

From: Deborah A Clifton

Subject: Study on Credit Bureaus Handling of Disputes

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Proposal: Notice of Study and Request for
Information - Fair and Accurate Credit Transactions of 2003 (FACT Act)
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@@@Let me tell you my story....

When I divorced in 1997, my ex quit his job before we went to court. In South Carolina they don't care who is at fault. (Well, I got my divorce within 6 months based on his infidelity.) But that's all. The Bills were not split between us because he quit his job. I worked, I could pay so I got them all. I was ordered to refinance the house in my name within 3 years to save his VA loan. He walked away with nothing but 85.00 a week in child support for 2 kids. I couldn't believe all the offers I got for credit cards back then, and I thought it was a good thing. I'm a Rural Carrier for the Post Office. Back then I had to use my own car to deliver the mail. I lived 35 miles from work, and my route was 35 miles long. It was my car, and there was no way I was going to be able to complete the bankruptcy without having to buy something new, my daughter was going through some crazy things, not being where she was supposed to be...drugs, usually active at age 13, Hurricane Floyd in 1999 came and the Post Office would not let me leave until the last minute...I work on Hilton Head Island. Trying to get home they had traffic directed to I95 I had to break through a road block to get home to get my kids before I evacuated. Before the Bankruptcy I was trying to sell the house, but could not get enough to cover the debt, got a second mortgage, but not enough to cover all the debt, it just got crazier and crazier. After the Hurricane I decided that I would have to let my house go to foreclosure and the rest of the debt I had created would have to go into credit counseling, I had started seeing commercials on tv back then, wished I'd seen them before the bankruptcy. I moved into a apartment on the island so that i could have my kids near me. I needed this job, still do. Anyway Chase Manhattan was the first Mortgage and they foreclosed, not Household mortgage, (The straw that broke the camels back) Funny thing is Chase never reported the foreclosure only that they were included in the bankruptcy, but Household mortgage did. Transunion and experian have notated HMS as included in BK, but Equifax is holding out for foreclosure. Belk, Texaco, Bank First, Providian were the credit counseling accounts, all of them said they would reage, I was just looking at those documents. the only account that actually did it was

texaco. As far as me applying for mortgages, I have one with South Carolina State Housing Authority, got it this year, in January. they only report to Equifax. The problem was I moved from an apartment to a house, I needed so much stuff...lawn mower tools chainsaw, maintenance tools...you know, my credit cards have run up. The ford I bought in 2002, because i had to, was 20% interest. I don't want to refinance the house it's 5.25% interest. But I was checking to see what I could get to pay off the car, that's 400.00 a month and credit cards, that's 200.00 a month. Buy some furniture and paint and replace the rotted back porch. anyway it's a no go. After looking at my credit reports I can see these people don't want me to get ahead, because they will lose money. Capital one will give you 3 or 4 credit cards with low limits, if you ask them to combine all the limits to one card and get rid of the others they say they can't do that because I hadn't earned a credit limit increase. Providian offered a better interest rate, and higher limit I told them to pay off all the capital one cards, capital one said no, that i was behind on payments even though i never was, I wrote the checks and called capital one and told them to accept the checks and close my accounts or i would sue them they didn't want to do it, but finally did after about 3 calls. Providian will not change the one card that they were supposed to reage. I don't want credit cards at all. I want to pay them off...and leave them forever. Gosh I guess your probably asleep by now...sorry...This has been miserable for me...I just want to live. Saving for retirement is a big issue, I'm behind because I couldn't afford it during the Bankruptcy, The 5 1/2 years I put in as a Rural Carrier Associate will not go towards my retirement even though I worked full time most of the time, Does that make sense I'm considered part time, but worked full time...and that time doesn't count. It just seems crazy to me that I can send all the documents to the Credit Reporting Agencies, and they say..Remains unchanged verified. Doesn't the order of a Bankruptcy judge count for something. They are taking the word of these creditors over Bankruptcy Documents. And accounts closed in 1996 have late payments in 2003...how is this possible 2 years I've tried to get my credit reports where they should be. Companies change there names and report as chargeoffs...I didn't know Norwest Financial and Wells Fargo Merged. I had an account with Norwest that was discharged in Bankruptcy in 1998 and Wells Fargo reports it as a charge off and late in 2003. HELP ME PLEASE!!!

Sincerely Deborah Clifton
