IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS MARSHALL DIVISION

PEREGRIN LICENSING LLC, Plaintiff, v. DISCOVER FINANCIAL SERVICES, Defendant.

Case No.

JURY TRIAL DEMANDED

COMPLAINT FOR PATENT INFRINGEMENT

Plaintiff Peregrin Licensing LLC ("Peregrin" or "Plaintiff") files this Complaint against Defendant Discover Financial Services ("Discover" or "Defendant") for patent infringement under 35 U.S.C. § 271 and alleges as follows:

THE PARTIES

1. Plaintiff Peregrin Licensing LLC is a limited liability company, organized and existing under the laws of the State of Texas, with its principal place of business located at 100 W. Houston Street, Marshall, Texas 75670.

2. Upon information and belief, Discover is a corporation organized and existing under the laws of the State of Delaware, with a place of business at 2500 Lake Cook Road, Riverwoods, Illinois 60015. Upon information and belief, Defendant may be served with process via its registered agent, The Corporation Trust Company, Corporation Trust Center, 1209 Orange Street, Wilmington, Delaware 19801.

JURISDICTION

3. This is an action for patent infringement arising under the patent laws of the United States, 35 U.S.C. §§ 1, *et seq*. This Court has jurisdiction over this action pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1331 and 1338(a).

4. This Court has personal jurisdiction over Defendant. Defendant conducts business and has committed acts of patent infringement and/or has induced acts of patent infringement by others in this District and/or has contributed to patent infringement by others in this Judicial District, the State of Texas, and elsewhere in the United States.

5. Defendant is subject to this Court's jurisdiction pursuant to due process and/or the Texas Long Arm Statute due at least to its substantial business in this State and District, including (a) at least part of its past infringing activities, (b) regularly doing or soliciting business in Texas, and/or (c) engaging in persistent conduct and/or deriving substantial revenue from goods and services provided to customers in Texas. Upon information and belief, Defendant, directly or indirectly, participates in the stream of commerce that results in products, including the accused products, being made, used, offered for sale, and/or sold in the State of Texas and/or imported into the United States to the State of Texas.

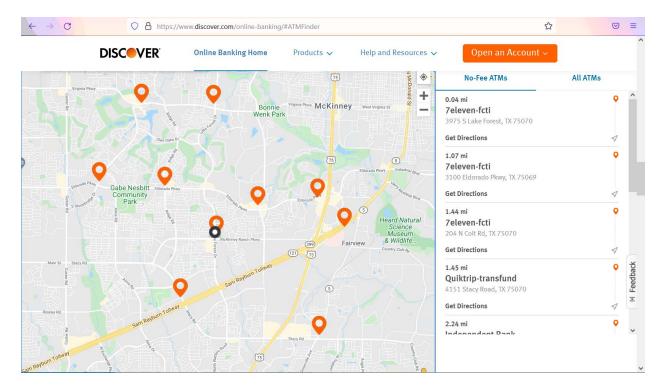
6. Upon information and belief, Defendant is registered to do business in Texas with the Secretary of State. The Texas Business Organizations Code (Bus. Org. § 9.001) requires all entities formed outside of the State of Texas to complete such registration in order to "transact business" in Texas. Upon information and belief, Defendant is registered as a taxable entity with the Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts in connection with its marketing, banking, credit and mortgage services.

7. Upon information and belief, Defendant maintains physical places of business throughout the United States, including in this Judicial District, including but not limited to: 1500

Case 2:21-cv-00265 Document 1 Filed 07/15/21 Page 3 of 28 PageID #: 3

North Central Expressway, McKinney, Texas 75070; 1700 South McDonald, McKinney, Texas 75069; 5020 West Virginia Parkway, McKinney, Texas 75071; 400 North Carroll Boulevard, Denton, Texas 76201; and 1415 West Oak Street, Denton, Texas 76201.

8. Upon information and belief, Defendant directs customers in this Judicial District to its places of business listed in paragraph 7 above through its website's ATM Locator¹:



9. Upon information and belief, Defendant provides its products and services through the ATMs it operates and manages in this Judicial District.

10. Upon information and belief, Defendant's employees work with ATMs and ATM operators in this Judicial District on issues related to technical training and the service of ATMs. Upon information and belief, Defendant reimburses these employees for travel and personal expenses related to their job responsibilities.

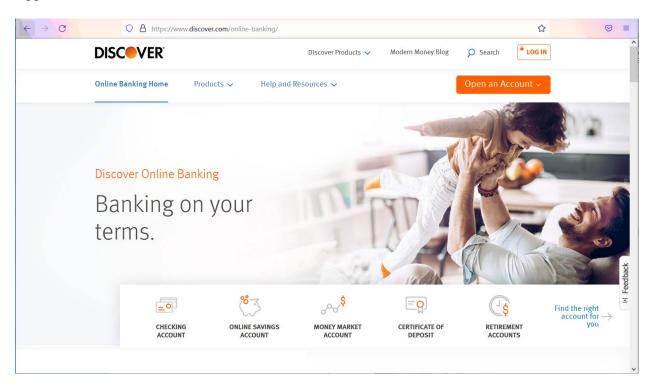
¹ https://www.discover.com/online-banking/#ATMFinder

Case 2:21-cv-00265 Document 1 Filed 07/15/21 Page 4 of 28 PageID #: 4

11. Upon information and belief, the ATM operators located within the Eastern District of Texas have executed Agreements with Defendant. Upon information and belief, the Agreements set forth standards and requirements enumerated by Defendant that ATM operators are required to comply with.

