# **EXHIBIT A**

Oct. 2.2017 2:01PM No. 0076 P. 1/15 Case 2:17-cv-11962-MCA-MAH Document 1-1 Filed 11/21/17 Page 2 of 16 PageID: 12

# THE LAW OFFICES OF RONALD J. WRONKO, LLC 134 COLUMBIA TURNPIKE, FLORHAM PARK, NEW JERSEY 07932 Tel: 973-360-1001; Fax: 973-360-1881

#### FAX COVER SHEET

DATE:

OCTOBER 2, 2017

To:

KEITH J. ROSENBLATT, ESQ. @ (973)-741-2304

SENDER:

RONALD J. WRONKO, ESQ.

COMMENTS:

# CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE

The documents included in this fax message are intended only for the personal and confidential use of the designated recipients named above. This message may be an attorney-client communication and, as such, is privileged and confidential. If the reader of this message is not the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that you have received this document in error, and that any review, dissemination, distribution, or copying of this message is strictly prohibited. If you have received this telecopy in error, please immediately notify us by telephone to arrange for the return of the documents to us.

Oct. 2. 2017 2:02PM No. 0076 

> LAW OFFICES OF RONALD J. WRONKO, LLC

Ronald J. Wronko - O

134 COLUMBIA TURNPIKE FLORHAM PARK, NEW JERSEY 07932 (973) 360-1001 FAX (973) 360-1881

315 Madison Avenue, Sulte

901

New York, New York 10165

(973) 360~1001 (973)-360-1881

Member of New Jersey Bar • Member of New York Bar Q

ron@ronwronkolaw.com www.ronwronkolaw.com

October 2, 2017

Reply to New Jersey

#### VIA FACSIMILE AND REGULAR MAIL

Keith J. Rosenblatt, Esq. Littler Mendelson, P.C. One Newark Center, 8th Floor 1085 Raymond Boulevard Newark, New Jersey 07102

> Francesca Jean-Baptiste v. AT&T Mobility Services, LLC et al. Re:

> > Docket Number: ESX-L-6029-17

Dear Mr. Rosenblatt:

Enclosed please find a copy of plaintiff's filed First Amended Complaint and Jury Demand and CIS regarding the above referenced matter.

Very truly yours,

-Convelo Winko

Ronald J. Wronko

**Enclosures** 

RONALD J. WRONKO, LLC Attorney ID 019061997 134 Columbia Turnpike Florham Park, New Jersey 07932 (973) 360-1001 Attorney for plaintiff Francesca Jean-Baptiste

FRANCESCA JEAN-BAPTISTE,

Plaintiff,

٧.

MOBILITY LLC,: AT&T SERVICES, ROBERT WOODIER, JOHN DOES 1-10,: and ABC CORP. 1-10, said names being: fictitious,

Defendants.

SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY

LAW DIVISION: ESSEX COUNTY

DOCKET NUMBER: L-6029-17

CIVIL ACTION

AMENDED COMPLAINT **FIRST** AND COURT OF NEW JERSE

JURY DEMAND

LAW DIVISION

ESSEX VICINAGE

Plaintiff Francesca Jean-Baptiste ("Plaintiff"), by way of this First Amended Complaint and Jury Demand against the defendant, AT&T Mobility Services, LLC and Robert Woodier ("defendants"), hereby says:

# I. Nature of Action, Jurisdiction and Venue

- This is an action seeking legal relief for a violation of the New Jersey Law 1. Against Discrimination, N.J.S.A. 10:5-1 et seq. ("LAD") (gender); and aiding and abetting liability against Robert Woodier.
- This court has jurisdiction due to the nature of the action and the amount in 2. controversy. Additionally, plaintiff has satisfied all prerequisites to bringing these claims.
- 3. Venue is appropriate in this court since plaintiff resides in Essex County, New Jersey.

