# People of the State of New York by Eric T. Schneiderman, Attorney General of the State of New York v.

Western Sky Financial, LLC; Martin A. Webb; CashCall, Inc.; WS Funding LLC and J. Paul Reddam

Case No. 451370/2013

# THIS NOTICE MAY AFFECT YOUR RIGHTS. PLEASE READ CAREFULLY.

IF YOU RECEIVED A LOAN FROM WESTERN SKY FINANCIAL, LLC WHILE A RESIDENT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK YOU MAY BE ELIGIBLE FOR A REFUND.

#### What is this Notice about?

The purpose of this Notice is to inform you that the New York State Attorney General has entered into a settlement agreement with Western Sky, CashCall, WS Funding, LLC, Martin A. Webb and J. Paul Reddam, and as a result, certain New York borrowers may be entitled to a refund and/or loan modification. You should also receive a credit history adjustment. To receive any refund that you may be entitled to under this settlement you must complete a Claim Form. This Notice describes steps you must take to file a Claim Form. The Claim Form was sent to all potentially eligible individuals (via U.S. mail and/or email) on April 29, 2014. Additional copies of the Claim Form are available at <a href="https://www.WesternSkySettlement.com">www.WesternSkySettlement.com</a> or by calling the Settlement Fund Administrator's toll-free telephone number at (877) 302-2525.

#### **Background**

The Office of the Attorney General of the State of New York has reached an agreement to resolve all outstanding issues in a lawsuit titled the *People of the State of New York v. Western Sky Financial, LLC; Martin A. Webb; CashCall, Inc., WS Funding LLC and J. Paul Reddam* ("the Respondents"). In this case the Attorney General asserted that Respondents made, serviced and collected high-interest, personal loans to consumers in the State of New York at interest rates that exceeded the maximum rate allowed under New York State law. Western Sky Financial offered and made the loans; WS Funding, a subsidiary of CashCall, bought the loans from Western Sky Financial; and CashCall, acting as the servicer of the loans, collected the interest, fees and principal from the borrowers. The Respondents have not admitted or denied liability for any of the issues presented in this lawsuit.

In certain instances, the settlement agreement requires refunds and/or modification of existing loans to individuals who entered into loan agreements with the Respondents while a resident of the State of New York and paid interest rates that exceeded the maximum of 16% allowed under New York State law. You should also receive a credit history adjustment. The agreement also establishes a Settlement Fund from which refund payments will be made. Kenneth R. Feinberg of Feinberg Rozen, LLP will serve as the Settlement Fund Administrator.

#### What does the settlement provide?

Under the settlement, a borrower who obtained a loan from Western Sky Financial, LLC while a resident of the State of New York may be entitled to a refund. In addition, a borrower who obtained a loan from Western Sky Financial, LLC while a resident of the State of New York or who was a resident of the State of New York on March 5, 2014 may have already received a loan modification. You also should receive a credit history adjustment. Please review the information below to determine if you are eligible.

#### Refunds

#### Am I eligible to receive a refund?

You may be eligible to receive a refund from the Settlement Fund if you: received a loan from Western Sky while a resident of the State of New York and **paid** Western Sky, CashCall, or an entity collecting on their behalf, more than you received from the loan plus the calculated amount of the legal interest rate of 16% allowable under New York State law.

# What is the amount of my refund should I qualify?

The amount of your refund would be equal to the difference between the total of your payments made to Western Sky, CashCall, or an entity collecting on their behalf (not including payments made to unrelated third party debt collectors) and the repayment amount calculated using the legal interest rate of 16%.

#### How do I obtain a refund?

To obtain a refund, you must submit a Claim Form (described below). The Claim Form will ask you to provide information to the Fund Administrator that will allow evaluation of your claim. This information will include your name, your current contact information, your tax identification number or social security number, your signature, and proof of your identity. Proof of identity may include a copy of your Western Sky loan agreement, a valid driver's license, a recent utility bill, pay stub, bank statement, or other documentation in the Fund Administrator's discretion. Individuals should contact their tax advisor for any questions regarding tax liability for these payments and/or loan modifications.