12. Upon information and belief, Defendant regularly, continuously, and systematically provides support to and control over the ATMs and ATM operators located in this Judicial District.

13. Upon information and belief, Defendant offers its products and services throughout Texas, including this Judicial District, by shipping, distributing, offering for sale, selling, and advertising its products through its website, its online banking system, and its mobile Discover App:²



² https://www.discover.com/online-banking/; https://www.discover.com/online-banking/banking-features/mobile-app/

Case 2:21-cv-00265 Document 1 Filed 07/15/21 Page 5 of 28 PageID #: 5



Online Banking Home

Products 🗸

Help and Resources \checkmark

Open an Account

Features to fit your lifestyle



Mobile Check Deposit

Deposit checks anytime, anywhere. Simply snap a photo, upload it and your check will be deposited. $(\rm]$

ATM Finder

Find an ATM and withdraw cash whenever you need it. With over 60,000 no-fee ATMs in the U.S., you're never far from your money.

Online Bill Pay

Consolidate your bills into a single, easy to manage and secure hub and set up automatic payments to help ensure you pay them on time, every time.

Secure, convenient account management



Count on fast, secure access

Log into your account easily using Touch/Face ID or a 4-digit passcode, or use Quick View to securely check your account balance without logging in. ()



Move your money with ease

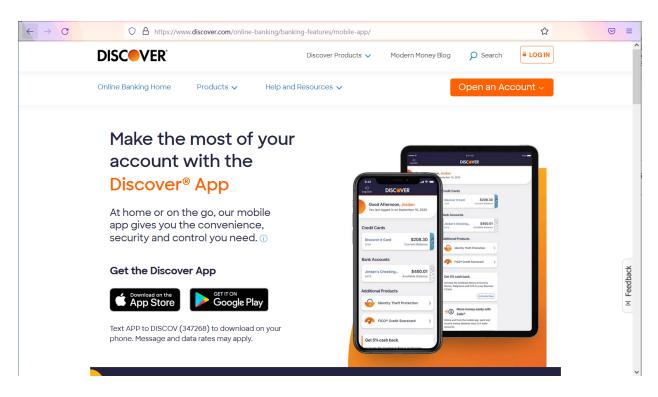
Transfer money between your bank accounts seamlessly–no matter if they're a Discover account or an external personal account. ()



Send money with Zelle®

Zelle is a quick and simple way to get money directly to and from friends and family with U.S. bank accounts. It's easy to set up and free to use with the Discover app. ①

Case 2:21-cv-00265 Document 1 Filed 07/15/21 Page 6 of 28 PageID #: 6



14. Upon information and belief, Defendant manages the marketing, sales, and provision of services of its products to customers and/or potential customers located in Texas and in the Eastern District of Texas.

15. Upon information and belief, Defendant regularly engages in marketing activities that promote the sale of Discover products to customers and/or potential customers located in Texas and in this Judicial District. Upon information and belief, Defendant maintains interactive commercial websites, accessible to residents of the State of Texas and this Judicial District, through which Defendant promotes its products that infringe the Patents-in-Suit. Upon information and belief, these interactive commercial websites direct customers as to where to find accused products and services. Defendant's interactive commercial websites allow a customer to see available products and services and ATM locations in this Judicial District. Upon information and belief, Defendant attempts to sell its products and services within this Judicial District by causing advertisements for its products and services to appear on television and radio programs

Case 2:21-cv-00265 Document 1 Filed 07/15/21 Page 7 of 28 PageID #: 7

broadcast into the District in local newspapers distributed within this Judicial District, and in personal mail distributed within this Judicial District.

16. Venue is proper in this Judicial District pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1391(b), 1391(c), and 1400(b) because, among other things, Defendant has transacted business in the Eastern District of Texas and has committed acts of direct and indirect infringement in the Eastern District of Texas.

PATENTS-IN-SUIT

17. On July 20, 2010, the United States Patent and Trademark Office duly and legally issued U.S. Patent No. 7,761,371 (the "371 Patent") entitled "Analyzing a Credit Counseling Agency." and correct copy of available А true the '371 Patent is at: https://pdfpiw.uspto.gov/.piw?Docid=07761371.

18. On November 2, 2010, the United States Patent and Trademark Office duly and legally issued U.S. Patent No. 7,827,097 (the "'097 Patent") entitled "System for Transferring an Inbound Communication to One of a Plurality of Credit-Counseling Agencies." A true and correct copy of the '097 Patent is available at: https://pdfpiw.uspto.gov/.piw?Docid=07827097.

19. On June 26, 2012, the United States Patent and Trademark Office duly and legally issued U.S. Patent No. 8,209,257 (the "257 Patent") entitled "System for Transferring an Inbound Communication to One of a Plurality of Credit-Counseling Agencies." A true and correct copy of the '257 Patent is available at: https://pdfpiw.uspto.gov/.piw?Docid=08209257.

20. On May 13, 2014, the United States Patent and Trademark Office duly and legally issued U.S. Patent No. 8,725,630 (the "'630 Patent") entitled "Method of Processing a Phone Call." А true and correct copy of the '630 Patent is available at: https://pdfpiw.uspto.gov/.piw?Docid=08725630.