# II. Parties

- 4. Plaintiff was hired with AT&T on December 2, 2008.
- 5. Defendants are subject to suit under the LAD.
- 6. At all times referred to in this complaint, employees of the corporate defendant, including Robert Woodier, and John Does 1-10, were acting within the scope of their employment at the workplace during working hours. Moreover, the corporate defendant ratified, embraced and added to their conduct.

## III. Factual Allegations

- 7. Plaintiff was hired by AT&T on December 2, 2008, sales support representative. She is African-American and of Haitian descent.
- 8. Plaintiff has twice been named Acting Store Manager and has performed her job to the satisfaction of AT&T.
- Plaintiff has been the subject of race and gender discrimination and, most recently, retaliation that has prevented her from being promoted.
- 10. Plaintiff applied for a promotion to a Credit and Collection analyst position in or around July 2015. Plaintiff was qualified for this position.
- 11. Plaintiff was passed over for this position in favor of an underqualified Caucasian employee. She was advised of this decision on August 20, 2015.
- 12. Race was a substantial factor in the decision making process denying her the promotion.

- 13. Through the present, plaintiff has been passed over for other promotions based upon race and gender. She has been kept in the same position since March 2012, even though she has applied to over 100 positions.
- 14. In the last quarter of 2016, plaintiff met with Howard Satnick, Area Retail Sales Manager, to report her complaints about failure to promote based on race and gender. Plaintiff's immediate supervisor was present. Mr. Satnick immediately denied plaintiffs' allegations and failed to report the complaint.
- 15. Plaintiff received a bad performance review in December 2016 from Mr. Satnick, in retaliation for having reported that she was the subject of discrimination.
- 16. Plaintiff was subjected to racially charged remarks in the workplace. In or around October 2016, an Assistant Store Manager used the term, "N\*gger" in the workplace and insulted another African-American employee with remarks such as that her hair looks like "brillo."
- 17. In or around January 2017, a retail sales consultant said, "Why are black people so made at slavery?"
- 18. On February 18, 2017, plaintiff was the closing manager at the Union store with two retail sales consultants. There was a discrepancy in the amount of funds on hand resulting in an overage. Plaintiff called Retail Store Manager William Cortes on his AT&T company phone, but he did not answer. One of the retail sales consultants called him on his personal phone. He texted her back instructing that the money should be "taken out," which would be against AT&T's Retail Cash Reconciliation Policy. Plaintiff looked at the cell phone regarding the text. She did not "grab" the cell phone out of the retail sales

Oct. 2.2017 2:03PM No. 0076 P. 6/15 Case 2:17-cv-11962-MCA-MAH Document 1-1 Filed 11/21/17 Page 7 of 16 PageID: 17

consultant's hands. Plaintiff then advised Mr. Cortes by text that she would not violate the policy.

- 19. On the following day, Mr. Cortes came into the store and proceeded to scream at plaintiff in front of Area Retail Sales Manager Rick Collins. During the meeting, plaintiff reported the fact that an Assistant Manager had used the term "N\*gger" in the work place. She also reported that a Retail Sales Consultant had asked, "why are black people so mad at slavery?" Mr. Cortes simply smiled at the report.
- 20. Plaintiff contacted the AT&T ethics hotline and made a report regarding the hostile treatment she received and of the racially biased incidents.
- 21. Plaintiff was the subject of retaliatory treatment. On a daily basis, Cortes would send her daily tasks to complete but would not provide any assistance so that she could complete such tasks along with all of her other responsibilities. He would also change her schedule without notification. He unfairly criticized her coachings without assisting her to improve the alleged deficiency.
- 22. On March 20, 2017, plaintiff was placed on a Final Written Warning of AT&T's Code of Business Conduct. AT&T skipped steps of progressive discipline. She was allegedly given it because she looked at the text message on February 18, 2017, shown to her by the retail sales consultant. They wrongfully alleged that plaintiff had grabbed the phone out of the retail store consultant's hands and had yelled at her, even though video surveillance footage did not bear out either allegation.
- 23. By placing her on a Final Written Warning, AT&T has prevented plaintiff from being promoted.