#### Will my personal information be shared with anyone?

The Fund Administrator is required to report to the Attorney General and the Respondents a list of those claims he determined to be deficient and an explanation of why the claims were determined to be deficient.

# Will I have to release the Respondents from any claims I have against them?

To receive a refund, you will be required to release all Respondents, as well as their principals, directors, officers, shareholders, employees, successors or assignees of the named corporate respondents in this action, as well as any others who worked with them to make or service the Western Sky loans, from any and all grievances, suits, causes of action and any claims of any nature whatsoever relating to or arising out of the conduct alleged in the Petition and/or the above-captioned action. You will not be required to release the Respondents from any grievances, suits, causes of action or claims arising out of any other conduct, nor will you be required to provide any release in exchange for having received a loan modification under the terms of the settlement.

# **Loan Modifications**

#### Am I eligible to receive a loan modification?

You are eligible for a loan modification if you received a loan from Western Sky while a resident of the State of New York or you resided in the State of New York as of March 5, 2014, and your loan was held by Western Sky, CashCall, or an entity acting on their behalf on February 3, 2014.

# How do I obtain a loan modification?

Under the terms of the settlement, if you had an outstanding loan held by Western Sky, CashCall, or an entity acting on their behalf on February 3, 2014, your loan should already have been modified on or before March 5, 2014. You do not need to file a Claim Form and you do not need to take any action to obtain or retain this modification. You will receive notification of the details of your loan modification from the Settlement Fund Administrator. If you believe you have been unfairly denied a modification, please contact the Fund Administrator at claimantservices@WesternSkySettlement.com, or by telephone at (877) 302-2525.

#### How will my loan be modified?

How the loan is modified depends on how much you have paid. There are two categories of loan modification:

# Category 1

• For each loan for which your total payments to Western Sky, CashCall, or an entity collecting on their behalf were <u>less</u> than your loan proceeds (the amount you received from the loan), your outstanding balance (including all interest and fees) should have been reduced to an amount equal to the difference between the loan proceeds and your total payments as of March 5, 2014. The interest rate going forward should also have been reduced to 0%.

# Category 2

• For each loan for which your total payments to Western Sky, CashCall, or an entity collecting on their behalf are <u>more</u> than your loan proceeds, your outstanding balance (including all interest and fees) should have been reduced to zero as of March 5, 2014 and all collections should have ceased.

#### **Credit History Adjustments**

#### Am I eligible for a credit history adjustment?

You are eligible for a credit history adjustment if you received a loan from Western Sky while a resident of New York or you resided in New York as of March 5, 2014.

#### How do I obtain a credit history adjustment?

Under the terms of the settlement, Western Sky, CashCall, or an entity collecting on their behalf should have already notified credit agencies that maintain a record of the loan to remove all records reported by those parties from your credit history. You need take no additional action.

# **Miscellaneous Information**

#### Who is paying for the cost of the administration of the settlement?

All the costs and expenses of this settlement, including, but not limited to, payment of all costs associated with the administration of the settlement, and the costs of providing this notice will be paid for by the Respondents.

# How can I get a copy of the Claim Form?

Claim Forms were sent to potentially eligible claimants on April 29, 2014. You may obtain additional copies of the Claim Form by visiting the Settlement Fund's website at www.WesternSkySettlement.com and downloading a PDF of the Claim Form. If you have any questions, please email the Fund Administrator at <a href="mailto:claimantservices@WesternSkySettlement.com">claimantservices@WesternSkySettlement.com</a>. Copies of the Consent Order and other relevant legal documents are available on the website. You may file your claim electronically directly through the website or submit your completed Claim Forms to the address shown below:

Western Sky Settlement Fund Administrator P.O. Box 10046 Dublin, OH 43017-6646

The deadline for filing your Claim Form is August 5, 2014.