

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS
EASTERN DIVISION**

FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION, and)	
)	
STATE OF ILLINOIS,)	
)	
Plaintiffs,)	Case No. 1:16-cv-3463
)	
v.)	Judge Rebecca R. Pallmeyer
)	
STARK LAW, LLC, an Illinois limited liability company, also doing business as STARK RECOVERY;)	Magistrate Judge Sheila M. Finnegan
)	
STARK LEGAL, LLC, an Illinois limited liability company;)	
)	
ASHTON ASSET MANAGEMENT, INC., an Illinois corporation;)	
)	
CHM CAPITAL GROUP, LLC, an involuntarily dissolved Illinois limited liability company, also doing business as CAPITAL HARRIS MILLER & ASSOCIATES;)	
)	
HKM FUNDING, LTD., an involuntarily dissolved Illinois corporation, in its capacity as manager of CHM CAPITAL GROUP, LLC;)	
)	
PACIFIC CAPITAL HOLDINGS, INC., an Illinois corporation, formerly known as CHARLES HUNTER MILLER & ASSOCIATES, INC., and also doing business as PACIFIC CAPITAL;)	
)	
HIRSH MOHINDRA, individually, as an owner, officer, director, member, and/or manager of STARK LEGAL, LLC, ASHTON ASSET MANAGEMENT, INC., CHM CAPITAL GROUP, LLC, HKM FUNDING, LTD., and PACIFIC CAPITAL HOLDINGS, INC., and also doing business as ASHTON LENDING, LLC;)	
)	
GAURAV MOHINDRA, individually, and as an)	

owner, member, and/or manager of STARK LAW,)
 LLC, and STARK LEGAL, LLC; and)
)
 PREETESH PATEL, individually, and as an owner)
 and/or manager of ASHTON ASSET)
 MANAGEMENT, INC., CHM CAPITAL GROUP,)
 LLC, HKM FUNDING, LTD., and PACIFIC)
 CAPITAL HOLDINGS, INC.;)
)
 Defendants.)
 _____)

**EX PARTE TEMPORARY RESTRAINING ORDER WITH
 ASSET FREEZE, APPOINTMENT OF A RECEIVER, OTHER
 EQUITABLE RELIEF, AND ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE WHY
 A PRELIMINARY INJUNCTION SHOULD NOT ISSUE**

Plaintiffs, Federal Trade Commission (“FTC” or “Commission”) and State of Illinois, having filed their Complaint for Permanent Injunction and Other Equitable Relief in this matter, pursuant to Section 13(b) of the Federal Trade Commission Act (“FTC Act”), 15 U.S.C. § 53(b), Section 814 of the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act (“FDCPA”), 15 U.S.C. § 1692*l*, Section 7 of the Illinois Consumer Fraud and Deceptive Business Practices Act (“Consumer Fraud Act”), 815 ILCS 505/7, and Section 9.7 of the Illinois Collection Agency Act, 225 ILCS 425/9.7, and having moved *ex parte* for a temporary restraining order and other relief pursuant to Rule 65 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, Fed. R. Civ. P. 65, and the Court having considered the Complaint, *ex parte* application, declarations, exhibits, and memorandum of law filed in support thereof, and now being advised in the premises, finds that:

1. This Court has jurisdiction over the subject matter of this case, and there is good cause to believe it will have jurisdiction over the parties;
2. Venue lies properly with this Court;
3. There is good cause to believe that Defendants Stark Law, LLC, also doing business as Stark Recovery; Stark Legal, LLC; Ashton Asset Management, Inc.; CHM Capital

Group, LLC, also doing business as Capital Harris Miller & Associates; HKM Funding, Ltd.; Pacific Capital Holdings, Inc., formerly known as Charles Hunter Miller & Associates, Inc., and also doing business as Pacific Capital; Hirsh Mohindra; Gaurav Mohindra; and Preetesh Patel (hereinafter collectively referred to as “Defendants”) have engaged in, and are likely to engage in the future in, acts and practices that violate Section 5(a) of the FTC Act, 15 U.S.C. § 45(a); the FDCPA, 15 U.S.C. §§ 1692-1692p; and Section 2 of the Illinois Consumer Fraud Act, 815 ILCS 505/2, and that Plaintiffs are therefore likely to prevail on the merits of this action;

4. There is also good cause to believe that Defendants Stark Law, LLC, also doing business as Stark Recovery; Stark Legal, LLC; Ashton Asset Management, Inc.; CHM Capital Group, LLC, also doing business as Capital Harris Miller & Associates; HKM Funding, Ltd.; Pacific Capital Holdings, Inc., formerly known as Charles Hunter Miller & Associates, Inc., and also doing business as Pacific Capital; Hirsh Mohindra; and Preetesh Patel have engaged in, and are likely to engage in the future in, violations of Sections 4 and 9(a) of the Illinois Collection Agency Act, 225 ILCS 425/4 and 425/9(a), and that Plaintiff State of Illinois is therefore likely to prevail on the merits of this action;

5. There is good cause to believe that consumers will suffer immediate and continuing harm from Defendants’ ongoing violations of Section 5(a) of the FTC Act, 15 U.S.C. § 45(a); the FDCPA, 15 U.S.C. §§ 1692-1692p; Section 2 of the Illinois Consumer Fraud Act, 815 ILCS 505/2; and Sections 4 and 9(a) of the Illinois Collection Agency Act, 225 ILCS 425/4 and 425/9(a), unless Defendants are restrained and enjoined by Order of this Court;

6. There is good cause to believe that immediate and irreparable damage to the Court’s ability to grant effective final relief for consumers in the form of monetary restitution will occur from the sale, transfer, assignment, or other disposition or concealment by Defendants

of their assets or corporate records unless Defendants are immediately restrained and enjoined by Order of this Court. Therefore, there is good cause for relieving Plaintiffs of the duty to provide Defendants with prior notice of Plaintiffs' motion and for entry of the ancillary relief contained in this Order, including an asset freeze and the appointment of a temporary receiver over the Corporate Defendants;

7. There is good cause for issuing this Order pursuant to Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 65(b), Fed. R. Civ. P. 65(b);

8. Weighing the equities and considering Plaintiffs' likelihood of ultimate success, a temporary restraining order with asset freeze, appointment of a receiver, other equitable relief, and order to show cause why a preliminary injunction should not issue is in the public interest; and

9. No security is required of any agency of the United States for issuance of a temporary restraining order. Fed. R. Civ. P. 65(c).

