware that the Plaintiff was represented by counsel.
- 33. Section 1692b of the FDCPA provides:

Any debt collector communicating with any person other than the consumer for the purpose of acquiring location information about the consumer shall –

(6) After the debt collector knows the consumer is represented by an attorney with regard to the subject debt and has knowledge of, or can readily ascertain, such attorney's name and address, not communicate with any person other than that attorney, unless the attorney fails to respond within a reasonable period of time to the communication from the debt collector.

Section 1692c of the FDCPA provides:

(a) COMMUNICATION WITH THE CONSUMER GENERALLY. Without the prior consent of the consumer given directly to the debt collector or the express permission of a court of competent jurisdiction, a debt collector may not communicate with a consumer in connection with the collection of any debt --

(2) if the debt collector knows the consumer is represented by an attorney with respect to such debt and has knowledge of, or can readily ascertain, such attorney's name and address, unless the attorney fails to respond within a reasonable period of time to a communication from the debt collector or unless the attorney consents to direct communication with the consumer.

- 34. Defendant's conduct aggravated and harassed the Plaintiff.
- 35. Upon information and belief, the Defendant has repeatedly engaged in similar harassing conduct.
- 36. The Defendant knew or should have known that its actions violated the FDCPA.
- 37. Defendant violated 15 U.S.C. §§ 1692b(6) and 1692c(a)(2) of the FDCPA for communicating with the Plaintiff, though the Defendant had the knowledge that Plaintiff was represented by an attorney.
- Plaintiff suffered injury in fact by being subjected to unfair and abusive practices of the Defendant.
- 39. Plaintiff suffered actual harm by being the target of the Defendant's misleading debt collection communications.
- 40. Defendant violated the Plaintiff's right not to be the target of misleading debt collection communications.
- 41. Defendant violated the Plaintiff's right to a truthful and fair debt collection process.
- 42. Defendant used materially false, deceptive, misleading representations and means in its attempted collection of Plaintiff's alleged debt.
- 43. Defendant's communications were designed to cause the debtor to suffer a harmful disadvantage in charting a course of action in response to Defendant's collection efforts.

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- 44. The FDCPA ensures that consumers are fully and truthfully apprised of the facts and of their rights, the act enables them to understand, make informed decisions about, and participate fully and meaningfully in the debt collection process. The purpose of the FDCPA is to provide information that helps consumers to choose intelligently. The Defendant's false representations misled the Plaintiff in a manner that deprived him of his right to enjoy these benefits, these materially misleading statements trigger liability under section 1692e of the Act.
- 45. These deceptive communications additionally violated the FDCPA since they frustrate the consumer's ability to intelligently choose his or her response.
- 46. As an actual and proximate result of the acts and omissions of Capital Resource Management, Inc., Plaintiff has suffered including but not limited to, fear, stress, mental anguish, emotional stress and acute embarrassment for which he should be compensated in an amount to be established by a jury at trial.

AS AND FOR A CAUSE OF ACTION

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

- 47. Plaintiff re-states, re-alleges, and incorporates herein by reference, paragraphs one (1) through forty six (46) as if set forth fully in this cause of action.
- 48. This cause of action is brought on behalf of Plaintiff and the members of two classes.
- 49. Class A consists of all persons whom Defendant's records reflect resided in the State of New York and who were sent a collection letter in substantially the same form letter as the letters sent to the Plaintiff on or about November 8, 2016 and January 12, 2017; and (a) the collection letters were sent to a consumer seeking payment of a personal debt purportedly owed to Lawrence Tesser, DPM, PLLC; and (b) the collection letters were

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not returned by the postal service as undelivered; (c) and the Plaintiff asserts that the letters contained violations of 15 U.S.C. §§ 1692e, 1692e(2)(A) and 1692e(10) of the FDCPA for the use of any false representation or deceptive means to collect or attempt to collect any debt and for misrepresenting the amount of the debt owed by the Plaintiff.