- 24. AT&T conducted a sham investigation of plaintiff's complaints and concluded that plaintiff was not promoted because she lacked leadership skills. She was denied a transfer. She was told that her claims of gender and race discrimination were unfounded.
- 25. She has been the subject of a hostile work environment and disciplinary write-up. Mr. Woodier has aided and abetted the corporate defendant in such actions.
- 26. Plaintiff further brought her internal complaint to Brian Gonterman, Vice President and General Manager of Metro New York. Plaintiff advised him of the issues noted herein. Mr. Gonterman advised her that all investigations are deemed closed.

#### .COUNT I

# (Gender Discrimination under the Law Against Discrimination-Disparate Treatment)

- 27. Plaintiff realleges and incorporates herein the above paragraphs.
- 28. The foregoing facts and circumstances demonstrate that defendant has violated the New Jersey Law Against Discrimination, N.J.S.A. 10:5-1 *et seq.*, by treating plaintiff in a disparate fashion and discriminating against plaintiff based upon plaintiff's gender.
- 29. As a direct and proximate result of the actions of defendant, plaintiff has suffered mental anguish, physical discomfort, pain and suffering, and shame and embarrassment. Furthermore, plaintiff has suffered lost wages, a diminished ability to earn a living, and a diminished capacity to enjoy plaintiff's life. Moreover, plaintiff may have to incur expenses for medical, psychiatric, and/or psychological counseling and care. Plaintiff's damages have been experienced in the past, and they will continue into the future.
- 30. Furthermore, plaintiff has been required to retain an attorney to assist Plaintiff in asserting plaintiff's claims and protecting plaintiff's rights.

## COUNT II

# (Race Discrimination under the Law Against Discrimination-Disparate Treatment)

- 31. Plaintiff realleges and incorporates herein the above paragraphs.
- 32. The foregoing facts and circumstances demonstrate that defendant has violated the New Jersey Law Against Discrimination, N.J.S.A. 10:5-1 *et seq.*, by treating plaintiff in a disparate fashion and discriminating against plaintiff based upon plaintiff's race.
- 33. As a direct and proximate result of the actions of defendant, plaintiff has suffered mental anguish, physical discomfort, pain and suffering, and shame and embarrassment. Furthermore, plaintiff has suffered lost wages, a diminished ability to earn a living, and a diminished capacity to enjoy plaintiff's life. Moreover, plaintiff may have to incur expenses for medical, psychiatric, and/or psychological counseling and care. Plaintiff's damages have been experienced in the past, and they will continue into the future.
- 34. Furthermore, plaintiff has been required to retain an attorney to assist Plaintiff in asserting plaintiff's claims and protecting plaintiff's rights.

# COUNT III (Retaliation under the Law Against Discrimination)

- 35. Plaintiff realleges and incorporates herein the above paragraphs.
- 36. The foregoing facts and circumstances demonstrate that defendant has violated the New Jersey Law Against Discrimination, N.J.S.A. 10:5-1 *et seq.*, by retaliating against plaintiff for complaint(s) of discrimination.
- 37. As a direct and proximate result of the actions of defendant, plaintiff has suffered mental anguish, physical discomfort, pain and suffering, and shame and embarrassment. Furthermore, plaintiff has suffered lost wages, a diminished ability to earn

a living, and a diminished capacity to enjoy plaintiff's life. Moreover, plaintiff may have to incur expenses for medical, psychiatric, and/or psychological counseling and care. Plaintiff's damages have been experienced in the past, and they will continue into the future.

38. Furthermore, plaintiff has been required to retain an attorney to assist Plaintiff in asserting plaintiff's claims and protecting plaintiff's rights.