DEFINITIONS

For purposes of this Temporary Restraining Order ("Order"), the following definitions shall apply:

1. **"Asset"** or **"Assets"** means any legal or equitable interest in, right to, or claim to, any real or personal property, including, but not limited to, "goods," "instruments," "equipment," "fixtures," "general intangibles," "inventory," "checks," or "notes," (as these terms are defined in the Uniform Commercial Code), lines of credit, chattels, leaseholds, contracts, mail or other deliveries, shares of stock, lists of consumer names, accounts, credits, premises, receivables, funds, and all cash, wherever located.
2. **"Consumer"** means any person.

3. **“Corporate Defendants”** means Defendants Stark Law, LLC, also doing business as Stark Recovery; Stark Legal, LLC; Ashton Asset Management, Inc.; CHM Capital Group, LLC, also doing business as Capital Harris Miller & Associates; HKM Funding, Ltd., in its capacity as manager of CHM Capital Group, LLC; and Pacific Capital Holdings, Inc., formerly known as Charles Hunter Miller & Associates, Inc., and also doing business as Pacific Capital, and by whatever other names they may be known, and their successors and assigns, as well as any subsidiaries, affiliates, and any fictitious business entities or business names created or used by these entities, or any of them.

4. **“Debt”** means any obligation or alleged obligation to pay money arising out of a transaction, whether or not such obligation has been reduced to judgment.

5. **“Defendants”** means all of the Individual Defendants and the Corporate Defendants, individually, collectively, or in any combination.

6. **“Document”** or **“Documents”** means any materials listed in Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 34(a), Fed. R. Civ. P. 34(a), and includes writings, drawings, graphs, charts, photographs, audio and video recordings, computer records, and other data compilations from which information can be obtained and translated, if necessary, through detection devices into reasonably usable form. A draft or non-identical copy is a separate document within the meaning of the term.

7. **“Financial Institution”** means any bank, savings and loan institution, credit union, or any financial depository of any kind, including, but not limited to, any brokerage house, trustee, broker-dealer, escrow agent, title company, commodity trading company, or precious metal dealer.

8. **“Individual Defendants”** means Defendants Hirsh Mohindra, Gaurav Mohindra, and Preetesh Patel, and by whatever other names each may be known.

9. **“Person”** means a natural person, an organization or other legal entity, including a corporation, partnership, sole proprietorship, limited liability company, association, cooperative, or any other group or combination acting as an entity.

10. **“Plaintiffs”** means the Federal Trade Commission and State of Illinois.

11. **“Receivership Defendants”** means the Corporate Defendants, as well as any other business related to Defendants’ debt collection business and which the Receiver has reason to believe is owned or controlled in whole or in part by any Defendant.

I.

PROHIBITED DEBT COLLECTION ACTIVITIES

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that Defendants, and their officers, agents, servants, employees, attorneys, and all other persons in active concert or participation with any of them, who receive actual notice of this Order by personal service or otherwise, whether acting directly or through any trust, corporation, subsidiary, division, or other device, in connection with the collection or the attempted collection of any debt, are hereby temporarily restrained and enjoined from:

A. Misrepresenting, or assisting others in misrepresenting, directly or indirectly, expressly or by implication, any material fact, including, but not limited to:

1. That the consumer is delinquent on a payday loan or other debt that any Defendant has the authority to collect;
2. That the consumer has a legal obligation to pay any Defendant;

3. That the non-payment of a purported debt has resulted, or will result, in Defendants, or any other person, taking any action against the consumer that Defendants have no authority to take, such as the consumer being “charged” with “defrauding a financial institution” or “passing a bad check”;

4. That non-payment of a purported debt will result in a consumer’s arrest or imprisonment;

5. That any Defendant or any other person has taken, intends to take, or has authority to take formal legal action against a consumer who fails to pay a purported debt; and

6. The character, amount, or legal status of a debt;

B. Communicating with persons other than a consumer for the purpose of acquiring location information about the consumer and:

1. Stating that such consumer owes a debt; or

2. Communicating with any such person more than once unless requested to do so by such person or unless Defendants reasonably believe that the earlier response of such person was erroneous or incomplete and that such person now has correct or complete location information;

C. Communicating with a consumer when Defendants know the consumer is represented by an attorney with respect to the consumer’s debt, and Defendants have 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 Defendants or unless the attorney consents to direct communication with the consumer;

D. Communicating with consumers at their places of employment when Defendants know, or have reason to know, that consumers' employers prohibit consumers from receiving such communications;

E. Communicating with any person other than the consumer, the consumer's attorney, a consumer reporting agency if otherwise permitted by law, the creditor, the attorney of the creditor, the attorney of the debt collector, the consumer's spouse, parent (if the consumer is a minor), guardian, executor, or administrator for purposes other than acquiring location information about a consumer, without having obtained directly the prior consent of the consumer or the express permission of a court of competent jurisdiction, and when not reasonably necessary to effectuate a postjudgment judicial remedy;

F. Causing a telephone to ring or engaging a person in telephone conversation repeatedly or continuously with intent to annoy, abuse, or harass a person at the called number; and

G. Failing to provide consumers, within five days after the initial communication with a consumer, a written notice containing: (1) the amount of the debt; (2) the name of the creditor to whom the debt is owed; (3) a statement that unless the consumer, within thirty days after receipt of the notice, disputes the validity of the debt, or any portion thereof, the debt will be assumed to be valid by Defendants; (4) a statement that if the consumer notifies Defendants in writing within the thirty-day period that the debt, or any portion thereof, is disputed, Defendants will obtain verification of the debt or a copy of a judgment against the consumer and a copy of such verification or judgment will be mailed to the consumer by Defendants; and (5) a statement that, upon the consumer's written request within the thirty-day period, Defendants will provide

the consumer with the name and address of the original creditor, if different from the current creditor;

H. Violating, or assisting others in violating, Section 2 of the Illinois Consumer Fraud Act, 815 ILCS 505/2, including by:

1. Falsely claiming that consumers owe debts with intent that consumers rely on those representations;
2. Collecting falsely claimed debts from consumers;
3. Failing to refund falsely claimed debts unlawfully collected from consumers;
4. Using licensed attorneys to falsely represent that Defendants have filed or will file lawsuits against consumers;
5. Misrepresenting the true identity of non-attorney debt collector callers to consumers with intent that consumers rely on these misrepresentations; and
6. Falsely representing that Defendants are a law firm; and

I. Violating, or assisting others in violating, Sections 4 and 9(a) of the Illinois Collection Agency Act, 225 ILCS 425/4 and 425/9(a), including by:

1. Acting as a collection agency without being licensed;
2. Threatening to instigate arrest or criminal prosecution where no basis for a criminal complaint lawfully exists;
3. Initiating or threatening to initiate communication with a debtor's employer before timely written notice has been given to the debtor of Defendants' intention to communicate with the debtor's employer;

4. Communicating with the debtor or any member of the debtor's family at such a time of day or night and with such frequency as to constitute harassment of the debtor or any member of the debtor's family;

5. Disclosing, or threatening to disclose, information relating to a debtor's debt to any other person except where such other person has a legitimate business need for the information or except where such disclosure is permitted by law;

6. Disclosing, or threatening to disclose, information concerning the existence of a debt which Defendants know to be reasonably disputed by the debtor without disclosing the fact that the debtor disputes the debt;

7. Attempting or threatening to enforce a right or remedy with knowledge or reason to know that the right or remedy does not exist; and

8. Engaging in dishonorable, unethical, or unprofessional conduct of a character likely to deceive, defraud or harm the public.