Case 2:21-cv-00265 Document 1 Filed 07/15/21 Page 8 of 28 PageID #: 8

21. On March 12, 2019, the United States Patent and Trademark Office duly and legally issued U.S. Patent No. 10,230,840 (the "840 Patent") entitled "Method of Using an Apparatus Processing Phone Call Routing." A true and correct copy of the '840 Patent is available at: https://pdfpiw.uspto.gov/.piw?Docid=10230840.

22. Peregrin is the sole and exclusive owner of all right, title, and interest to and in the '371, '097, '257, '630, and '840 Patents (collectively, the "Patents-in-Suit"), and holds the exclusive right to take all actions necessary to enforce its rights to the Patents-in-Suit, including the filing of this patent infringement lawsuit. Peregrin also has the right to recover all damages for past infringement of the Patents-in-Suit as appropriate under the law.

23. Peregrin has at all times complied with the marking provisions of 35 U.S.C. § 287 with respect to the Patents-in-Suit. On information and belief, prior assignees and licensees have also complied with the marking provisions of 35 U.S.C. § 287.

FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS

24. The Patents-in-Suit generally cover systems and methods for aspects of call referral services. The invention described in the Patents-in-Suit was developed by Michael Dennis Morency, the President and CEO of Peregrin, and William John Delinsky, Timothy James Fish, and David Gary Walker. For example, this technology is implemented in interactive voice response ("IVR") systems for referring calls to financial assistance providers, and in particular, credit counseling agencies. Infringing products include IVR systems for referring calls to financial assistance providers and credit counseling agencies including, but not limited to, the credit counseling services provided by Defendant or other entities contractually acting on Defendant's behalf (the "Accused Products").

Case 2:21-cv-00265 Document 1 Filed 07/15/21 Page 9 of 28 PageID #: 9

25. Defendant has infringed the Patents-in-Suit by making, using, selling, offering to sell, and/or importing IVR systems that infringe the Patents-in-Suit.

<u>COUNT I</u> (Infringement of the '371 Patent)

26. Paragraphs 1 through 25 are incorporated by reference as if fully set forth herein.

27. Peregrin has not licensed or otherwise authorized Defendant to make, use, offer for sale, sell, or import any products that embody the inventions of the '371 Patent.

28. Defendant has directly infringed the claims of the '371 Patent, either literally or under the doctrine of equivalents, without authority and in violation of 35 U.S.C. § 271, by making, using, offering to sell, selling, and/or importing into the United States products that satisfy each and every limitation of one or more claims of the '371 Patent. Such products include but are not limited to IVR systems and methods used by Defendant. On information and belief, infringing products include the systems and methods provided by Defendant through dialing "1-800-347-1121."³

³ https://www.discover.com/credit-cards/resources/how-to-read-a-credit-card-statement/



29. For example, Defendant has directly infringed at least claim 1 of the '371 Patent by performing a method of using an IVR system in analyzing a credit counseling agency in the United States.

30. Upon information and belief, Defendant performed a method of automatically capturing with an automatic communication system which comprises a computer, respective call data corresponding to inbound communications, where the call from a debtor is associated with a creditor by the computer system. Upon information and belief, when a caller dials the number, "1-800-347-1121," the caller is directed to the automatic communication system.

Case 2:21-cv-00265 Document 1 Filed 07/15/21 Page 11 of 28 PageID #: 11

31. Upon information and belief, Defendant performed a method which automatically captures the call data to produce a report which analyzes the credit counseling agency. Upon information and belief, the automatic communication system states: "Thank you for calling the Discover credit counselor hotline. This hotline has been established to assist you in locating the nearest Discover recommended credit counselor. If you are ready to enter your ZIP Code and hear the information on up to three recommended credit counselors, press one." When the caller presses one, the automatic communication system states: "Using the keys on your phone, please enter your billing or home zip code now, followed by the pound key." When a caller enters their five-digit zip code and presses pound, the automatic communication system asks if the zip code is correct, and if so, asks the caller to press one. When the caller confirms the zip code entered is correct by pressing one, the automatic communication system states "Great, please give our system just a moment to retrieve credit counselor information for you. You might also want to get a pen and paper for you to write down the name and address and information for each When you are ready to hear the first one please press one." The automatic communication system provides at least three credit counseling agencies to the caller including, but not limited to, Money Management International, Consumer Credit Counseling Service of the Midwest, Inc., and Credit Counseling Service of Greater Atlanta, Inc.

32. Because of Defendant's infringement of the '371 Patent, Peregrin has suffered damages in an amount to be proved at trial.

<u>COUNT II</u> (Infringement of the '097 Patent)

33. Paragraphs 1 through 25 are incorporated by reference as if fully set forth herein.

Case 2:21-cv-00265 Document 1 Filed 07/15/21 Page 12 of 28 PageID #: 12

34. Peregrin has not licensed or otherwise authorized Defendant to make, use, offer for sale, sell, or import any products that embody the inventions of the '097 Patent.

