

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF FLORIDA**

LEON STAMBLER,

Plaintiff,

v.

SYNOVUS FINANCIAL CORP. and  
SYNOVUS BANK,

Defendants.

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CIVIL ACTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_

**JURY TRIAL DEMANDED**

**PLAINTIFF’S ORIGINAL COMPLAINT**

Plaintiff LEON STAMBLER files this Original Complaint against the above-named Defendants, alleging as follows:

**I. THE PARTIES**

1. Plaintiff LEON STAMBLER (“Stambler”) is an individual residing in Parkland, Florida.

2. Defendant SYNOVUS FINANCIAL CORP. is a Georgia corporation with its principal place of business in Columbus, Georgia. This Defendant can be served with process through its registered agent, Corporation Service Company, Inc., 40 Technology Parkway South, Ste. 300, Norcross, Georgia 30092.

3. Defendant SYNOVUS BANK is a banking subsidiary of Defendant Synovus Financial Corp. with its principal place of business in Columbus, Georgia. This Defendant may be served with process through its Corporation Service Company, Inc., 40 Technology Parkway South, Ste. 300, Norcross, Georgia 30092.

## **II. JURISDICTION AND VENUE**

4. This is an action for patent infringement arising under 35 U.S.C. §§ 271, 281, and 284-285, among others. This Court has subject matter jurisdiction of this action under Title 28 U.S.C. §1331 and §1338(a).

5. The Court has general and specific personal jurisdiction over each Defendant, and venue is proper pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1391 and 1400(b). On information and belief, (i) each Defendant has substantial contacts with the forum as a result of pervasive business activities conducted within the State of Florida and within this District; (ii) each Defendant regularly solicits business in Florida and in this District, and derives substantial revenue from products, systems, and/or services provided to individuals or entities residing in Florida and in this District; (iii) each Defendant provides secure online transaction services directly to customers in this District through its interactive website(s); and (iv) each Defendant conducts business relating to secure online banking, including online bill pay, with and for customers residing in this District through interactive website(s) (*e.g.*, [onlinebanking.synovus.com](http://onlinebanking.synovus.com)).

## **III. PATENT INFRINGEMENT OF U.S. PATENT NO. 5,793,302**

6. On August 11, 1998, United States Patent No. 5,793,302 (“the ‘302 patent”) was duly and legally issued for a “Method for Securing Information Relevant to a Transaction.” A true and correct copy of the ‘302 patent is attached hereto as Exhibit A.

7. Stambler is the inventor and owner of all rights, title, and interest in and to the ‘302 patent, and Stambler possesses all rights of recovery under it.

8. Defendants SYNOVUS FINANCIAL CORP. and SYNOVUS BANK (together, “Synovus Bank”) have infringed claimed methods of the ‘302 patent.

9. Upon information and belief, Synovus Bank has directly infringed claims of the '302 patent, including (for example) at least claims 41 and 47 of the '302 patent, by performing secure online transactions initiated using Synovus Bank's secure online banking products and/or services (*e.g.*, Synovus Online Banking) accessible through Synovus Bank's interactive online website(s) (*e.g.*, [onlinebanking.synovus.com](http://onlinebanking.synovus.com)), and claims 7 and 8 of the '302 patent by engaging in encrypted communications between computers or other devices owned by Synovus Bank.

10. Stambler has been damaged as a result of Synovus Bank's infringing conduct. Synovus Bank is, thus, liable to Stambler in an amount that adequately compensates him for its infringements, which, by law, cannot be less than a reasonable royalty, together with interest and costs as fixed by this Court under 35 U.S.C. § 284.

#### **IV. JURY DEMAND**

Stambler hereby requests a trial by jury pursuant to Rule 38 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure.

#### **V. PRAYER FOR RELIEF**

Stambler requests that the Court find in his favor and against Defendants, and that the Court grant Stambler the following relief:

- a. Judgment that one or more claims of United States Patent No. 5,793,302 have been infringed, either literally and/or under the doctrine of equivalents, by one or more Defendant;
- b. Judgment that Defendants account for and pay to Stambler all damages to and costs incurred by Stambler because of Defendants' infringing activities and other conduct complained of herein;
- c. That Stambler be granted pre-judgment and post judgment interest on the damages caused by Defendants' infringing activities and other conduct complained of herein;

- d. That the Court declare this an exceptional case and award Stambler his reasonable attorney's fees and costs in accordance with 35 U.S.C. § 285; and
- e. That Stambler be granted such other and further relief as the Court may deem just and proper under the circumstances.

**Dated: February \_\_, 2014.**

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Joshua B. Spector  
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*Motion for Admission, Pro Hac Vice  
forthcoming*

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