II.

OTHER PROHIBITED PRACTICES

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Defendants, and their officers, agents, servants, employees, attorneys, and all other persons in active concert or participation with any of them, who receive actual notice of this Order by personal service or otherwise, whether acting directly or through any trust, corporation, subsidiary, division, or other device, in connection with the marketing, distribution, and sale of debt portfolios, are hereby temporarily restrained and enjoined from:

A. Marketing, distributing, or selling debt portfolios that list loans that the lenders have not, in fact, made to the consumers identified in such portfolios, or that Defendants have not purchased, or otherwise obtained, any rights to collect; and

B. Otherwise providing others with the means and instrumentalities to misrepresent, or to assist others in misrepresenting, directly or indirectly, expressly or by implication, that consumers owe unpaid debts or that a debt collector has obtained the right to collect a debt from a consumer.

III.

ASSET FREEZE

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Defendants, and their officers, agents, servants, employees, attorneys, and all other persons in active concert or participation with any of them, who receive actual notice of this Order by personal service or otherwise, whether acting directly or through any trust, corporation, subsidiary, division, or other device, except as provided herein, as stipulated by the parties, or as directed by further Order of the Court, are hereby temporarily restrained and enjoined from:

A. Transferring, liquidating, converting, encumbering, pledging, loaning, selling, concealing, dissipating, disbursing, assigning, spending, withdrawing, granting a lien or security interest or other interest in, or otherwise disposing of any funds, real or personal property, accounts, contracts, shares of stock, lists of consumer names, or other assets, or any interest therein, wherever located, including outside the territorial United States, that are:

1. Owned, controlled, or held by, in whole or in part, for the benefit of, or subject to access by, or belonging to, any Defendant;

2. In the actual or constructive possession of any Defendant; or

3. In the actual or constructive possession of, or owned, controlled, or held by, or subject to access by, or belonging to, any other corporation, partnership, trust, or any other entity directly or indirectly owned, managed, or controlled by, or under common control with, any Defendant, including, but not limited to, any assets held by or for any Defendant in any account at any bank or savings and loan institution, or with any credit card processing agent, automated clearing house processor, network transaction processor, bank debit processing agent, customer service agent, commercial mail receiving agency, or mail holding or forwarding company, or any credit union, retirement fund custodian, money market or mutual fund, storage company, trustee, or with any broker-dealer, escrow agent, title company, commodity trading company, precious metal dealer, or other financial institution or depository of any kind, either within or outside the territorial United States;

B. Opening or causing to be opened any safe deposit boxes, commercial mail boxes, or storage facilities titled in the name of any Defendant, or subject to access by any Defendant or under any Defendant's control, without providing the Commission prior notice and an opportunity to inspect the contents in order to determine that they contain no assets covered by this Section;

C. Cashing any checks or depositing or processing any payments from customers of Defendants;

D. Incurring charges or cash advances on any credit card issued in the name, singly or jointly, of any Defendant; or

E. Incurring liens or encumbrances on real property, personal property, or other assets in the name, singly or jointly, of any Defendant or of any corporation, partnership, or other

entity directly or indirectly owned, managed, or controlled by any Defendant.

Notwithstanding the asset freeze provisions of Section III.A through E above, and subject to prior written agreement with the Commission, Individual Defendants may, upon compliance with Section V (Financial Statements and Accounting) *infra*, pay from their individual personal funds reasonable, usual, ordinary, and necessary living expenses.

The funds, property, and assets affected by this Section shall include both existing assets and assets acquired after the effective date of this Order.

IV.

DUTIES OF THIRD PARTIES HOLDING DEFENDANTS' ASSETS

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that any financial institution, business entity, or person maintaining or having custody or control of any account or other asset of any Defendant, or any corporation, partnership, or other entity directly or indirectly owned, managed, or controlled by, or under common control with any Defendant, which is served with a copy of this Order, or otherwise has actual or constructive knowledge of this Order, shall:

A. Hold and retain within its control and prohibit the withdrawal, removal, assignment, transfer, pledge, hypothecation, encumbrance, disbursement, dissipation, conversion, sale, liquidation, or other disposal of any of the assets, funds, documents, or other property held by, or under its control:

1. On behalf of, or for the benefit of, any Defendant or any other party subject to Section III above;
2. In any account maintained in the name of, or for the benefit of, or subject to withdrawal by, any Defendant or other party subject to Section III above; and

3. That are subject to access or use by, or under the signatory power of, any Defendant or other party subject to Section III above;

B. Deny Defendants access to any safe deposit boxes or storage facilities that are either:

1. Titled in the name, individually or jointly, of any Defendant, or other party subject to Section III above; or

2. Subject to access by any Defendant or other party subject to Section III above;

C. Provide Plaintiffs, within five (5) days of the date of service of this Order, a sworn statement setting forth:

1. The identification number of each account or asset titled in the name, individually or jointly, of any Defendant, or held on behalf of, or for the benefit of, any Defendant or other party subject to Section III above, including all trust accounts managed on behalf of any Defendant or subject to any Defendant's control;

2. The balance of each such account, or a description of the nature and value of such asset;

3. The identification and location of any safe deposit box, commercial mail box, or storage facility that is either titled in the name, individually or jointly, of any Defendant, or is otherwise subject to access or control by any Defendant or other party subject to Section III above, whether in whole or in part; and

4. If the account, safe deposit box, storage facility, or other asset has been closed or removed, the date closed or removed and the balance on said date;

D. Within five (5) days of a request from any Plaintiff, provide Plaintiffs copies of all records or other documents pertaining to each such account or asset, including, but not limited to, originals or copies of account applications, account statements, corporate resolutions, signature cards, checks, drafts, deposit tickets, transfers to and from the accounts, all other debit and credit instruments or slips, currency transaction reports, 1099 forms, and safe deposit box logs; and

E. This Section shall apply to existing accounts and assets, assets deposited or accounts opened after the effective date of this Order, and any accounts or assets maintained, held or controlled three years prior to the effective date of this Order. This Section shall not prohibit transfers in accordance with any provision of this Order, any further order of the Court, or by written agreement of the parties.