# COUNT IV (Hostile Work Environment under the Law Against Discrimination)

- 39. Plaintiff realleges and incorporates herein the above paragraphs.
- 40. The foregoing facts and circumstances demonstrate that defendant has violated the New Jersey Law Against Discrimination, N.J.S.A. 10:5-1 *et seq.*, by creating a severe and pervasive hostile work environment.
- 41. As a direct and proximate result of the actions of defendant, plaintiff has suffered mental anguish, physical discomfort, pain and suffering, and shame and embarrassment. Furthermore, plaintiff has suffered lost wages, a diminished ability to earn a living, and a diminished capacity to enjoy plaintiff's life. Moreover, plaintiff may have to incur expenses for medical, psychiatric, and/or psychological counseling and care. Plaintiff's damages have been experienced in the past, and they will continue into the future.
- 42. Furthermore, plaintiff has been required to retain an attorney to assist Plaintiff in asserting plaintiff's claims and protecting plaintiff's rights.

# COUNT V (Aiding and Abetting under the Law Against Discrimination against defendant Robert Woodier)

43. Plaintiff realleges and incorporates herein the above paragraphs.

- 44. The foregoing facts and circumstances demonstrate that defendant Robert Woodier has violated the New Jersey Law Against Discrimination, by aiding and abetting or otherwise assisting the commission of or attempting to commit acts of disparate treatment.
- 45. As a direct and proximate result of the actions of defendant Robert Woodier, plaintiff has suffered mental anguish, physical discomfort, pain and suffering, and shame and embarrassment. Furthermore, plaintiff has suffered lost wages, a diminished ability to earn a living, and a diminished capacity to enjoy plaintiff's life. Moreover, plaintiff has and/or may have to incur expenses for medical, psychiatric, and/or psychological counseling and care. Plaintiff's damages have been experienced in the past, and they will continue into the future.
- 46. Furthermore, plaintiff has been required to retain an attorney to assist Plaintiff in asserting plaintiff's claims and protecting plaintiff's rights.

WHEREFORE, as to each and every of the foregoing counts, plaintiff demands judgment on each and all of these counts against the defendants jointly and severally, as follows:

- A. Compensatory damages;
- Damages for lost wages and benefits, back pay and front pay;
- C. Damages for humiliation, mental and emotional distress;
- D. Statutory damages, if applicable;
- E. Punitive damages and or liquidated damages where permitted by law;
- F. Attorneys' fees and costs of suit;
- G. Lawful interest including pre-judgment interest on lost wages;

- H. Lawful interest including pre-judgment interest on any wages not paid in a timely manner; and
- I. Such other, further and different relief as the Court deems fitting, just and proper.

Plaintiff hereby reserves the right to amend this Complaint to supplement or modify the factual obligations and claims contained herein, based upon information received from the defendant, witnesses, experts, and others in the course of discovery in this matter.

## **DEMAND FOR TRIAL BY JURY**

Pursuant to Rule 4:35-1(a) and (b), plaintiff respectfully demands a trial by jury on all issues in the within action so triable.

# **DESIGNATION OF TRIAL COUNSEL**

In accordance with Rule 4:25-4, RONALD J. WRONKO is hereby designated as trial counsel on behalf of plaintiff.

## DEMAND FOR PRODUCTION OF INSURANCE AGREEMENTS

Pursuant to R. 4:10-2(b), demand is hereby made that you disclose to the undersigned whether there are any insurance agreements or policies under which any person or firm carrying on an insurance business may be liable to satisfy all or part of a judgment which may be entered in the action or to indemnify or reimburse for payment made to satisfy the judgment.

Oct. 2.2017 2:05PM No. 0076 P. 12/15 Case 2:17-cv-11962-MCA-MAH Document 1-1 Filed 11/21/17 Page 13 of 16 PageID: 23

If so, please attach a copy of each, or in the alternative state, under oath and certification: (a) policy number; (b) name and address of insurer; (c) inception and expiration date; (d) names and addresses of all persons insured thereunder; (e) personal injury limits; (f) property damage limits; and (g) medical payment limits.