35. Defendant has directly infringed the '097 Patent, either literally or under the doctrine of equivalents, without authority and in violation of 35 U.S.C. § 271, by making, using, offering to sell, selling, and/or importing into the United States products that satisfy each and every limitation of claim 57 of the '097 Patent. Such products include but are not limited to IVR systems and methods used by Defendant. On information and belief, infringing products include the systems and methods provided by Defendant through dialing "1-800-347-1121."⁴

⁴ https://www.discover.com/credit-cards/resources/how-to-read-a-credit-card-statement/

DISCOVER			Cordmember Since		
ACCOUNT SUM					Page
	WWART	\$6,770.89	New Balance	MATION	\$943.2
Previous Balance Payments and Credits		\$5,836.00			
Payments and Creaits Purchases	+	\$7,82	Minimum Payment Due		\$35.0
Balance Transfers	+	\$0.00	G Payment Due Date		December 18, 201
Cash Advances	+	\$0.00	Late Payment Warning: If we	to not receive your mi	nimum payment by the
Fees Charged	+	\$0.50	date listed above, you may have	to pay a late fee of up	p to \$35.00 and your
Interest Charged	+	\$0.00	purchase and balance transfer /		ons may be increased up t
New Balance		\$943.21	the Penalty APR of 24.99% varia Minimum Payment Warning:		
See Interest Charge Calculatie <u>Transactions section for detail</u> Credit Line Credit Line Available			period, you will pay more in inte bolance. For example: If you make no additional charges using this card and each month	rest and it will take yo You will pay off the	And you will end up poying an estimated total
Cosh Advance Credit Line		\$1,100	you pay Only the minimum payment	3 years	of \$1,100
Cash Advance Credit Line Avai	lable	\$1,100	If you would like information ab		
You may be able to avoid inter See reverse for details.	est on Purcha	ues.	REWARDS ()		Anniversary Mont
800 800 max	FIC		Cashback Bonus®		Ma
0		🐔 🚹 📋	Opening Balance		\$ 11.5
500	/60	5 -	New Cashback Bonus This Perio	d	
min X0	O [®] Credit Sco	re on 11/17/14	Everywhere Else Redeemed This Period		+ \$ 0.0 - \$ 0.0
	More at Disco		Cashback Bonus Ba	lance	\$ 11.60
			To learn more, log in at Discove		
New York Residents: For more 1-800-347-2683. You may con Department of Financial Services	toct the New	fork State	Lo iearn more, log in at Discove	r.com	

36. For example, Defendant has directly infringed at least claim 57 of the '097 Patent by performing a method of using a computer system to refer a telephone communication to one of a plurality of credit counseling agencies based on creditor criteria.

37. Upon information and belief, Defendant performs a method of providing a digital computer having a processor, the processor connected to store and receive signals at a memory device, to receive input signals corresponding to input information from an input device, and to convert output signals into output information at an output device.

Case 2:21-cv-00265 Document 1 Filed 07/15/21 Page 14 of 28 PageID #: 14

38. Upon information and belief, Defendant performs a method of programming the processor to produce the output signals in storing telephone numbers for a plurality of creditcounseling agencies in memory accessible by said digital computer, to store creditor criteria for selecting at least one of the credit-counseling agencies, to identify a debtor of the creditor in response to a telephone communication, and to select at least one of the credit-counseling agencies by accessing the creditor criteria, applying the creditor criteria, and accessing at least one of the stored telephone numbers so as to connect the debtor to an accessed one of the stored telephone numbers on an outbound communication path. Upon information and belief, the automatic communication system states: "Thank you for calling the Discover credit counselor hotline. This hotline has been established to assist you in locating the nearest Discover recommended credit counselor. If you are ready to enter your ZIP Code and hear the information on up to three recommended credit counselors, press one." When the caller presses one, the automatic communication system states: "Using the keys on your phone, please enter your billing or home zip code now, followed by the pound key." When a caller enters their five-digit zip code and presses pound, the automatic communication system asks if the zip code is correct, and if so, asks the caller to press one. When the caller confirms the zip code entered is correct by pressing one, the automatic communication system states "Great, please give our system just a moment to retrieve credit counselor information for you. You might also want to get a pen and paper for you to write down the name and address and information for each When you are ready to hear the first one please press one." The automatic communication system provides at least three credit counseling agencies to the caller including, but not limited to, Money Management International,

Case 2:21-cv-00265 Document 1 Filed 07/15/21 Page 15 of 28 PageID #: 15

Consumer Credit Counseling Service of the Midwest, Inc., and Credit Counseling Service of Greater Atlanta, Inc.

39. Because of Defendant's infringement of the '097 Patent, Peregrin has suffered damages in an amount to be proved at trial.

<u>COUNT III</u> (Infringement of the '257 Patent)

40. Paragraphs 1 through 25 are incorporated by reference as if fully set forth herein.

41. Peregrin has not licensed or otherwise authorized Defendant to make, use, offer for sale, sell, or import any products that embody the inventions of the '257 Patent.