V.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND ACCOUNTING

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that no later than five (5) business days after service of this Order, each Defendant shall serve upon counsel for Plaintiffs:

A. A completed financial statement, accurate as of the date of service of this Order and verified under oath, on the form served on Defendants with this Order, for such Defendant individually, and for each corporation or business entity under which such Defendant conducts business, or of which such Defendant is an officer, and for each trust of which such Defendant is a trustee. Said financial statement shall include assets held outside the territory of the United States. Defendants shall attach to their completed financial statements copies of all local, state, provincial, and federal income and property tax returns, with attachments and schedules as called for by the instructions to the financial statements; and

B. A statement, verified under oath, of all payments, transfers, or assignments of funds, assets, or property worth \$5,000 or more since January 1, 2011. Such statements shall include: (1) the amount transferred or assigned; (2) the name of each transferee or assignee; (3) the date of the assignment or transfer; and (4) the type and amount of consideration paid by or to the Defendant. Each statement shall specify the name and address of each financial institution and brokerage firm at which Defendant has accounts or safe deposit boxes. Said statements shall include assets held in foreign as well as domestic accounts.

VI.

PRESERVATION OF RECORDS AND REPORT OF NEW BUSINESS ACTIVITY

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Defendants, and their officers, agents, servants, employees, attorneys, and all other persons in active concert or participation with any of them, who receive actual notice of this Order by personal service or otherwise, whether acting directly or through any trust, corporation, subsidiary, division, or other device, are hereby temporarily restrained and enjoined from:

A. Failing to create and maintain books, records, accounts, bank statements, current accountants' reports, general ledgers, general journals, cash receipts ledgers, cash disbursement ledgers and source documents, documents indicating title to real or personal property, and any other data which, in reasonable detail, accurately and fairly reflect the incomes, disbursements, transactions, dispositions, and uses of Defendants' assets;

B. Destroying, erasing, mutilating, concealing, altering, transferring, or otherwise disposing of, in any manner, directly or indirectly, any documents, including electronically stored materials, that relate in any way to the business practices or business or personal finances of Defendants; to the business practices or finances of entities directly or indirectly under the

control of Defendants; or to the business practices or finances of entities directly or indirectly under common control with any other Defendant; and

C. Creating, operating, or exercising any control over any new business entity, whether newly formed or previously inactive, including any partnership, limited partnership, joint venture, sole proprietorship or corporation, without first providing Plaintiffs with a written statement disclosing: (1) the name of the business entity; (2) the address, telephone number, e-mail address, and website address of the business entity; (3) the names of the business entity's officers, directors, principals, managers, and employees; and (4) a detailed description of the business entity's intended activities.

VII.

PROHIBITION ON DISCLOSING CUSTOMER INFORMATION

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Defendants, and their officers, agents, servants, employees, attorneys, and all other persons in active concert or participation with any of them, who receive actual notice of this Order by personal service or otherwise, whether acting directly or through any trust, corporation, subsidiary, division, or other device, are hereby temporarily restrained and enjoined from:

A. Selling, renting, leasing, transferring, or otherwise disclosing the name, address, birth date, telephone number, e-mail address, Social Security number, credit card number, bank account number, or other financial or identifying personal information of any person from whom or about whom any Defendant obtained such information in connection with activities alleged in Plaintiffs' Complaint; and

B. Benefiting from or using the name, address, birth date, telephone number, e-mail address, Social Security number, credit card number, bank account number, or other financial or

identifying personal information of any person from whom or about whom any Defendant obtained such information in connection with activities alleged in Plaintiffs' Complaint;

Provided, however, that Defendants may disclose such financial or identifying personal information to a law enforcement agency or as required by any law, regulation, or court order.

VIII.

TEMPORARY RECEIVER

A. APPOINTMENT OF TEMPORARY RECEIVER

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Gregg Szilagyi

is appointed Temporary Equity Receiver ("Receiver") for the Receivership Defendants and any of their affiliates, subsidiaries, divisions, or sales, collections, or customer service operations, wherever located, with the full power of an equity receiver. The Receiver shall be the agent of this Court, and solely the agent of this Court, in acting as Receiver under this Order. The Receiver shall be accountable directly to this Court. The Receiver shall comply with all Local Rules of this Court governing receivers.

B. RECEIVERSHIP DUTIES

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Receiver is directed and authorized to accomplish the following:

1. Assume full control of the Receivership Defendants by removing, as the Receiver deems necessary or advisable, any director, officer, employee, independent contractor, or agent of the Receivership Defendants, including any Individual Defendant, from control of, management of, or participation in, the affairs of the Receivership Defendants, and, as a result of the foregoing, assume full ownership of the attorney-client privilege with respect to each of the Receivership Defendants;

2. Take exclusive custody, control, and possession of all assets and documents of, or in the possession, custody, or under the control of, the Receivership Defendants, wherever situated. The Receiver shall have full power to divert mail and to sue for, collect, receive, take in possession, hold, and manage all assets and documents of the Receivership Defendants and other persons or entities whose interests are now held by or under the direction, possession, custody, or control of the Receivership Defendants. *Provided, however,* that the Receiver shall not attempt to collect or receive any amount from a consumer or to allow the Receivership Defendants to continue to debit or otherwise charge a consumer's account, if the Receiver believes the consumer was a victim of the unlawful conduct alleged in the Complaint in this matter;

3. Use any means necessary to take possession of and to secure all areas of the business premises of the Receivership Defendants, including, but not limited to, the business premises located at 500 Quail Ridge Drive, Westmont, Illinois 60559. Such steps may include, but are not limited to, the following as the Receiver deems necessary or advisable: (a) serving this Order; (b) completing a written inventory of all receivership assets; (c) obtaining pertinent information from all employees and other agents of the Receivership Defendants, including, but not limited to, the name, home address, Social Security number, job description, method of compensation, and all accrued and unpaid commissions and compensation of each such employee or agent; (d) videotaping all portions of the locations; (e) securing the locations by changing the locks and disconnecting any computer modems or other means of access to the computer or other records maintained at the locations; (f) requiring any persons present on the premises at the time this Order is served to leave the premises, to provide the Receiver with proof of

identification, or to demonstrate to the satisfaction of the Receiver that such persons are not removing from the premises documents or assets of the Receivership Defendants; and/or (g) employ the assistance of law enforcement officers as the Receiver deems necessary to implement the provisions of this Order;