- 50. Class B consists of all persons whom Defendant's records reflect resided in the State of New York and who were sent a collection letter, (a) bearing the Defendant's letterhead in substantially the same form as the letters sent to the Plaintiff; (b) the collection letters was sent to a consumer seeking payment of a personal debt purportedly owed to Lawrence Tesser, DPM, PLLC; and (c) the collection letters were not returned by the postal service as undelivered; and (d) the Plaintiff asserts the Defendant violated 15 U.S.C. §§ 1692b(6) and 1692c(a)(2) of the FDCPA for communicating with the Plaintiff though the Defendant had the knowledge that Plaintiff was represented by an attorney.
- 51. Pursuant to Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 23, a class action is appropriate and preferable in this case because:
 - A. Based on the fact that form collection letters are at the heart of this litigation, the class is so numerous that joinder of all members is impracticable.
 - B. There are questions of law and fact common to the class and these questions predominate over any questions affecting only individual class members. The principal question presented by this claim is whether the Defendant violated the FDCPA.
 - C. The only individual issue is the identification of the consumers who received such collection letters (*i.e.* the class members), a matter capable of ministerial determination from the records of Defendant.

- D. The claims of the Plaintiff are typical of those of the class members. All are based on the same facts and legal theories.
- E. The Plaintiff will fairly and adequately represent the class members' interests. The Plaintiff has retained counsel experienced in bringing class actions and collection-abuse claims. The Plaintiff's interests are consistent with those of the members of the class.
- 52. A class action is superior for the fair and efficient adjudication of the class members' claims. Congress specifically envisions class actions as a principal means of enforcing the FDCPA. 15 U.S.C. § 1692(k). The members of the class are generally unsophisticated individuals, whose rights will not be vindicated in the absence of a class action. Prosecution of separate actions by individual members of the classes would create the risk of inconsistent or varying adjudications resulting in the establishment of inconsistent or varying standards for the parties and would not be in the interest of judicial economy.
- 53. If the facts are discovered to be appropriate, the Plaintiff will seek to certify a class pursuant to Rule 23(b)(3) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure.
- 54. Collection attempts, such as those made by the Defendant are to be evaluated by the objective standard of the hypothetical "least sophisticated consumer."

Violations of the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act

55. The Defendant's actions as set forth above in the within complaint violates the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act. 56. Because the Defendant violated the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, the Plaintiff and the members of the class are entitled to damages in accordance with the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff, respectfully requests preliminary and permanent injunctive relief, and that this Court enter judgment in his favor and against the Defendant and award damages as follows:

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

Dated: Woodmere, New York October 16, 2017

> /s/ Adam J. Fishbein Adam J. Fishbein, P.C. (AF-9508) Attorney At Law Attorney for the Plaintiff 735 Central Avenue Woodmere, New York 11598 Telephone: (516) 668-6945 Email: fishbeinadamj@gmail.com

Plaintiff requests trial by jury on all issues so triable.

/s/ Adam J. Fishbein Adam J. Fishbein (AF-9508) Case 1:17-cv-06028 Document 1 Filed 10/16/17 Page 11 of 12 PageID #: 11



Capital Resource Management, Inc.

2005 Merrick Road, Ste. 116 Merrick, NY 11566 www.crmcollect.com Tel 516-442-4045 Fax 516-430-5015 Toll Free 1-844-277-3277

November 8, 2016

ACCOUNT STATUS: Pre-Legal

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

MENACHEM TEITLEBAUM 815 JEFFERSON ST. WOODMERE, NY 11598



C.R.M. FILE#: 18776 CREDITOR ACCOUNT#: N/A CREDITOR: Lawrence Tesser, DPM, PLLC BALANCE: \$1,087.00

Dear MENACHEM TEITLEBAUM,

This is your final opportunity to settle this account prior to it being forwarded to our legal counsel for review. Since, to date, you have failed to remit the \$1,087.00 that is owed, all available options are being considered to collect on this debt including legal action.

In an effort to amicably resolve this matter, we are offering you the following options to settle your account for less than the full balance:

_ OPTION I:One (1) payment in the discounted amount of \$989.17 as settlement of this debt.

OPTION II: Three (3) equal payments in the discounted amount of \$344.21 each as settlement of this debt. Payments can be no more than thirty (30) days apart. If, for any reason, a payment is not made on time, this installment plan shall automatically terminate and your full non-discounted Account Balance, less any payments made, shall be immediately due and owing.