42. Defendant has directly infringed the '257 Patent, either literally or under the doctrine of equivalents, without authority and in violation of 35 U.S.C. § 271, by making, using, offering to sell, selling, and/or importing into the United States products that satisfy each and every limitation of one or more claims of the '257 Patent. For example, Defendant has directly infringed at least claims 1, 2, 5-11, and 14-19 of the '257 Patent by making, using offering to sell, selling, and/or importing into the United States a method of using an IVR system in analyzing a credit counseling agency. On information and belief, infringing products include the systems and methods provided by Defendant through dialing "1-800-347-1121."⁵

⁵ https://www.discover.com/credit-cards/resources/how-to-read-a-credit-card-statement/

DISCOVER				A J Open Date: Oct 24, 20	Account nur 014- Close	cover® Co mber ending in 1 Date: Nov 23, 2 imember Since 2
ACCOUNT SUA	MMARY	,	PAYMENT INFORM	ATION		Poge 1
Previous Balance		\$6,770.89	New Balance			\$943.21
Payments and Credits		\$5,836.00	Minimum Payment Due			\$35.00
Purchases	+	\$7.82	Payment Due Date		Dere	mber 18, 2014
Balance Transfers	+	\$0.00			Dece	moer 10, 2014
Cash Advances	+	\$0.00	Late Payment Warning: If we a	do not receive your mi	nimum pay	ment by the
Fees Chorged	+	\$0.50	date listed above, you may have			
Interest Charged	+	\$0.00	purchase and balance transfer A the Penalty APR of 24,99% varia		ins may be	increased up to
New Balance See Interest Charge Calculat <u>Transactions section for deta</u> Credit Line				rest and it will take you	And you w	pay off your ill end up
Credit Line Available		\$7,956	using this card and each month you pay	balance shown on this statement in about	poying on a	estimated total
Cosh Advance Credit Line		\$1,100	Only the minimum payment	3 years	\$	1,100
Cash Advance Credit Line Ava	ilable	\$1,100	If you would like information abo	out credit counseling s	ervices, coll	1-800-347-11
You may be able to avoid inte See reverse for details.	rest on Purche	3565.	REWARDS 1			
800 800 max	FIC		Cashback Bonus®		Ann	niversary Month May
***	76	6 😃	Opening Balance New Cashback Bonus This Perio Everywhere Else	d	s + s	0.01
min 300 Your FIC	CO® Credit So More at Disc	ore on 11/17/14.	Redeemed This Period		· S	0.00
			Cashback Bonus Ba		\$	11.60
New York Residents: For mor 1-800-347-2683. You may co Department of Financial Service	ntact the New	York State	To learn more, log in at Discove	r.com		

43. For example, Defendant has directly infringed at least claim 1 of the '257 Patent by performing a method of using a communication referral system to provide a referral for a credit counseling agency to a user.

44. Upon information and belief, Defendant performs a method which receives, by a communication referral system comprising a computer, an inbound communication from the user. Upon information and belief, upon dialing the number "1-800-347-1121," the caller is connected to the communication referral system which states: "Thank you for calling the Discover credit counselor hotline. This hotline has been established to assist you in locating the nearest Discover recommended credit counselor. If you are ready to enter your ZIP Code and hear the information

Case 2:21-cv-00265 Document 1 Filed 07/15/21 Page 17 of 28 PageID #: 17

on up to three recommended credit counselors, press one."

45. Upon information and belief, Defendant performs a method which receives an inbound communication from the user and receiving by the communication referral system, user information. Upon information and belief, the caller is instructed to enter their five-digit zip code.

46. Upon information and belief, the Defendant performs a method which based, at least in part, on the received user information, querying by the system, a memory in applying referral criteria to identify at least one credit-counseling agency. When a caller enters their five-digit zip code and presses pound, the automatic communication system asks if the zip code is correct, and if so, asks the caller to press one. When the caller confirms the zip code entered is correct by pressing one, the automatic communication system states, "Great, please give our system just a moment to retrieve credit counselor information for you. You might also want to get a pen and paper for you to write down the name and address and information for each When you are ready to hear the first one please press one."

47. Upon information and belief, the Defendant performs a method which provides, by the communication referral system, a referral for the user to communicate with said at least one of the identified financial assistance providers. Upon information and belief, the communication referral system identifies at least three credit counseling agencies for the caller including, but not limited to, Money Management International, Consumer Credit Counseling Service of the Midwest, Inc., and Credit Counseling Service of Greater Atlanta, Inc.

48. Because of Defendant's infringement of the '257 Patent, Peregrin has suffered damages in an amount to be proved at trial.

<u>COUNT IV</u> (Infringement of the '630 Patent)

49. Paragraphs 1 through 25 are incorporated by reference as if fully set forth herein.

50. Peregrin has not licensed or otherwise authorized Defendant to make, use, offer for sale, sell, or import any products that embody the inventions of the '630 Patent.

51. Defendant has directly infringed the '630 Patent, either literally or under the doctrine of equivalents, without authority and in violation of 35 U.S.C. § 271, by making, using, offering to sell, selling, and/or importing into the United States products that satisfy each and every limitation of one or more claims of the '630 Patent. For example, Defendant has directly infringed at least claims 1, 2, 5-13, 14-21, 23-27, 36-39, and 41 of the '630 Patent by making, using offering to sell, selling, and/or importing into the United States a method of using an IVR system in analyzing a credit counseling agency. On information and belief, infringing products include the systems and methods provided by Defendant through dialing "1-800-347-1121."⁶

⁶ https://www.discover.com/credit-cards/resources/how-to-read-a-credit-card-statement/

