

1







4



## What Regulations Apply?

- The Federal Trade Commission regulates consumer debt collection.
- Consumer Debt is totally different than commercial debt collection.
- Consumer Debt Collection Includes:
  - Any obligation - Of a consumer to pay money

  - Arising out of a transaction
     For primarily personal, family or household purposes

5



### Some Do's and Don'ts

- 1. Avoid Deceptive Texts, Emails or Communications Be truthful
   Be careful what you say or write
- Identify Yourself Truthfully

   Hi, I am (Your Name), (Your Title) with (Your Company Name). I am calling about...
   If leaving a message, avoid leaving great detail about the debt
- 3. Do Not Reveal Debt Information to Third Parties
- 4. Do Not Threaten Criminal Prosecution with Civil Gain... What does this mean?



## Some Do's and Don'ts

- Contact Your Customer As Soon As The Account Is Past Due.

   The longer you wait the longer it may take to collect.
- Stick to the Facts/Details.
   Avoid emotional conversations with the customer.
   This is business, not personal.
- 7. Make sure It is Easy For Your Customer To Make Payments
- Follow Up With The Customer When Promised Payments Are Not Made.

7



## Some Do's and Don'ts

#### Sample Call:

Hello (Customer's Name), this is (Your Name) with (Your Company Name). I am calling you regarding your account. Our records show that invoices #,# and # are past due. The total past due is \$...

When can we expect payment of the past due amounts?

8



#### Some Do's and Don'ts

Sample Call other Phrases that Might Help:

As you know, our terms are next 30 and we want to make sure your account is current so you can have full purchasing power through your credit account.

We look forward to your promised payment in the amount of  $\dots$  On or before... (date).



10



Phone CallsEmailsMail

How to Contact Your Commercial Customer

Text

11



Suggestions for **Getting Your** Delinquent Customer on the Phone 



13



#### Suggestions for Getting Your Delinquent Customer on the Phone

Call direct dial numbers. 1.

- To avoid voicemail, try to reach the receptionist or 2. other office staff to get your contact on the phone.
- З. Try calling at different times of the day. Use different office phones to avoid caller id from giving away who is calling.
   Call the contacts mobile number.

14





## **Tips for Collection Calls**

- 1. Be prepared for the specific and general excuses. 1. The check is in the mail. (ask for check number, amount, date written and mailed).
  - 2.
  - tate witten and maneo). I have a cash flow problem right now. (I understand. Can we set up a payment plan arrangement today?) I have not received the invoice yet. (I understand. No problem. I will email one to you right now while we are on the phone together.) 3.
- 2. Know the facts of the account.
- 3. Think positively.

## **Tips for Collection Calls**

- Speak with authority and professionally but also know your audience... 4.
- 5 Call the customer by name.
- б. Listen carefully and take notes from the conversation. 7.
- Get agreement on specifics of payment as much as possible.

17

16



## What Can I Say?

- When you know who you are talking with: 1.
  - 1. Details of the debt
  - 2. Aging of the debt
  - 3. Last payment amount, etc. 4.
  - Importance of getting the account paid 5. Payment options
  - 6. Verify account information





# What Should I Not Say?

- 1. No threats
- No harassment
   No unprofessional conversation
- No details on voicemail, email, text, facsimile, etc.







(919) 510-8585
 info@vannattorneys.com
 vannattorneys.com