4. Conserve, hold, and manage all receivership assets, and perform all acts necessary or advisable to preserve the value of those assets, in order to prevent any irreparable loss, damage, or injury to consumers or to creditors of the Receivership Defendants, including, but not limited to, obtaining an accounting of the assets and preventing transfer, withdrawal, or misapplication of assets, and including the authority to liquidate or close out any open securities or commodity futures positions of the Receivership Defendants;

5. Enter into contracts and purchase insurance as advisable or necessary;

6. Prevent the inequitable distribution of assets and determine, adjust, and protect the interests of consumers and creditors who have transacted business with the Receivership Defendants;

7. Manage and administer the business of the Receivership Defendants until further order of this Court by performing all incidental acts that the Receiver deems to be advisable or necessary, which includes retaining, hiring, or dismissing any employees, independent contractors, or agents;

8. Choose, engage, and employ attorneys, accountants, appraisers, and other independent contractors and technical specialists, as the Receiver deems advisable or necessary in the performance of duties and responsibilities under the authority granted by this Order;

9. Make payments and disbursements from the receivership estate that are necessary or advisable for carrying out the directions of, or exercising the authority granted by, this Order. The Receiver shall apply to the Court for prior approval of any payment of any debt or obligation incurred by the Receivership Defendants prior to the date of entry of this Order, except payments that the Receiver deems necessary or advisable to secure assets of the Receivership Defendants, such as rental payments;

10. Determine and implement the manner in which the Receivership Defendants will comply with, and prevent violations of, this Order and all other applicable laws;

11. Institute, compromise, adjust, appear in, intervene in, or become party to such actions or proceedings in state, federal or foreign courts that the Receiver deems necessary and advisable to preserve or recover the assets of the Receivership Defendants or that the Receiver deems necessary and advisable to carry out the Receiver's mandate under this Order;

12. Defend, compromise, adjust, or otherwise dispose of any or all actions or proceedings instituted in the past or in the future against the Receiver in his role as Receiver, or against the Receivership Defendants that the Receiver deems necessary and advisable to preserve the assets of the Receivership Defendants or that the Receiver deems necessary and advisable to carry out the Receiver's mandate under this Order;

13. Continue and conduct the business of the Receivership Defendants in such manner, to such extent, and for such duration as the Receiver may in good faith deem to be necessary or appropriate to operate the business profitably and lawfully, if at all; provided, however, that the continuation and conduct of the business shall be conditioned

upon the Receiver's good faith determination that the business can be lawfully operated at a profit using the assets of the receivership estate;

14. Issue subpoenas to obtain documents and records pertaining to the receivership, and conduct discovery in this action on behalf of the receivership estate;

15. Open one or more bank accounts as designated depositories for funds of the Receivership Defendants. The Receiver shall deposit all funds of the Receivership Defendants in such a designated account and shall make all payments and disbursements from the receivership estate from such an account;

16. Maintain accurate records of all receipts and expenditures that he or she makes as Receiver;

17. Cooperate with reasonable requests for information or assistance from any state or federal law enforcement agency; and

18. File reports with the Court on a timely and reasonable basis.

C. COOPERATION WITH THE RECEIVER

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that:

1. Defendants and their officers, agents, servants, employees, and attorneys, and all other persons in active concert or participation with any of them, who receive actual notice of this Order by personal service or otherwise, whether acting directly or through any trust, corporation, subsidiary, division, or other device, shall fully cooperate with and assist the Receiver. This cooperation and assistance shall include, but not be limited to:

a. Providing any information to the Receiver that the Receiver deems necessary to exercising the authority and discharging the responsibilities of the

Receiver under this Order;

b. Providing any password required to access any computer, electronic file, or telephonic data in any medium; or

c. Advising all persons who owe money to the Receivership Defendants that all debts should be paid directly to the Receiver;

2. Defendants and their officers, agents, servants, employees, and attorneys, and all other persons in active concert or participation with any of them, who receive actual notice of this Order by personal service or otherwise, whether acting directly or through any trust, corporation, subsidiary, division, or other device, are hereby restrained and enjoined from directly or indirectly:

a. Transacting any of the business of the Receivership Defendants;

b. Destroying, secreting, defacing, transferring, or otherwise altering or disposing of any documents of the Receivership Defendants, including, but not limited to, books, records, accounts, writings, drawings, graphs, charts, photographs, audio and video recordings, computer records, and other data compilations, electronically-stored records, or any other records of any kind or nature;

c. Transferring, receiving, altering, selling, encumbering, pledging, assigning, liquidating, or otherwise disposing of any assets owned, controlled, or in the possession or custody of, or in which an interest is held or claimed by, the Receivership Defendants, or the Receiver;

d. Excusing debts owed to the Receivership Defendants;

e. Failing to notify the Receiver of any asset, including accounts, of

the Receivership Defendants held in any name other than the name of the Receivership Defendants, or by any person or entity other than the Receivership Defendants, or failing to provide any assistance or information requested by the Receiver in connection with obtaining possession, custody, or control of such assets;

f. Doing any act or refraining from any act whatsoever to interfere with the Receiver's taking custody, control, possession, or managing of the assets or documents subject to this receivership; or to harass or interfere with the Receiver in any way; or to interfere in any manner with the exclusive jurisdiction of this Court over the assets or documents of the Receivership Defendants; or to refuse to cooperate with the Receiver or the Receiver's duly authorized agents in the exercise of their duties or authority under any Order of this Court; or

g. Filing, or causing to be filed, any petition on behalf of any of the Receivership Defendants for relief under the United States Bankruptcy Code, 11 U.S.C. § 101, *et seq.*, without prior permission from this Court.

