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Our File No.: 112505

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
EASTERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK**

Jennifer Hertzovitz, individually and on behalf of all  
others similarly situated,

Plaintiff,

vs.

United Collection Bureau, Inc.,

Defendant.

Docket No:

**CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT**

**JURY TRIAL DEMANDED**

BARSHAY | SANDERS PLLC  
100 GARDEN CITY PLAZA, SUITE 500  
GARDEN CITY, NEW YORK 11530

Jennifer Hertzovitz, individually and on behalf of all others similarly situated (hereinafter referred to as “*Plaintiff*”), by and through the undersigned counsel, complains, states and alleges against United Collection Bureau, Inc. (hereinafter referred to as “*Defendant*”), 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, Defendant conducted business within the State of New York.

## PARTIES

5. Plaintiff Jennifer Hertzovitz is an individual who is a citizen of the State of New York residing in Suffolk County, New York.

6. Plaintiff is a “consumer” as defined by 15 U.S.C. § 1692a(3).

7. On information and belief, Defendant United Collection Bureau, Inc., is an Ohio Corporation with a principal place of business in Lucas County, Ohio.

8. Defendant is regularly engaged, for profit, in the collection of debts allegedly owed by consumers.

9. Defendant is a “debt collector” as defined by 15 U.S.C. § 1692a(6).

## ALLEGATIONS

10. Defendant alleges Plaintiff owes a debt (“the Debt”).

11. The Debt was primarily for personal, family or household purposes and is therefore a “debt” as defined by 15 U.S.C. § 1692a(5).

12. Sometime after the incurrence of the Debt, Plaintiff fell behind on payments owed.

13. Thereafter, at an exact time known only to Defendant, the Debt was assigned or otherwise transferred to Defendant for collection.

14. In its efforts to collect the debt, Defendant contacted Plaintiff by letter (“the Letter”) dated May 13, 2016. (“Exhibit 1.”)

15. The Letter is a “communication” as defined by 15 U.S.C. § 1692a(2).

16. 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.

17. 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.

18. The question of whether a collection letter is deceptive is determined from the perspective of the “least sophisticated consumer.”

19. 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.

20. 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.

21. A debt collector has the obligation not just to convey the amount of the debt, but to convey such clearly.

22. 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.

23. The amount of the debt is a material piece of information to a consumer.

24. Knowing the amount of the debt affects how a consumer responds to a debt collector's attempts to collect the debt.

25. 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.

26. 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.

27. 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.

28. 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.

29. 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.

30. 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.

31. 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.

32. 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.

33. The Debt was incurred on a credit card issued by Citibank, N.A.

34. At all relevant times herein, the Debt accrued, and was subject to, interest.

35. At all relevant times herein, the Debt accrued, and was subject to, late fees.

36. The Letter sets forth a "Current Account Balance."

37. The Letter fails to state what part of the amount stated is principal.

38. The Letter fails to state what part of the amount stated is interest.

39. The Letter fails to state what part of the amount stated is late fees.

40. The Letter fails to disclose whether the amount stated may increase due to additional interest.

41. The Letter fails to disclose whether the amount stated may increase due to additional late fees.

42. The Letter fails to indicate whether payment of the amount stated would satisfy the debt.

43. The Letter fails to indicate whether payment of the amount stated by any date certain would satisfy the debt.

44. The Letter includes a settlement offer.

45. The Letter fails to indicate whether the amount stated may increase due to additional interest if the settlement is not accepted.

46. The Letter fails to indicate whether the amount stated may increase due to additional late fees if the settlement is not accepted.

47. The Letter fails to indicate the minimum amount Plaintiff owed at the time of the Letter.

48. 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.

49. The Letter fails to include any “safe harbor” language concerning the accrual of interest.

50. The Letter fails to include any “safe harbor” language concerning the accrual of late fees.

51. 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.

52. 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.

53. 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.

54. 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.

55. 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 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.

56. 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.

57. 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.

58. 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.