RONALD J. WRONKO, LLC

Attorney for plaintiff

Ronald J. Wronko

Dated: September 19, 2017

CERTIFICATION PURSUANT TO R. 4:5-1

Pursuant to Rule 4:5-1, the undersigned certifies that to the best of his knowledge, the within matters in controversy are not the subject of any other action pending in any other Court or of a pending arbitration proceeding nor is any action or arbitration proceeding contemplated nor are other parties required to be joined in this action.

Dated: September 19, 2017

Oct. 2.2017 2:05PM No. 0076 P. 14/15 Case 2:17-cv-11962-MCA-MAH Document 1-1 Filed 11/21/17 Page 15 of 16 PageID: 25

# Appendix XII-B1



# **CIVIL CASE INFORMATION STATEMENT** (CIS)

FOR USE BY CLERK'S OFFICE ONLY									
PAYMENT TYPE: CK CG CA									
Сне/ск по.									
<u> </u>									
AMOUNT:									
OVERPAYMENT:									
BATCH NUMBER:									

		Civil Part pleadings ading will be reject information above	al Law Division t motions) under <i>Rul</i> e 4;5-1 for filing, under <i>Rul</i> e 1:5-6(c), black bar is not completed nature is not affixed			AMOUNT:  OVERPAYMENT:  BATCH NUMBER:				
ATTORNEY/PROSE NAME				TELEPHONE NUMBER CO			UNTY OF VENUE			
Ronald J. Wron	ko, Esq	•	(973) 360-1001 Essex							
FIRM NAME (if appl Law Offices of R		. Wronko, LLC					DOCKET NUMBER (when available) ESX-L-6029-17			
OFFICE ADDRESS							DOCUMENT TYPE			
134 Columbia Ti		07020				FIRST	First Amended Complaint and Jury C			
Florham Plark, N	sey 07932 				JURY	JURY DEMAND WYES NO				
NAME OF PARTY (e.g., John Doe, Plaintiff) Francesca Jean-Baptiste, Plaintiff				CAPTION Francesca Jean-Baptiste v. AT&T Mobility Services, LLC, Robert Woodier, John Does 1-10 and ABC Corp. 1-10, sald names being fictitious.						
CASE TYPE NUMBI		HURRICANE SANDY	IS TUI	S A PROFESS	SIONAL MALERACI	ICE CASE		☐ YES	■ NO	
(See reverse side for listing) RELATED?  618 ■ NO			IS THIS A PROFESSIONAL MALPRACTICE CASE? ☐ YES ☐ NO  IF YOU HAVE CHECKED "YES," SEE N.J.S.A, 2A:53 A -27 AND APPLICABLE CASE LAW  REGARDING YOUR OBLIGATION TO FILE AN AFFIDAVIT OF MERIT.							
RELATED CASES P	? ·■ No	IF YES, LIST DOCKET NUMBERS								
DO YOU ANTICIPA (arising out of same ☐ YES	on or occurrence)?  No	NAME OF DEFENDANT'S PRIMARY INSURANCE COMPANY (If known)  NONE  NONE  UNKNOWN  ON THIS FORM CANNOT BE INTRODUCED INTO EVIDENCE.								
		OR PURPOSES OF DET								
DO PARTIES HAVE	A CURRI	ENT, PAST OR	FYES, I	S THAT RELA	TIONSHIP:					
DOES THE STATUT	E GOVE	RNING THIS CASE PROV	(IDE FOF	RPAYMENT	bi FEE's By the Lo	KING PAF	ity,	YES	No No	
USE THIS SPACE T ACCELERATED DIS	O ALERT SPOSITIO	THE COURT TO ANY SP IN	ECIAL C	ASE,CHARA	SFP 2	1 2017				
Do You OR	YOUR CL	IENT NEED ANY DISABILITY A	ссоммо	DATIONS?	IFYES, PĽĒÁŠĖ 106	NTIFYTHE	REQUESTED!	CCOMMODA	TION	
WILL AN INT	FERPRETE	R BE NEEDED?			IF YE9, FOR WHAT	LANGUAGE1	?			
I certify that confidential <u>personal</u> identifiers have been redacted from documents now submitted to the court, and will be redacted from all documents submitted in the future in accordance with <i>Rule</i> 1:38-7(b),										
ATTORNEY SIGNATU	ĺ	Jours DV i	hm				, <u></u>			