DISCOVER				Open Date: Oct 24, 2	Account nu 014- Close	mber ending in 1 Date: Nov 23, 2 dmember Since 2
ACCOUNT SU	MMAR	(PAYMENT INFO			Poge 1
Previous Balance		\$6,770.89	New Balance			\$943.21
Payments and Credits		\$5,836.00	Minimum Payment Due	A		\$35.00
Purchases	+	\$7.82	Payment Due Date	•	Dee	ember 18, 2014
Balance Transfers	+	\$0.00			Dec	ember 10, 2014
Cosh Advances	+	\$0.00	Late Payment Warning:	If we do not receive your mi	nimum poy	ment by the
Fees Charged	+	\$0.50		y have to pay a late fee of u		
Interest Charged	+	\$0.00	purchase and balance tro the Penalty APR of 24,993	insfer APRs for new transaction	ons may be	increased up to
New Balance		\$943.21				
See Interest Charge Calcula Transactions section for det				rning: If you make only the n in interest and it will take yo		
Credit Line		\$8,900	If you make no additional c		And you w	
Credit Line Available		\$7,956	using this card and each ma you pay	onth balance shown on this statement in about	paying an af	estimated total
Cash Advance Credit Line		\$1,100	Only the minimum pay	ment 3 years	\$	1,100
Cash Advance Credit Line Av	ailable	\$1,100	If you would like informat	ion about credit counseling s	ervices, col	11-800-347-112
You may be able to avoid int See reverse for details.	erest on Purch	ases.	REWARDS ()			
800 max	FIC		Cashback Bonus®		An	niversary Month May
~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~	FIC	<b>O</b> 👩	Opening Balance		\$	11.59
- X	76	6 👻 🛛	New Coshbock Bonus Thi	s Period		
	, 0	•	Everywhere Else		+ \$	0.01
min 300 Your Fl	CO [®] Credit So More at Disc	core on 11/17/14.	Redeemed This Period		. <u>s</u>	0.00
	more of Disc	over.com	Cashback Bonu	s Balance	\$	11.60
	re information	coll us at	To learn more, log in at D	Discover.com		
New York Residents: For mo						

52. For example, Defendant has directly infringed at least claim 36 of the '630 Patent by performing a method processing a phone call.

53. Upon information and belief, Defendant performs a method which from a trunk interface, receiving an inbound communication from which a number is detected, the number is indicative of a location of a caller. Upon information and belief, the caller calls a telephone number provided by Defendant, "1-800-347-1121." Upon information and belief, Defendant's communication system, including the trunk interface, detects a number including the zip code or area code of the inbound communication, indicative of the location of the caller.

#### Case 2:21-cv-00265 Document 1 Filed 07/15/21 Page 20 of 28 PageID #: 20

54. Upon information and belief, the Defendant performs a method which, by a digital electric computer system comprising a memory storing phone numbers for a plurality of credit counseling services, querying the memory by using the detected number to select at least three phone numbers for credit counseling services associated with the location of the caller and outputting a sequence of the phone numbers automatically selected for the credit counseling services associated with the location of the caller. Upon information and belief, the system states: "Thank you for calling the Discover credit counselor hotline. This hotline has been established to assist you in locating the nearest Discover recommended credit counselor. If you are ready to enter your ZIP Code and hear the information on up to three recommended credit counselors, press one." When the caller presses one, the system states: "Using the keys on your phone, please enter your billing or home zip code now, followed by the pound key." When a caller enters their fivedigit zip code and presses pound, the system asks if the zip code is correct, and if so, asks the caller to press one. When the caller confirms the zip code entered is correct by pressing one, the system states "Great, please give our system just a moment to retrieve credit counselor information for you. You might also want to get a pen and paper for you to write down the name and address and information for each .... When you are ready to hear the first one please press one." The system provides at least three credit counseling agencies to the caller including, but not limited to, Money Management International, Consumer Credit Counseling Service of the Midwest, Inc., and Credit Counseling Service of Greater Atlanta, Inc.

55. Because of Defendant's infringement of the '630 Patent, Peregrin has suffered damages in an amount to be proved at trial.

# <u>COUNT V</u> (Infringement of the '771 Patent)

56. Paragraphs 1 through 25 are incorporated by reference as if fully set forth herein.

57. Peregrin has not licensed or otherwise authorized Defendant to make, use, offer for sale, sell, or import any products that embody the inventions of the '771 Patent.

58. Defendant has directly infringed the '771 Patent, either literally or under the doctrine of equivalents, without authority and in violation of 35 U.S.C. § 271, by making, using, offering to sell, selling, and/or importing into the United States products that satisfy each and every limitation of one or more claims of the '771 Patent. For example, Defendant has directly infringed at least claim 1 of the '771 Patent by making, using offering to sell, selling, and/or importing into the United States a method of using an IVR system in analyzing a credit counseling agency. On information and belief, infringing products include the systems and methods provided by Defendant through dialing "1-800-347-1121."⁷

⁷ https://www.discover.com/credit-cards/resources/how-to-read-a-credit-card-statement/