59. 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.

60. 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.

61. 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.

62. 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.

63. 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.

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 indicate the amount of late fees.

65. 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.

66. 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.

67. 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.

68. 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.

69. The failure to include the foregoing information could lead the least sophisticated consumer to inaccurately interpret the message.

70. The failure to include the foregoing information renders the Letter's statement of the amount of the debt, even if otherwise accurate, incomplete.

71. The failure to include the foregoing information renders the Letter susceptible to an inaccurate reading by the least sophisticated consumer.

72. 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.

73. The failure to include the foregoing information renders the Letter's statement of the amount of the debt, even if otherwise accurate, insufficient.

74. 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.

75. For these reasons, Defendant violated 15 U.S.C. § 1692e.

### CLASS ALLEGATIONS

76. Plaintiff brings this action individually and as a class action on behalf of all persons similarly situated in the State of New York from whom Defendant 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.

77. This action seeks a finding that Defendant's conduct violates the FDCPA, and asks that the Court award damages as authorized by 15 U.S.C. § 1692k.

78. Defendant regularly engages in debt collection.

79. The Class consists of more than 35 persons from whom Defendant attempted to collect delinquent consumer debts without disclosing in their collection letter whether interest and late fees were continuing to accrue.

80. Plaintiff's 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.

81. 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. Defendant has acted in a manner applicable to the Class as a whole such that declaratory relief is warranted.

82. Plaintiff 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 Defendant's conduct was perpetrated on all members of the Class and will be established by common proof. Moreover, Plaintiff has retained counsel experienced in actions brought under consumer protection laws.

**JURY DEMAND**

83. Plaintiff hereby demands a trial of this action by jury.

**PRAYER FOR RELIEF**

**WHEREFORE**, Plaintiff respectfully requests judgment as follows:

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

DATED: April 24, 2017

**BARSHAY SANDERS, PLLC**

By: /s/ Craig B. Sanders  
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 Plaintiff*  
Our File No.: 112505



JENNIFER E HERTZOVITZ  
4 ORANGE CT  
MOUNT SINAI NY 11766-1814

Creditor: CITIBANK, N.A.  
Regarding: CITI MASTERCARD  
Last Four Digits of Creditor Account Number: XXXXXXXXXXXX8729  
United Collection Bureau, Inc. Reference Number: [REDACTED] 9255  
Current Account Balance: \$3718.40

Dear JENNIFER E HERTZOVITZ:

On behalf of Citibank, United Collection Bureau, Inc. will accept a settlement in the amount of \$2,045.12 for the above referenced account. This settlement offer will save you the sum of \$1,673.28. To take advantage of this offer please ensure the total payment is received in our office by May 27, 2016. We are not obligated to renew this offer and this agreement is contingent upon clearance of funds.

If you wish to accept this offer, please contact our office to establish a payment method and date, or mail a copy of this letter together with your payment to the remit address below. Please make your check or money order payable to Citibank. When calling our office, please refer to settlement offer number [REDACTED] 0809 and your reference number [REDACTED] 9255.

In the event you are unable to accept this offer, we encourage you to contact our office to establish a payment arrangement toward the full balance of the account.

To make an easy one-time payment online, please go to: [www.ucbinc.com](http://www.ucbinc.com), click on make a payment and follow the prompts.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.

Sincerely,  
United Collection Bureau, Inc.

CITIBANK, N.A. will report any discharge of indebtedness as required by the Internal Revenue Code and corresponding IRS regulations. Please contact your tax advisor if you have any questions.

This is an attempt to collect a debt by United Collection Bureau, Inc., a debt collector, and any information obtained will be used for that purpose.