D. DELIVERY OF RECEIVERSHIP PROPERTY

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that:

1. Immediately upon service of this Order upon them, or within such period as may be permitted by the Receiver, Defendants or any other person or entity shall transfer or deliver possession, custody, and control of the following to the Receiver:

a. All assets of the Receivership Defendants, including assets subject to repatriation pursuant to Section X, *infra*;

b. All documents of the Receivership Defendants, including, but not limited to, books and records of accounts, all financial and accounting records, balance sheets, income statements, bank records (including monthly statements, canceled checks, records of wire transfers, and check registers), client lists, title documents and other papers;

c. All assets belonging to members of the public now held by the Receivership Defendants; and

d. All keys, codes, and passwords necessary to gain or to secure access to any assets or documents of the Receivership Defendants, including, but not limited to, access to their business premises, means of communication, accounts, computer systems, mail boxes, or other property;

2. In the event any person or entity fails to deliver or transfer any receivership asset or document or otherwise fails to comply with any provision of this Section, the Receiver may file *ex parte* an Affidavit of Non-Compliance regarding the failure. Upon filing of the affidavit, the Court may authorize, without additional process or demand, Writs of Possession or Sequestration or other equitable writs requested by the Receiver. The writs shall authorize and direct the United States Marshal or any sheriff or deputy sheriff of any county, or any other federal or state law enforcement officer, to seize the asset, document, or other thing and to deliver it to the Receiver.

3. For the avoidance of any doubt, the delivery of documents to the Receiver or the Receiver's inspection of documents pursuant to this Order that are subject to an attorney-client privilege owned by a party other than the Receivership Defendants shall not, as a result of such delivery or inspection, waive such party's attorney-client privilege

in this proceeding or in any other federal or state court.

E. TRANSFER OF FUNDS TO THE RECEIVER

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that, upon service of a copy of this Order, all financial institutions, finance companies, commercial lending companies, credit card processing agents or agents providing electronic funds transfer services or automated clearing house processing, brokerage houses, escrow agents, money market or mutual funds, title companies, commodity futures merchants, commodity trading companies, precious metal dealers, trustees, or other financial institutions or depositories of any kind, shall cooperate with all reasonable requests of the Receiver relating to implementation of this Order, including transferring funds at his or her direction and producing records related to the assets of the Receivership Defendants.

F. STAY OF ACTIONS

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that:

1. Except by leave of this Court, during pendency of the receivership ordered herein, Defendants and all other persons and entities be and hereby are stayed from taking any action to establish or enforce any claim, right, or interest for, against, on behalf of, in, or in the name of, the Receivership Defendants, any of their subsidiaries, affiliates, partnerships, assets, documents, or the Receiver or the Receiver's duly authorized agents acting in their capacities as such, including, but not limited to, the following actions:

a. Commencing, prosecuting, continuing, entering, or enforcing any suit or proceeding, except that such actions may be filed to toll any applicable statute of limitations;

b. Accelerating the due date of any obligation or claimed obligation; filing, perfecting or enforcing any lien; taking or attempting to take possession, custody, or control of any asset; attempting to foreclose, forfeit, alter, or terminate any interest in any asset, whether such acts are part of a judicial proceeding, are acts of self-help, or otherwise, or setoff of any debt owing to the Receivership Defendants that arose before the date of this Order against any claim against the Receivership Defendants;

c. Executing, issuing, serving, or causing the execution, issuance or service of, any legal process, including, but not limited to, attachments, garnishments, subpoenas, writs of replevin, writs of execution, or any other form of process whether specified in this Order or not; or

d. Doing any act or thing whatsoever to interfere with the Receiver taking custody, control, possession, or management of the assets or documents subject to this receivership, or to harass or interfere with the Receiver in any way, or to interfere in any manner with the exclusive jurisdiction of this Court over the assets or documents of the Receivership Defendants.

2. This Order does not stay:

a. The commencement or continuation of a criminal action or proceeding;

b. The commencement or continuation of an action or proceeding by a governmental unit to enforce such governmental unit's police or regulatory power; or

c. The enforcement of a judgment, other than a money judgment,

obtained in an action or proceeding by a governmental unit to enforce such governmental unit's police or regulatory power.

3. Except as otherwise provided in this Order, all persons and entities in need of documentation from the Receiver shall in all instances first attempt to secure such information by submitting a formal written request to the Receiver, and, if such request has not been responded to within thirty (30) days of receipt by the Receiver, any such person or entity may thereafter seek an Order of this Court with regard to the relief requested.

G. COMPENSATION OF RECEIVER

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Receiver and all personnel hired by the Receiver as herein authorized, including counsel to the Receiver and accountants, are entitled to reasonable compensation for the performance of duties pursuant to this Order and for the cost of actual out-of-pocket expenses incurred by them, from the assets now held by, or in the possession or control of, or which may be received by the Receivership Defendants. The Receiver shall file with the Court and serve on the parties periodic requests for the payment of such reasonable compensation, with the first such request filed no more than sixty (60) days after the date of this Order. The Receiver shall not increase the hourly rates used as the bases for such fee applications without prior approval of the Court.

H. RECEIVER'S BOND

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Receiver shall file with the Clerk of this Court a bond in the sum of \$ 10,000.00 with sureties to be approved by the Court, conditioned that the Receiver will well and truly perform the duties of the office and abide by and perform all acts the Court directs.

IX.

ACCESS TO BUSINESS PREMISES

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Defendants, and their officers, agents, servants, employees, and attorneys, and all other persons in active concert or participation with any of them, who receive actual notice of this Order by personal service or otherwise, whether acting directly or through any trust, corporation, subsidiary, division, or other device, and the Receiver, shall allow Plaintiffs' representatives, agents, and assistants, as well as the Receivership Defendants' representatives, and the Individual Defendants themselves, reasonable access to all of Receivership Defendants' business premises, or any other premises where the Receivership Defendants conduct business or customer service operations. Such locations include, but are not limited to, 500 Quail Ridge Drive, Westmont, Illinois 60559.

The purpose of this access shall be to inspect and copy any and all books, records, documents, accounts, and other property owned by, or in the possession of, the Receivership Defendants or their agents. The Receiver shall have the discretion to determine the time, manner, and reasonable conditions of such access. Plaintiffs may remove materials from the Receivership Defendants' business premises to inspect, inventory, and copy such materials. Plaintiffs shall return materials so removed within five (5) business days of completing said inventory and copying. Plaintiffs' access to Defendants' documents pursuant to this Section shall not provide grounds for any Defendant to object to any subsequent request for documents served by any Plaintiff.

X.

**REPATRIATION OF ASSETS AND DOCUMENTS
LOCATED IN FOREIGN COUNTRIES**

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Defendants shall:

A. Within three (3) business days following service of this Order, take such steps as are necessary to repatriate to the territory of the United States all documents and assets that are located outside such territory and are held by or for Defendants or for the benefit of any Defendant or under the direct or indirect control of any Defendant, jointly, severally, or individually;

B. Within three (3) business days following service of this Order, provide Plaintiffs with a full accounting of all documents and assets that are located outside the territory of the United States or that have been transferred to the territory of the United States pursuant to Subsection A above and are held by or for any Defendant or are under any Defendant's direct or indirect control, jointly, severally, or individually, including the names and addresses of any foreign or domestic financial institution or other entity holding the documents or assets, along with the account numbers and balances;

C. Hold and retain all such repatriated documents and assets and prevent any transfer, disposition, or dissipation whatsoever of any such documents or assets; and

D. Within three (3) business days following service of this Order, provide Plaintiffs access to Defendants' records and documents held by financial institutions or other entities outside the territorial United States, by signing and delivering to Plaintiffs' counsel the Consent to Release of Financial Information attached to this Order as **Attachment A**.