DISCOVER			Account number ending in Open Date: Oct 24, 2014- Close Date: Nov 23, Cordmember Since		
ACCOUNT SUA		,	PAYMENT INFORM		Pag
	M/M/AK I		New Balance	MATION	\$943.
Previous Balance		\$6,770.89			
Payments and Credits Purchases	+	\$5,836.00 \$7.82	Minimum Payment Due		\$35
Balance Transfers	+	\$7.82	Payment Due Date		December 18, 2
Cash Advances	+	\$0.00	Late Payment Warning: If we	lo pot receive vour mi	o'mum courned by the
Fees Charged	+	\$0.50	date listed above, you may have		
Interest Charged	+	\$0.00	purchase and balance transfer A		ins may be increased up
New Balance		\$943.21	the Penalty APR of 24.99% varia Minimum Payment Warning:		
See Interest Charge Calculati Transactions section for detail Credit Line Credit Line Available			period, you will pay more in inte balance. For example: If you make no additional charges using this card and each month you pay	You will pay off the	And you will end up poying on estimated total of.
Cash Advance Credit Line		\$1,100	Only the minimum payment	3 years	\$1,100
Cosh Advance Credit Line Ava	ilable	\$1,100	If you would like information ab		
You may be able to avoid inter See reverse for details.	rest on Purch	oses.			
800 800 max	FIC		Cashback Bonus®		Anniversary Mo
2 Martin	FIC		Opening Balance		\$ 11
	- 76	6 👻 🗆	New Cashback Bonus This Perio	d	
			Everywhere Else		+ \$ 0
	O" Credit Sc More at Disc	ore on 11/17/14.	Redeemed This Period		<u>s</u> 0
			Cashback Bonus Ba		\$ 11.0
New York Residents: For more 1-800-347-2683. You may core	ntoct the New		To learn more, log in at Discove	r.com	

59. For example, Defendant has directly infringed at least claim 1 of the '771 Patent by performing a method of using an interactive voice response system.

60. Upon information and belief, Defendant performs a method which, from a trunk interface, receives an inbound communication from a caller, the inbound communication received at the interactive voice response apparatus. Upon information and belief, Defendant provides a telephone number, "1-800-347-1121," which connects the caller to the interactive voice response system.

#### Case 2:21-cv-00265 Document 1 Filed 07/15/21 Page 23 of 28 PageID #: 23

61. Upon information and belief, Defendant performs a method implemented by an interactive voice response apparatus, which receives a number associated with the inbound communication, the number indicative of a location of the caller. Upon information and belief, a caller enters their five-digit zip code, the number indicative of the location of the caller.

62. Upon information and belief, the Defendant performs a method which plays at least one interactive voice response by the interactive voice response apparatus, a recorded message to the caller. Upon information and belief, the interactive voice response apparatus states: "Thank you for calling the Discover credit counselor hotline. This hotline has been established to assist you in locating the nearest Discover recommended credit counselor. If you are ready to enter your ZIP Code and hear the information on up to three recommended credit counselors, press one."

63. Upon information and belief, Defendant performs a method which queries a memory containing call referral data for each of a plurality of services, using the number to obtain a phone number for one of the services associated with the location of the caller, the querying carried out by the interactive voice response apparatus. Upon information and belief, when the caller presses one, the apparatus states: "Using the keys on your phone, please enter your billing or home zip code now, followed by the pound key." When a caller enters their five-digit zip code and presses pound, the apparatus asks if the zip code is correct, and if so, asks the caller to press one. When the caller confirms the zip code entered is correct by pressing one, the apparatus states "Great, please give our system just a moment to retrieve credit counselor information for you. You might also want to get a pen and paper for you to write down the name and address and information for each .... When you are ready to hear the first one please press one." The apparatus provides at least three credit counseling agencies to the caller including, but not limited to, Money Management International, Consumer Credit Counseling Service of the Midwest, Inc., and Credit

Counseling Service of Greater Atlanta, Inc.

64. Upon information and belief, Defendant performs a method which connects, by the interactive voice response apparatus, the inbound communication to an outbound communication line to connect the caller with the phone number for one of the services associated with the location of the caller.

65. Because of Defendant's infringement of the '771 Patent, Peregrin has suffered damages in an amount to be proved at trial.

### <u>COUNT VI</u> (Infringement of the '840 Patent)

66. Paragraphs 1 through 25 are incorporated by reference as if fully set forth herein.

67. Peregrin has not licensed or otherwise authorized Defendant to make, use, offer for sale, sell, or import any products that embody the inventions of the '840 Patent.

68. Defendant has directly infringed the '840 Patent, either literally or under the doctrine of equivalents, without authority and in violation of 35 U.S.C. § 271, by making, using, offering to sell, selling, and/or importing into the United States products that satisfy each and every limitation of one or more claims of the '840 Patent. For example, Defendant has directly infringed at least claim 1 of the '840 Patent by making, using offering to sell, selling, and/or importing into the United States a method of using an IVR system in analyzing a credit counseling agency. On information and belief, infringing products include the systems and methods provided by Defendant through dialing "1-800-347-1121."⁸

⁸ https://www.discover.com/credit-cards/resources/how-to-read-a-credit-card-statement/

