Improving Your Collection Savvy

Dominic Queirolo Associate Vice President of Operations, ConServe



Joseph Thomas Director Student Financial Services, CSU San Marcos





Agenda

- Collection Rules and Regulations
- Compliance
- Collection Tips and Techniques
- First Party Versus Third party
- Annual Trainings





Fair Debt Collection Practices Act (FDCPA)

- FDCPA centers on the conduct of the debt collector to attempt to collect a debt
- Regulations Include:
 - # of calls to debtors per day
 - # of contacts with debtors per day
 - # of telephone rings
 - Messaging
 - Inconvenient time or place
 - Right to dispute debts
 - Threatening to take action





Unfair, Deceptive, or Abusive Acts or Practices (UDAAP)

- UDAAP is lies, threats, false promises or abusive practices
- UDAAP Examples:
 - Rehabilitation of loans improves your credit
 - Wage garnishment
 - Legal threats
 - Undisclosed fees
 - Oppressive actions





Fair Credit Reporting Act (FCRA)

- FCRA centers on accuracy of credit reporting
- FCRA Examples:
 - Credit reporting practices
 - Updates to credit reports
 - Disputes
 - Paid statuses
 - Resolved account disputes
 - Direct payments





Compliance

- Active Listening
 - Listen to consumer concerns and objections
 - Reaffirm your understanding of their situation
 - Check for accuracy
- Result oriented
- Look for resolutions
- Maintain control of the conversation





Compliance

- Account Work Procedures
 - Work efforts
 - Call volumes
 - Contact with debtors
- Call Checklist
- Review of Collection Policies and Procedures
- Vendor Activities





Compliance

- Student payments on accounts placed with a collection agency
- Do you accept/allow students to pay directly at your school?
- Why or why not?
- Reporting practices?





- Know your obligations/debts
 - Financial Aid Pull Back
 - Over Awards
 - Return Title IV
 - Tuition and Fees
 - Perkins/Institutional Loans
- Interdepartmental Communication
 - Best practices





- Know your leverage
 - Transcripts
 - Services
 - Tax Offset
 - Credit reporting
 - Collection Assignment
 - Judgment
 - Financial Aid





Making Contact

- Vary call times
- Verify you are speaking to the correct party
- Make sure they are listening to your message
- Stay focused
- Skip Tracing
 - Ask, ask and ask some more!
 - Don't be afraid
 - Don't disclose to third parties





- Reducing Broken Promises to Pay
 - Use Calendar
 - Be Reasonable
 - Work towards a goal
 - Follow up





1st Party vs 3rd Party

- FDCPA governs third party collection agencies
 - First party violations may fall under other regulations however
- UDAAP covers all creditors
- FCRA covers all credit reporting entities
 - First party has responsibilities too!
- Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB) covers all creditors





Annual Trainings

- FDCPA Training
- Security Awareness Training (aka Alphabet Soup)
 - FCRA
 - UDAAP
 - GLBA
 - FISMA
- ACA Code of Ethics Training
- ConServe University Training Events





Time for Questions