XI.

INTERFERENCE WITH REPATRIATION

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Defendants are hereby temporarily restrained and enjoined from taking any action, directly or indirectly, which may result in the encumbrance or dissipation of foreign assets, or in the hindrance of the repatriation required by the preceding

Section of this Order, including, but not limited to:

A. Sending any statement, letter, facsimile, e-mail or wire transmission, or telephoning or engaging in any other act, directly or indirectly, that results in a determination by a foreign trustee or other entity that a “duress” event has occurred under the terms of a foreign trust agreement, until such time that assets have been fully repatriated pursuant to the preceding Section of this Order; and

B. Notifying any trustee, protector or other agent of any foreign trust or other related entities of either the existence of this Order, or of the fact that repatriation is required pursuant to a Court Order, until such time as assets have been fully repatriated pursuant to the preceding Section of this Order.

XII.

EXPEDITED DISCOVERY

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that pursuant to Federal Rules of Civil Procedure 30(a), 31(a), 34, and 45, and notwithstanding the provisions of Federal Rules of Civil Procedure 26(d) and (f), 30(a)(2)(A), and 31(a)(2)(A), the parties are granted leave, at any time after entry of this Order to:

A. Take the deposition of any person, whether or not a party, for the purpose of discovering the nature, location, status, and extent of the assets of Defendants, and Defendants’ affiliates and subsidiaries; the nature and location of documents reflecting the business transactions of Defendants, and Defendants’ affiliates and subsidiaries; the location of any premises where Defendants, directly or through any third party, conduct business operations; the Defendants’ whereabouts; and/or the applicability of any evidentiary privileges to this action; and

B. Demand the production of documents from any person, whether or not a party, relating to the nature, status, and extent of the assets of Defendants, and Defendants' affiliates and subsidiaries; the nature and location of documents reflecting the business transactions of Defendants, and Defendants' affiliates and subsidiaries; the location of any premises where Defendants, directly or through any third party, conduct business operations; the Defendants' whereabouts; and/or the applicability of any evidentiary privileges to this action.

Three (3) days' notice shall be deemed sufficient for any such deposition, five (5) days' notice shall be deemed sufficient for the production of any such documents, and twenty-four (24) hours' notice shall be deemed sufficient for the production of any such documents that are maintained or stored only as electronic data. The provisions of this Section shall apply both to parties to this case and to non-parties. The limitations and conditions set forth in Federal Rules of Civil Procedure 30(a)(2)(A)(ii) and 31(a)(2)(A)(ii) regarding subsequent depositions of an individual shall not apply to depositions taken pursuant to this Section. Any such depositions taken pursuant to this Section shall not be counted toward any limit on the number of depositions under the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, including those set forth in Federal Rules of Civil Procedure 30(a)(2)(A) and 31(a)(2)(A). Service of discovery upon a party, taken pursuant to this Section, shall be sufficient if made through the means described in Section XVIII of this Order.

XIII.

DISTRIBUTION OF ORDER BY DEFENDANTS

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Defendants shall immediately provide a copy of this Order to each of their corporations, subsidiaries, affiliates, divisions, directors, officers, agents, partners, successors, assigns, employees, attorneys, agents, representatives, sales entities, sales persons, telemarketers, independent contractors, and any other persons in active concert or

participation with them. Within five (5) calendar days following service of this Order, each Defendant shall file with this Court and serve on Plaintiffs, an affidavit identifying the names, titles, addresses, and telephone numbers of the persons that Defendants have served with a copy of this Order in compliance with this provision.

XIV.

EXPIRATION DATE OF TEMPORARY RESTRAINING ORDER

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Temporary Restraining Order granted herein shall expire on April 5, 2016, at 10:00^{a.m.} (Central Time), unless within such time the Order, for good cause shown, is extended, or unless, as to any Defendant, the Defendant consents that it should be extended for a longer period of time.

XV.

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE REGARDING PRELIMINARY INJUNCTION

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that each Defendant shall appear before this Court on the 5th day of April, 2016, at 10:00 a.m. at the United States Courthouse, United States District Court for the Northern District of Illinois, Chicago, a courtroom on the 21st floor Courtroom _____, to show cause, if any, why this Court should not enter a preliminary injunction, pending final ruling on the Complaint, against said Defendants enjoining them from further violations of Section 5(a) of the FTC Act, 15 U.S.C. § 45(a); the FDCPA, 15 U.S.C. §§ 1692-1692p; Section 2 of the Illinois Consumer Fraud Act, 815 ILCS 505/2; and Sections 4 and 9(a) of the Illinois Collection Agency Act, 225 ILCS 425/4 and 425/9(a); continuing the freeze of Defendants' assets; making the temporary Receiver's appointment permanent; and imposing such additional relief as may be appropriate.

XVI.

SERVICE OF PLEADINGS, MEMORANDA, AND OTHER EVIDENCE

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Defendants shall file with the Court and serve on Plaintiffs' counsel any answering affidavits, pleadings, motions, expert reports or declarations, and/or legal memoranda no later than four (4) business days prior to the hearing on Plaintiffs' request for a preliminary injunction.

Plaintiffs may file responsive or supplemental pleadings, materials, affidavits, or memoranda with the Court and serve the same on counsel for Defendants no later than one (1) day prior to the preliminary injunction hearing in this matter, provided that service shall be performed by personal or overnight delivery, by electronic filing, by electronic mail, or by facsimile, and documents shall be delivered so that they shall be received by the other parties no later than 4:00 p.m. (Central Time) on the appropriate dates listed in this Section.

XVII.

