IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

FOR THE DISTRICT OF HAWAII

BEVERLY L. CAMAT,) CIVIL NO. 12-00149 SOM/BMK
Plaintiff,)
	ORDER DISMISSING SECOND
VS.) AMENDED COMPLAINT WITH LEAVE
) TO AMEND
FEDERAL NATIONAL MORTGAGE)
ASSOCIATION; BANK OF AMERICA,)
N.A., successor in merger to)
BAC Home Loans Servicing, LP,)
fka Countrywide Home Loans)
Servicing, LP; BANK OF)
AMERICA, N.A.; BAC HOME LOANS)
SERVICING, LP.; COUNTRYWIDE)
HOME LOANS SERVICING, LP.;	
COUNTRYWIDE HOME LOANS, INC.;	
MORTGAGE ELECTRONIC	
REGISTRATION SYSTEMS, INC.;	
DOE DEFENDANTS 1-10,) \
Dofondanta)
Defendants.) \

ORDER DISMISSING SECOND AMENDED COMPLAINT WITH LEAVE TO AMEND

I. INTRODUCTION.

This removed action arises out of mortgage loan transactions. Plaintiff Beverly L. Camat asserts various causes of action relating to her mortgage loans and the nonjudicial foreclosure of her home. 1 See Notice of Removal, Mar. 14, 2012, ECF No. 1.

¹The Second Amended Complaint attached to the notice of removal lacked a signature. Camat subsequently submitted a signed signature page for the Second Amended Complaint. See Plaintiff Beverly L. Camat's Submission of Signed Signature Page, June 18, 2012, ECF No. 19.

Defendants seek dismissal of the Second Amended Complaint. See ECF No. 8. That motion is granted based on Camat's pleading deficiencies.

II. BACKGROUND.

Hoping to purchase a home in Hawaii Kai, on the island of Oahu, Hawaii, Camat contacted Countrywide Home Loans, Inc., about obtaining financing. See Second Amended Complaint for Wrongful Foreclosure and Quiet Title ¶¶ 3 and 13, Feb. 22, 2012, ECF No. 1-1. A Countrywide employee "introduced" Camat to Gilbert Borrego, a mortgage consultant with First Magnus Financial Corporation, which was apparently doing business as Charter Funding Mortgage. Id.

On May 8, 2007, Borrego prequalified Camat for loans of \$769,000 and \$785,100. The prequalification letters did not state any loan terms and did not promise that First Magnus would actually lend Camat money. Instead, the prequalifying letters noted that any actual loan was conditioned on, among other things, satisfaction of "underwriting criteria" and "[s]atisfactory income/asset documentation" before closing. Id.; see also Prequalifying Letters, ECF No. 1-1, PageID #s 28-29.

Camat says she relied on the prequalification letters in signing a Deposit Receipt Offer Acceptance and gave the sellers of the home she intended to purchase a nonrefundable

\$10,000 deposit. The purchase price of the home was \$769,000. See Second Amended Complaint \P 14.

Camat alleges that she was "surprised" when, after she had signed the DROA, First Magnus told her the actual loan terms it was offering. Camat says she did not expect two loans totaling \$769,000, or a combined monthly mortgage payment exceeding \$4,000. Id. ¶ 15. Camat knew that, if she entered into those loans, her regular expenses and the monthly payments on the loans would exceed her monthly income. Id. ¶ 16. Camat alleges that she told First Magnus that she would be unable to make \$4,000 monthly payments. Camat says that someone working for First Magnus told her that she would be able to refinance the loans at a lower rate in a few months. Id.

As the loan closing date approached, Camat says she was further surprised to learn that closing costs totaled \$23,000. Id. \P 18.

On June 25, 2007, Camat closed on two loans. She executed a \$615,200 note for loan number 4692521423. Id. ¶ 19; Interest-Only Period Fixed Rate Note, ECF No. 1-1, PageID #30. This note was secured by a mortgage filed in the State of Hawaii Bureau of Conveyances on June 29, 2007, as Document No. 2007-116555. See Mortgage, ECF No. 1-1, PageID #43.

The mortgage securing the \$615,200 note lists First Magnus as the "Lender" and indicates that Mortgage Electronic

Registration Systems, Inc. ("MERS"), "is a separate corporation that is acting solely as nominee for Lender and Lender's successors and assigns." Id., PageID #44. The mortgage states that Camat "does hereby mortgage, grant and convey to MERS (solely as nominee for [First Magnus and its] successors and assigns) and to the successors and assigns of MERS, with power of sale," the property that Camat purchased using the proceeds of the loan. Id., PageID #45. It then states that Camat

understands and agrees that MERS holds only legal title to the interests granted by [Camat] in this Security Instrument, but, if necessary to comply with law or custom, MERS (as nominee for [First Magnus and its] successors and assigns) has the right: to exercise any or all of those interests, including, but not limited to, the right to foreclose and sell the Property; and to take any action required of [First Magnus] including, but not limited to, releasing and cancelling this Security Instrument.

Id.

The closing instructions for the \$615,200 loan indicated, "THIS IS A COUNTRYWIDE SPECIFIC PROGRAM REQUIRING OFF-SHEET PRICING." See Closing Instructions for Loan No. 4692521423, ECF No. 1-1, PageID #70.