To receive this offer initial one option above and send your check or money order <u>payable to Capital</u> <u>Resource Management, Inc. to the letterhead address</u>. Failure to send your payment to Capital Resource Mangement will render this offer null and void. This offer expires FOURTEEN (14) DAYS from the date of this notice

NOTICE: WE ARE NOT OBLIGATED TO RENEW THIS OFFER AND IF YOU FAIL TO SATISY THIS DEBT ACTION MAY BE BROUGHT AGAINST YOU WITHOUT FURTHER NOTICE. YOU ARE ADVISED TO BE GUIDED ACCORDINGLY

Collections Manager

LEGAL NOTICES

THIS IS AN ATTEMPT TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. THIS COMMUNICATION IS FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR. > INFORMATION ON A PAST DUE ACCOUNT MAY BE FURNISHED TO A NATIONAL CREDIT REPORTING AGENCY FOR INCLUSION ON THE DEBTOR'S PERSONAL CREDIT PROFILE. > NYC Dep't. of Consumer Affairs License No. 1398052 > NOTICE: CAPITAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT, INC. FURNISHES CONSUMER INFORMATION TO NATIONAL CREDIT REPORTING AGENCIES. CONSUMERS MAY WRITE TO THE LETTERHEAD ADDRESS TO REPORT INACCURATE INFORMATION. Case 1:17-cv-06028 Document 1 Filed 10/16/17 Page 12 of 12 PageID #: 12



Capital Resource Management, Inc.

2005 Merrick Road, Ste. 116 Merrick, NY 11566 www.ermcollect.com Tel 516-442-4045 Fax 516-430-5015 Toll Free 1-844-277-3277

DATE OF NOTICE: January 12, 2017

ACCOUNT STATUS ...: Legal Review

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

MENACHEM TEITLEBAUM 815 JEFFERSON ST. WOODMERE, NY 11598



C.R.M. FILE#: 18776 CREDITOR ACCOUNT#: N/A CREDITOR: Lawrence Tesser, DPM, PLLC BALANCE: \$1,087.00

THIS LETTER CONTAINS IMPORTANT NOTIFICATIONS AND DISCLOSURES AS REQUIRED BY LAW

Dear MENACHEM TEITLEBAUM,

Your account has been forwarded to our legal counsel and is currently under review. As of this date you have failed to remit the \$1,087.00 that you owe our client. As a result of your failure to pay your debt, all available options are being considered to collect on this debt including legal action. If a lawsuit is instituted we will seek the maximum interest and fees as permitted by law.

As a final effort to amicably resolve this matter and avoid the potential for any further action against you, we are offering you the following option to settle your account for less than the full balance:

>>> One (1) payment in the discounted amount of \$1,032.65 as settlement of this debt.

This offer expires FOURTEEN (14) DAYS from the date of this notice. To receive this offer you must send your check or money order <u>payable to Capital Resource Management, Inc. to the letterhead address</u> and include your File# on the face of your payment. Failure to send your payment to Capital Resource Management will nullify this offer.

NOTICE: WE ARE NOT OBLIGATED TO RENEW THIS OFFER AND IF YOU FAIL TO SATISFY THIS DEBT ACTION MAY BE BROUGHT AGAINST YOU WITHOUT FURTHER NOTICE. YOU ARE ADVISED TO BE GUIDED ACCORDINGLY.

Collections Manager

LEGAL NOTICES

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 INFORMATION ON A PAST DUE ACCOUNT MAY BE FURNISHED TO A NATIONAL CREDIT REPORTING AGENCY FOR INCLUSION ON THE DEBTOR'S PERSONAL CREDIT PROFILE > NYC Dep't. of Consumer Affairs License No. 1398052
 FCRA NOTICE: CAPITAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT, INC. FURNISHES CONSUMER INFORMATION TO NATIONAL CREDIT REPORTING AGENCIES. CONSUMERS MAY WRITE TO THE LETTERHEAD ADDRESS TO REPORT INACCURATE INFORMATION. Case 1:17-cv-06028 Document 1-1 Filed 10/16/17 Page 1 of 2 PageID #: 13

AO 440 (Rev. 06/12) Summons in a Civil Action

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

for the

Eastern District of New York

MENACHEM TEITLEBAUM
<i>Plaintiff(s)</i>
V.
CAPITAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT, INC.
Defendant(s)

Jenuani(s)

SUMMONS IN A CIVIL ACTION

Civil Action No.