-Oct. 2.2017 2:06PM No. 0076 P. 15/15 

# CIVIL CASE INFORMATION STATEMENT

(CIS)
Use for Initial pleadings (not motions) under Rule 4:5-1

AN THE PERSON NAMED IN COLUMN TWO IS NOT THE PERSON NAMED IN COLUMN TO THE PERSON NAMED IN COLUM	<u> </u>		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
CASE TYPES (C	Choose one and enter number of case typ	ө іл	appropriate space on the reverse side.)
151 NAM 175 FOR 302 TEN 399 REA 502 BOO 505 OTH 506 PIP 510 UM 511 ACT 512 LEM 801 SUM 802 OPE	AL PROPERTY (other than Tenancy, Contract, Con OK ACCOUNT (debt collection matters only) HER INSURANCE CLAIM (including declaratory Jud COVERAGE or UIM CLAIM (coverage Issues only) TION ON NEGOTIABLE INSTRUMENT		
305 COI 509 EMI 599 COI 603N AUT 603Y AUT 610 AUT 621 UM	300 days' discovery  NSTRUCTION  PLOYMENT (other than CEPA or LAD)  NTRACT/COMMERCIAL TRANSACTION  TO NEGLIGENCE – PERSONAL INJURY (non-verto NEGLIGENCE – PERSONAL INJURY (verbal that the control of th		
005 CIV 301 COI 602 ASS 604 ME 606 PRO 607 PRO 608 TOI 609 DEI 616 WH	450 days' discovery //IL RIGHTS NDEMNATION SAULT AND BATTERY DICAL MALPRACTICE ODUCT LIABILITY OFESSIONAL MALPRACTICE XIC TORT FAMATION HISTLEBLOWER / CONSCIENTIOUS EMPLOYEE /ERSE CONDEMNATION W AGAINST DISCRIMINATION (LAD) CASES	PROT	TECTION ACT (CEPA) CASES
156 EN' 303 MT' 508 CO 513 CO 514 INS - 620 FAI	- Active Case Management by Individual Jo VIRONMENTAL/ENVIRONMENTAL COVERAGE I T. LAUREL IMPLEX COMMERCIAL IMPLEX CONSTRUCTION SURANCE FRAUD LSE CLAIMS ACT TIONS IN LIEU OF PREROGATIVE WRITS		
271 AC 274 RIS 281 BR 282 FO 285 STI 286 LE 287 YA 289 RE 290 PO	SPERDAL/SEROQUEL/ZYPREXA  ISTOL-MYERS SQUIBB ENVIRONMENTAL ISAMAX RYKER TRIDENT HIP IMPLANTS VAQUIN Z/YASMIN/OCELLA IGLAN OMPTON LAKES ENVIRONMENTAL LITIGATION	293 295 296 297 299 300 601 623	PELVIC MESH/BARD DEPUY ASR HIP IMPLANT LITIGATION ALLODERM REGENERATIVE TISSUE MATRIX STRYKER REJUVENATE/ABG II MODULAR HIP STEM COMPONENTS MIRENA CONTRACEPTIVE DEVICE OLMESARTAN MEDOXOMIL MEDICATIONS/BENICAR TALC-BASED BODY POWDERS ASBESTOS PROPECIA STRYKER LFIT CoCr V40 FEMORAL HEADS
In the space	ve this case requires a track other than that pro e under "Case Characteristics. se check off each applicable category	vided	d above, please Indicate the reason on Side 1,  Putative Class Action   Title 59