MOTION FOR LIVE TESTIMONY; WITNESS IDENTIFICATION

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the question of whether this Court should enter a preliminary injunction pursuant to Rule 65 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure enjoining the Defendants during the pendency of this action shall be resolved on the pleadings, declarations, exhibits, and memoranda filed by, and oral argument of, the parties. Live testimony shall be heard only on further order of this Court or on motion filed with the Court and served on counsel for the other parties at least four (4) business days prior to the preliminary injunction hearing in this matter. Such motion shall set forth the name, address, and telephone number of each proposed witness, a detailed summary or affidavit revealing the substance of each proposed witness's expected testimony, and an explanation of why the taking of live testimony would be

helpful to this Court. Any papers opposing a timely motion to present live testimony or to present live testimony in response to another party's timely motion to present live testimony shall be filed with this Court and served on the other parties at least two (2) business days prior to the preliminary injunction hearing in this matter, *provided* that service shall be performed by personal or overnight delivery, by electronic filing, by electronic mail, or by facsimile, and documents shall be delivered so that they shall be received by the other parties no later than 4:00 p.m. (Central Time) on the appropriate dates provided in this Section. *Provided further*, however, that an evidentiary hearing on Plaintiffs' request for a preliminary injunction is not necessary unless Defendants demonstrate that they have, and intend to introduce, evidence that raises a genuine and material factual issue.

XVIII.

SERVICE OF THIS ORDER

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that copies of this Order may be distributed by United States First Class Mail, overnight delivery, facsimile, electronic mail, or personally, by agents or employees of Plaintiffs, by agents or employees of the Receiver, by any law enforcement agency, or by private process server, upon any person, financial institution, or other entity that may have possession or control of any property, property right, document, or asset of any Defendant, or that may be subject to any provision of this Order. Service upon any branch or office of any financial institution or entity shall effect service upon the entire financial institution or entity.

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XIX.

CONSUMER REPORTING AGENCIES

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that, pursuant to Section 604 of the Fair Credit Reporting Act, 15 U.S.C. § 1681b, any consumer reporting agency may furnish a consumer or credit report concerning any Defendant to Plaintiffs.

XX.

CORRESPONDENCE WITH AND NOTICE TO PLAINTIFFS

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that for purposes of this Order, all correspondence and pleadings to Plaintiffs shall be addressed to:

A. For Plaintiff Federal Trade Commission:

William J. Hodor
John C. Hallerud
Federal Trade Commission
55 West Monroe Street, Suite 1825
Chicago, Illinois 60603
(312) 960-5634 [telephone]
(312) 960-5600 [facsimile]
whodor@ftc.gov [e-mail, Hodor]
jhallerud@ftc.gov [e-mail, Hallerud]

B. For Plaintiff State of Illinois:

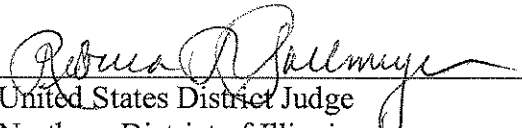
Erin Grotheer
Kimberly Slider
Thomas P. James
Office of the Illinois Attorney General
100 West Randolph Street
Chicago, Illinois 60601
(312) 814-8966 [telephone]
(312) 814-2593 [facsimile]
egrotheer@atg.state.il.us [e-mail, Grotheer]
kslider@atg.state.il.us [e-mail, Slider]
tjames@atg.state.il.us [e-mail, James]

XXI.

JURISDICTION

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that this Court shall retain jurisdiction of this matter for all purposes.

SO ORDERED, this 22nd day of March, 2016, at 9:45^a.m.


United States District Judge
Northern District of Illinois

ATTACHMENT A

Consent to Release of Financial Information

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS
EASTERN DIVISION**

_____)
FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION, and)
)
STATE OF ILLINOIS,)
)
)
Plaintiffs,) Case No. 1:16-cv-3463
)
v.) Judge Rebecca R. Pallmeyer
)
STARK LAW, LLC, an Illinois limited liability) Magistrate Judge Sheila M. Finnegan
company, also doing business as STARK)
RECOVERY;)
)
STARK LEGAL, LLC, an Illinois limited liability)
company;)
)
ASHTON ASSET MANAGEMENT, INC., an)
Illinois corporation;)
)
CHM CAPITAL GROUP, LLC, an involuntarily)
dissolved Illinois limited liability company, also)
doing business as CAPITAL HARRIS MILLER &)
ASSOCIATES;)
)
HKM FUNDING, LTD., an involuntarily dissolved)
Illinois corporation, in its capacity as manager of)
CHM CAPITAL GROUP, LLC;)
)
PACIFIC CAPITAL HOLDINGS, INC., an Illinois)
corporation, formerly known as CHARLES)
HUNTER MILLER & ASSOCIATES, INC., and)
also doing business as PACIFIC CAPITAL;)
)
HIRSH MOHINDRA, individually, as an owner,)
officer, director, member, and/or manager of)
STARK LEGAL, LLC, ASHTON ASSET)
MANAGEMENT, INC., CHM CAPITAL GROUP,)
LLC, HKM FUNDING, LTD., and PACIFIC)
CAPITAL HOLDINGS, INC., and also doing)
business as ASHTON LENDING, LLC;)
)
GAURAV MOHINDRA, individually, and as an)

owner, member, and/or manager of STARK LAW,)
 LLC, and STARK LEGAL, LLC; and)
)
 PREETESH PATEL, individually, and as an owner)
 and/or manager of ASHTON ASSET)
 MANAGEMENT, INC., CHM CAPITAL GROUP,)
 LLC, HKM FUNDING, LTD., and PACIFIC)
 CAPITAL HOLDINGS, INC.;)
)
 Defendants.)
 _____)

CONSENT TO RELEASE OF FINANCIAL INFORMATION

I, _____, of _____
 (city and state), do hereby direct any person, bank, savings and loan association, credit union,
 depository institution, finance company, commercial lending company, payment processor,
 payment processing entity, common carrier, customs broker, commercial mail receiving agency,
 mail holding and/or forwarding company, brokerage house, escrow agent, money market or
 mutual fund, title company, commodity trading company, or trustee, that holds, controls or
 maintains custody of assets, wherever located, that are owned or controlled by me, or any of the
 above Defendants, in whole or in part, or at which I, or any of the above Defendants, have an
 account of any kind upon which I am authorized to draw, and its officers, employees and agents,
 to disclose all information and deliver copies of all documents of every nature in its possession
 or control which relate to the said accounts to any attorney for Plaintiffs, and to give evidence
 relevant thereto, in the above-captioned matter, *Federal Trade Commission and State of Illinois*
v. Stark Law, LLC, et al., now pending in the United States District Court for the Northern
 District of Illinois, and this shall be irrevocable authority for so doing. This direction is intended
 to apply to the laws of countries other than the United States of America which restrict or
 prohibit the disclosure of bank or other financial information without the consent of the holder of

the account, and shall be construed as consent with respect thereto, and the same shall apply to any of the accounts for which I may be the relevant principal.

Dated: _____, 2016

[Signature]

[Print Name]