To: (Defendant's name and address) CAPITAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT, INC. 2116 MERRICK AVE. SUITE 3002 MERRICK, NEW YORK, 11566

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: Adam J. Fishbein, P.C. 735 Central Avenue

Woodmere NY 11598

If you fail to respond, judgment by default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the complaint. You also must file your answer or motion with the court.

CLERK OF COURT

Date: _____

Signature of Clerk or Deputy Clerk

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AO 440 (Rev. 06/12) Summons in a Civil Action (Page 2)

Civil Action No.

PROOF OF SERVICE

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

	ne of individual and title, if any)			
eceived by me on (date)	·			
□ I personally served	the summons on the individual a	t (place)		
		on (date)	; or	
\Box I left the summons	at the individual's residence or u	sual place of abode with (name)		
	, a persor	n of suitable age and discretion who res	sides there,	
on (date)	, and mailed a copy to t	he individual's last known address; or		
\Box I served the summo	ons on (name of individual)		, W	ho is
designated by law to	accept service of process on beha			
		on (date)	; or	
□ I returned the sum	nons unexecuted because			; or
O Other (<i>specify</i>):				
My fees are \$	for travel and \$	for services, for a total of \$	0.00	
I declare under penalt	y of perjury that this information	is true.		
		Server's signature		
		Printed name and title		
	 ceived by me on (<i>date</i>) I personally served I left the summons on (<i>date</i>) I served the summond designated by law to a designated by law to designated by law to a designated by law to	 I personally served the summons on the individual a I left the summons at the individual's residence or u, a person on (<i>date</i>), and mailed a copy to t I served the summons on (<i>name of individual</i>) designated by law to accept service of process on beha I returned the summons unexecuted because Other (<i>specify</i>): My fees are \$ for travel and \$ 	ceived by me on (date)	ceived by me on (<i>date</i>)

Additional information regarding attempted service, etc:

Server's address

JS 44 (Rev. 1/2013) Case 1:17-cv-06028 Document Covers 10(16/17) Page 1 of 2 PageID #: 15