DISCOVER				Open Date: Oct 24, 20	Account nur 014- Close	cover® Co nber ending in 1 Date: Nov 23, 2 member Since 2
ACCOUNT SUM	MARY	,	PAYMENT INFOR	MATION		Page 1
Previous Balance		\$6,770.89	New Balance			\$943.21
Payments and Credits		\$5,836.00	Minimum Payment Due			\$35.00
Purchases	+	\$7.82	Payment Due Date		Dere	mber 18, 2014
Balance Transfers	+	\$0.00			Dece	10,2014
Cosh Advances	+	\$0.00	Late Payment Warning: If we			
Fees Charged	+	\$0.50	date listed above, you may have			
Interest Charged	+	\$0.00	purchase and balance transfer the Penalty APR of 24.99% varie		ons may be	increased up to
New Balance		\$943.21	,			and and
See Interest Charge Calculati Transactions section for detail			Minimum Payment Warning: period, you will pay more in int balance. For example:			
Credit Line		\$8,900	If you make no additional charges		And you w	
Credit Line Available		\$7,956	using this card and each month you pay	balance shown on this statement in about	paying an a	latat betamites
Cosh Advance Credit Line		\$1,100	Only the minimum payment	3 years	\$	1,100
Cash Advance Credit Line Avai	ilable	\$1,100	If you would like information at	out credit counseling s	ervices, coll	1-800-347-11
You may be able to avoid inter See reverse for details.	est on Purch	oses.				
800 800 max	FIC		Cashback Bonus®		Ann	iversary Month May
	76	6 🕛	Opening Balance New Cashback Bonus This Perio	od	s	11.59
min 300 Your FIC	O [®] Credit Se	ore on 11/17/14.	Everywhere Else Redeemed This Period		+ \$	0.01
	More at Disc		Cashback Bonus Bo	lance	S	11.60
N. 1. 0. 11. 1. 1	Information .		To learn more, log in at Discov		•	
New York Residents: For more 1-800-347-2683. You may con	toct the New		To rear more, log in al biscov	er.com		

69. For example, Defendant has directly infringed at least claim 1 of the '840 Patent by performing a method for each of a plurality of phone calls.

70. Upon information and belief, Defendant performs a method including receiving an inbound phone call from a caller, the inbound phone call received from a trunk interface at an apparatus. Defendant provides a telephone number, "1-800-347-1121" which, when called, the Defendant receives from a trunk interface at an apparatus, the inbound phone call from the caller.

71. Defendant performs a method which provides, by the apparatus, interactive voice responsiveness that includes playing a recorded message to the caller. The apparatus plays a recorded message to the caller including: "Thank you for calling the Discover credit counselor

#### Case 2:21-cv-00265 Document 1 Filed 07/15/21 Page 26 of 28 PageID #: 26

hotline. This hotline has been established to assist you in locating the nearest Discover recommended credit counselor. If you are ready to enter your ZIP Code and hear the information on up to three recommended credit counselors, press one."

72. Defendant performs a method including receiving, at the apparatus, a number associated with the phone call, the number indicative of a location of the caller. Upon information and belief, a caller enters their five-digit zip code, the number indicative of the location of the caller. When the caller presses one, the apparatus states: "Using the keys on your phone, please enter your billing or home zip code now, followed by the pound key." When a caller enters their five-digit zip code is correct, and if so, asks the caller to press one.

73. Upon information and belief, the Defendant performs a method which applies, by the apparatus, the number indicative of the caller location in a query to a memory to obtain data indicative of a service location for at least one of a plurality of services. Upon information and belief, the apparatus states: "Great, please give our system just a moment to retrieve credit counselor information for you. You might also want to get a pen and paper for you to write down the name and address and information for each . . . . When you are ready to hear the first one please press one." The automatic communication system provides at least three credit counseling agencies to the caller including, but not limited to, Money Management International, Consumer Credit Counseling Service of the Midwest, Inc., and Credit Counseling Service of Greater Atlanta, Inc.

74. Upon information and belief, the Defendant performs a method by the apparatus which routes the inbound phone call to one of the plurality of services, responsive at least in part to the number indicative of the location of the caller and data indicative of the service location.

### Case 2:21-cv-00265 Document 1 Filed 07/15/21 Page 27 of 28 PageID #: 27

The apparatus of Defendant routes the caller to one of Money Management International, Consumer Credit Counseling Service of the Midwest, Inc., and Credit Counseling Service of Greater Atlanta, Inc.

75. Because of Defendant's infringement of the '840 Patent, Peregrin has suffered damages in an amount to be proved at trial.

### **DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL**

Plaintiff hereby demands a jury for all issues so triable.

### PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, Peregrin prays for relief against Defendant as follows:

a. Entry of judgment declaring that Defendant infringes one or more claims of each of the Patents-in-Suit;

b. An order awarding damages sufficient to compensate Peregrin for Defendant's infringement of the Patents-in-Suit, but in no event less than a reasonable royalty, together with pre-judgment and post-judgment interest and costs;

c. Enhanced damages pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 284;

d. Entry of judgment declaring that this case is exceptional and awarding Peregrin its costs and reasonable attorney fees under 35 U.S.C. § 285;

e. An accounting for acts of infringement;

f. Such other equitable relief which may be requested and to which Plaintiff is entitled; and

g. Such other and further relief as the Court deems just and proper.

Dated: July 15, 2021

Respectfully submitted,

<u>/s/ Alfred R. Fabricant</u> Alfred R. Fabricant

NY Bar No. 2219392 Email: ffabricant@fabricantllp.com Peter Lambrianakos NY Bar No. 2894392 Email: plambrianakos@fabricantllp.com Vincent J. Rubino, III NY Bar No. 4557435 Email: vrubino@fabricantllp.com **FABRICANT LLP** 411 Theodore Fremd Road, Suite 206 South Rye, New York 10580 Telephone: (212) 257-5797 Facsimile: (212) 257-5796

Justin Kurt Truelove Texas State Bar No. 24013653 Email: kurt@truelovelawfirm.com **TRUELOVE LAW FIRM, PLLC** 100 West Houston Street Marshall, Texas 75670 Telephone: (903) 938-8321 Facsimile: (903) 215-8510

# ATTORNEYS FOR PLAINTIFF PEREGRIN LICENSING LLC