SEE REVERSE SIDE FOR IMPORTANT INFORMATION

24CU027000CSIF

PLEASE RETURN THIS PORTION WITH PAYMENT. DO NOT ATTACH CHECK TO STUB.  
PLEASE MAKE YOUR PAYMENT PAYABLE TO CITIBANK

PO BOX 140310  
TOLEDO OH 43614  
ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Creditor: CITIBANK, N.A.  
Regarding: CITI MASTERCARD  
Last Four Digits of Creditor Acct. Number: XXXXXXXXXXXX8729  
Current Account Balance: \$3718.40  
United Collection Bureau, Inc. Reference No: [REDACTED] 9255  
United Collection Bureau, Inc. Telephone No: 1-888-456-6655

REMIT TO:

May 13, 2016

UNITED COLLECTION BUREAU, INC.  
PO BOX 140310  
TOLEDO OH 43614

JENNIFER E HERTZOVITZ  
4 ORANGE CT  
MOUNT SINAI NY 11766-1814

816430073



When you provide a check as payment, you authorize us either to use information from your check to make a one-time electronic fund transfer from your account or to process the payment as a check transaction.

If the subject debt of this letter is time-barred, paying any amount on the account may revive the obligation to pay.

**CALIFORNIA:** The state Rosenthal Fair Debt Collection Practices Act and the federal Fair Debt Collection Practices Act require that, except under unusual circumstances, collectors may not contact you before 8 a.m. or after 9 p.m. They may not harass you by using threats of violence or arrest or by using obscene language. Collectors may not use false or misleading statements or call you at work if they know or have reason to know that you may not receive personal calls at work. For the most part, collectors may not tell another person, other than your attorney or spouse, about your debt. Collectors may contact another person to confirm your location or enforce a judgment. For more information about debt collection activities, you may contact the Federal Trade Commission at 1-877-FTC-HELP or [www.ftc.gov](http://www.ftc.gov). Nonprofit credit counseling services may be available in the area.

**COLORADO:** FOR INFORMATION ABOUT THE COLORADO FAIR DEBT COLLECTION PRACTICES ACT, SEE [WWW.AGO.STATE.CO.US/CADC/CADCMAN.CFM](http://WWW.AGO.STATE.CO.US/CADC/CADCMAN.CFM). A consumer has the right to request in writing that a debt collector or collection agency cease further communication with the consumer. A written request to cease communication will not prohibit the debt collector or collection agency from taking any other action authorized by law to collect the debt. Payments can be made in person at: Colorado Manager, Inc., Building B, 80 Garden Center, Suite 3, Broomfield, Colorado 80020, 303-920-4763.

**IDAHO:** Toll Free 1-866-209-0622 during normal business hours.

**KANSAS:** An investigative consumer report, which includes information as to your character, general reputation, personal characteristics and mode of living, has been requested. You have the right to request additional information, which includes the nature and scope of the investigation.

**MAINE:** Hours of operation (ET): Monday through Thursday, 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.; Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.; Saturday, 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

**MASSACHUSETTS: \*\*NOTICE OF IMPORTANT RIGHTS\*\*** You have the right to make a written or oral request that telephone calls regarding your debt not be made to you at your place of employment. Any such oral request will be valid for only ten days unless you provide written confirmation of the request postmarked or delivered within seven days of such request. You may terminate this request by writing to the debt collector. Hours of operation (ET): Monday through Thursday, 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.; Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.; Saturday, 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

**MINNESOTA:** This collection agency is licensed by the Minnesota Department of Commerce.

**NEW YORK CITY:** New York City Department of Consumer Affairs License Number 1004887.

**NORTH CAROLINA:** North Carolina Permit Numbers: 101866, 3843, 4022 and 4367.

**TENNESSEE:** This collection agency is licensed by the Collection Service Board of the Department of Commerce and Insurance.

**WISCONSIN:** This collection agency is licensed by the Division of Banking in the Wisconsin Department of Financial Institutions, [www.wdfi.org](http://www.wdfi.org).