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				
MENACHEM TEITLEBAUM			CAPITAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT, INC.			
(b) County of Residence of First Listed Plaintiff <u>Nassau</u> (EXCEPT IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES)			County of Residence of First Listed Defendant <u>Nassau</u> (IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES ONLY) NOTE: IN LAND CONDEMNATION CASES, USE THE LOCATION OF THE TRACT OF LAND INVOLVED.			
(c) Attorneys (Firm Name, Address, and Telephone Number) Adam J. Fishbein			Attorneys (If Known)			
735 Central Avenue Woodmere, NY 11598	fishbeinadamj@gmail.com 516 668 6945					
II. BASIS OF JURISDI	CTION (Place an "X" in One Box Only)	III. C		RINCIPAL PARTIES	(Place an "X" in One Box for Plaintiff	
☑ 1 U.S. Government Plaintiff	 General Question (U.S. Government Not a Party) 	Citiz	(For Diversity Cases Only) P1 een of This State			
□ 2 U.S. Government Defendant	4 Diversity (Indicate Citizenship of Parties in Item III)		ten of Another State	2 2 Incorporated and F of Business In A		
			ten or Subject of a oreign Country	3 🗖 3 Foreign Nation		
IV. NATURE OF SUIT						
CONTRACT 110 Insurance	TORTS PERSONAL INJURY PERSONAL INJ		ORFEITURE/PENALTY	BANKRUPTCY ☐ 422 Appeal 28 USC 158	OTHER STATUTES □ 375 False Claims Act	
 120 Marine 130 Miller Act 140 Negotiable Instrument 150 Recovery of Overpayment & Enforcement of Judgment 151 Medicare Act 	 310 Airplane 315 Airplane Product Liability 320 Assault, Libel & Slander 330 Federal Employers' 365 Personal Injur Product Liabi 367 Health Care/ Pharmaceutica Personal Injur 	y - lity □ 69 ul y ity	25 Drug Related Seizure of Property 21 USC 881 90 Other	 423 Withdrawal 28 USC 157 PROPERTY RIGHTS 820 Copyrights 830 Patent 	 400 State Reapportionment 410 Antitrust 430 Banks and Banking 450 Commerce 460 Deportation 470 Racketeer Influenced and 	
 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 	Liability 368 Asbestos Pers 340 Marine Product Liability PERSONAL PRO 355 Motor Vehicle 370 Other Fraud 355 Motor Vehicle 370 Other Personal Injury Product Liability Product Liability 360 Other Personal Injury Construction of the personal Injury Product Liability Product Liability 362 Personal Injury - Medical Malpractice	rt PERTY 0 7 ing 0 7 l age 0 7 age 0 7 ity 0 7	LABOR 10 Fair Labor Standards Act 20 Labor/Management Relations 40 Railway Labor Act 51 Family and Medical Leave Act 90 Other Labor Litigation	 □ 840 Trademark ■ SOCIAL SECURITY □ 861 HIA (1395ff) □ 862 Black Lung (923) □ 863 DIWC/DIWW (405(g)) □ 864 SSID Title XVI □ 865 RSI (405(g)) 	Corrupt Organizations 480 Consumer Credit 490 Cable/Sat TV 850 Securities/Commodities/ Exchange 890 Other Statutory Actions 891 Agricultural Acts 893 Environmental Matters 895 Freedom of Information Act 896 Arbitration	
REAL PROPERTY 210 Land Condemnation 220 Foreclosure 230 Rent Lease & Ejectment 240 Torts to Land 245 Tort Product Liability 290 All Other Real Property	CIVIL RIGHTS PRISONER PETTI 440 Other Civil Rights Habeas Corpus: 441 Voting 463 Alien Detaine 442 Employment 510 Motions to Va 443 Housing/ Sentence Accommodations 530 General 445 Amer. w/Disabilities - 535 Death Penalty	e icate	91 Employee Retirement Income Security Act IMMIGRATION	FEDERAL TAX SUITS □ 870 Taxes (U.S. Plaintiff or Defendant) □ 871 IRS—Third Party 26 USC 7609	 899 Administrative Procedure Act/Review or Appeal of Agency Decision 950 Constitutionality of State Statutes 	
	Employment Other: 446 Amer. w/Disabilities - 540 Mandamus & Other 550 Civil Rights 448 Education 555 Prison Condit 560 Civil Detainee Conditions of Confinement	Other 🗖 4	62 Naturalization Application 65 Other Immigration Actions			
V. ORIGIN (Place an "X" in						
	noved from a Remanded from Appellate Court	Reo	(specify)	r District Litigation		
VI. CAUSE OF ACTIO	ON Cite the U.S. Civil Statute under which you 15 USC 1692 FAIR DEBT COLLE Brief description of cause: deception in amount of the debt a	CTION PI	RACTICES ACT			
VII. REQUESTED IN COMPLAINT:	CHECK IF THIS IS A CLASS ACT UNDER RULE 23, F.R.Cv.P.	ION D	DEMAND \$	CHECK YES only JURY DEMAND:	if demanded in complaint: ★ Yes □ No	
VIII. RELATED CASH IF ANY	E(S) (See instructions): JUDGE			DOCKET NUMBER		
DATE 10/16/2017 EOR OFFICE USE ONLY	SIGNATURE OF /S/ ADAM J.					
FOR OFFICE USE ONLY RECEIPT #	APPLYING I	FP	JUDGE	MAG. JUI	DGE	

Case 1:17-cv-06028 Document 1-2 Filed 10/16/17 Page 2 of 2 PageID #: 16 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>ADAM J. FISHBEIN</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 CLASS ACTION

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:

NONE

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)

- 1.) 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 of omissions giving rise to the claim or claims, or a substantial part thereof, occur in the Eastern District? YES

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

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

BAR ADMISSION

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

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

(If yes, please explain)

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X	No

I certify the accuracy of all information provided above.

Yes

Signature: /S/ ADAM J. FISHBEIN

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