Federal and State law prohibit certain methods of debt collection and require that we treat you fairly. You can stop us from contacting you by writing a letter to us that tells us to stop the contact. Sending such a letter does not make the debt go away if you owe it. Once we receive your letter, we may not contact you again, except to let you know that there won't be any more contact or that we intend to take a specific action. If you have a concern about the way we are collecting this debt, please call our toll-free Consumer Service Hotline 1-866-209-0622, email us at [UCBCompliance@ucbinc.com](mailto:UCBCompliance@ucbinc.com), or mail us at United Collection Bureau, Inc., Compliance Department, 5620 Southwyck Blvd, Ste. 206, Toledo, OH 43614. Please include your account number on all communication. If you have a complaint about the way we are collecting this debt, please contact the Ohio Attorney General's Office online at [www.ohioattorneygeneral.gov](http://www.ohioattorneygeneral.gov); by phone at 1-800-282-0515 between the hours of 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. ET Monday through Friday; or by mail at 30 E. Broad St., 14th Floor, Columbus, Ohio 43215.

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

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

for the

Eastern District of New York

Jennifer Hertzovitz, individually and on behalf of all others similarly situated

Plaintiff(s)

v.

United Collection Bureau, Inc.

Defendant(s)

Civil Action No.

SUMMONS IN A CIVIL ACTION

To: (Defendant's name and address) United Collection Bureau, Inc. CORPORATION SERVICE COMPANY 50 WEST BROAD STREET SUITE 1330 COLUMBUS, OH 43215

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 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

Civil Action No. \_\_\_\_\_

**PROOF OF SERVICE**

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

This summons for *(name of individual and title, if any)* \_\_\_\_\_  
was received by me on *(date)* \_\_\_\_\_ .

I personally served the summons on the individual 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 resides there,  
on *(date)* \_\_\_\_\_ , and mailed a copy to the individual's last known address; or

I served the summons 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 summons unexecuted because \_\_\_\_\_ ; or

Other *(specify)*:

My fees are \$ \_\_\_\_\_ for travel and \$ \_\_\_\_\_ for services, for a total of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ 0.00 .

I declare under penalty of perjury that this information is true.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Server's signature*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Printed name and title*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Server's address*

Additional information regarding attempted service, etc:

**Print**

**Save As...**

**Reset**

CIVIL COVER SHEET

The JS 44 civil cover sheet and the information contained herein neither replace nor supplement the filing and service of pleadings or other papers as required by law, except as provided by local rules of court. This form, approved by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required for the use of the Clerk of Court for the purpose of initiating the civil docket sheet. (SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON NEXT PAGE OF THIS FORM.)

I. (a) PLAINTIFFS: JENNIFER HERTZOVITZ
DEFENDANTS: UNITED COLLECTION BUREAU, INC.
(b) County of Residence of First Listed Plaintiff: SUFFOLK
(c) Attorneys: BARSHAY SANDERS, PLLC

II. BASIS OF JURISDICTION: U.S. Government Plaintiff
III. CITIZENSHIP OF PRINCIPAL PARTIES: Citizen of This State

IV. NATURE OF SUIT: CONTRACT, REAL PROPERTY, TORTS, CIVIL RIGHTS, PRISONER PETITIONS, FORFEITURE/PENALTY, LABOR, IMMIGRATION, BANKRUPTCY, SOCIAL SECURITY, FEDERAL TAX SUITS, OTHER STATUTES

V. ORIGIN: 1 Original Proceeding

VI. CAUSE OF ACTION: 15 USC §1692 Fair Debt Collection Practices Act Violation

VII. REQUESTED IN COMPLAINT: CHECK IF THIS IS A CLASS ACTION UNDER RULE 23, F.R.Cv.P.

VIII. RELATED CASE(S) IF ANY: (See Instructions) JUDGE DOCKET NUMBER

DATE: May 2, 2017 SIGNATURE OF ATTORNEY OF RECORD: /s Craig B. Sanders

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY: RECEIPT # AMOUNT APPLYING IFF JUDGE MAG. JUDGE

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, Craig B. Sanders, counsel for Plaintiff, 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 of 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)**

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
2. 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: /s Craig B. Sanders