Camat alleges that, also on June 25, 2007, she closed on a second loan. See Second Amended Complaint ¶ 19. As the parties agreed at the hearing on the present motion, the second loan was documented in a Home Equity Credit Line Agreement and Disclosure Statement for Loan No. 4079600763, with a credit limit

of \$115,350, that Camat signed. <u>See</u> ECF No. 1-1, Page ID #33. The \$115,350 line of credit was secured by a mortgage filed in the State of Hawaii Bureau of Conveyances on June 29, 2007, as Document No. 2007-116556. <u>See</u> Mortgage, Security Agreement and Financing Statement, ECF No. 1-1, PageID #59. The mortgage lists MERS as the nominee for First Magnus. Id.

In letters dated July 11, 2007, First Magnus informed Camat that the "servicing of your mortgage, that is, the right to collect payments from you" for both loans was "being assigned, sold or transferred" to Countrywide Home Loans, Inc., effective August 1, 2007. See Notice of Assignment, Sale, or Transfer of Servicing Rights, July 11, 2007, ECF No. 1-1, PageID #74 and #75.

On or about August 21, 2007, First Magnus filed a
Chapter 11 Bankruptcy Proceeding in the United States Bankruptcy
Court for the District of Arizona. See ECF No. 1-1, PageId #89.

A public-access document attached to the Second Amended Complaint indicates that, as of May 30, 2008, First Magnus was in the process of dissolving. See ECF No. 1-1, PageID #92. The same document indicates that First Magnus was administratively dissolved on April 2, 2009. Id., PageID #94.

On February 27, 2009, an Assignment of Mortgage was filed in the State of Hawaii Bureau of Conveyances as Document No. 2009-030068. See ECF No. 1-1, PageID #83. Via this document, MERS, in its capacity as nominee of First Magnus,

assigned the mortgage securing the \$615,200 note to Countrywide Home Loans Servicing, LP. Id.

On February 27, 2009 (the day that the mortgage was assigned to Countrywide Home Loans Servicing, LP), Countrywide Home Loans Servicing, LP, filed a Notice of Mortgagee's Intention to Foreclose Under Power of Sale in the State of Hawaii Bureau of Conveyances as Document No. 2009-030069. See ECF No. 1-1, PageID #85.

Camat's home was sold to BAC Home Loans Servicing, LP, via a nonjudicial foreclosure for \$727,580.06. See Mortgagee's Affidavit of Foreclosure Under Power of Sale, filed on September 2, 2010, in the State of Hawaii Bureau of Conveyances as Doc. No. 2010-129445, ECF No. 1-1, PageID #s 97 and 99.

A quitclaim deed filed on November 12, 2010, in the State of Hawaii Bureau of Conveyances as Document No. 2010-174169, indicates that BAC Home Loans Servicing, LP, then transferred its interest in Camat's home to the Federal National Mortgage Association ("Fannie Mae").

III. STANDARD.

Defendants seek to dismiss the Second Amended Complaint under Rule 12(b)(6) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, which states: "Every defense to a claim for relief in any pleading must be asserted in the responsive pleading if one is required. But a party may assert the following defenses by

motion: . . . (6) failure to state a claim upon which relief can be granted."

Under Rule 12(b)(6), review is generally limited to the contents of the complaint. Sprewell v. Golden State Warriors, 266 F.3d 979, 988 (9th Cir. 2001); Campanelli v. Bockrath, 100 F.3d 1476, 1479 (9^{th} Cir. 1996). If matters outside the pleadings are considered, the Rule 12(b)(6) motion is treated as one for summary judgment. See Keams v. Tempe Tech. Inst., Inc., 110 F.3d 44, 46 (9th Cir. 1997); Anderson v. Angelone, 86 F.3d 932, 934 (9^{th} Cir. 1996). However, courts may "consider certain materials--documents attached to the complaint, documents incorporated by reference in the complaint, or matters of judicial notice -- without converting the motion to dismiss into a motion for summary judgment." <u>United States v. Ritchie</u>, 342 F.3d 903, 908 (9^{th} Cir. 2003). Documents whose contents are alleged in a complaint and whose authenticity are not questioned by any party may also be considered in ruling on a Rule 12(b)(6) motion to dismiss. See Branch v. Tunnell, 14 F.3d 449, 453-54 (9th Cir. 1994).

On a Rule 12(b)(6) motion to dismiss, all allegations of material fact are taken as true and construed in the light most favorable to the nonmoving party. Fed'n of African Am.

Contractors v. City of Oakland, 96 F.3d 1204, 1207 (9th Cir.

1996). However, conclusory allegations of law, unwarranted

deductions of fact, and unreasonable inferences are insufficient to defeat a motion to dismiss. <u>Sprewell</u>, 266 F.3d at 988; <u>Syntex</u> <u>Corp. Sec. Litiq.</u>, 95 F.3d 922, 926 (9th Cir. 1996).

Additionally, the court need not accept as true allegations that contradict matters properly subject to judicial notice or allegations contradicting the exhibits attached to the complaint. Sprewell, 266 F.3d at 988.

Dismissal under Rule 12(b)(6) may be based on either:

(1) lack of a cognizable legal theory, or (2) insufficient facts under a cognizable legal theory. Balistreri v. Pacifica Police

Dept., 901 F.2d 696, 699 (9th Cir. 1988) (citing Robertson v.

Dean Witter Reynolds, Inc., 749 F.2d 530, 533-34 (9th Cir.

1984)). A motion to dismiss may also be granted if an affirmative defense or other bar to relief is apparent from the face of the complaint, such as a statute of limitations. Imbler v. Pachtman, 424 U.S. 409 (1976).

IV. ANALYSIS.

A. Count One, Which Asserts Violations of Chapter 480 of Hawaii Revised Statutes, is Dismissed.

At the hearing on the present motion, Camat clarified that Count One of the Second Amended Complaint is being asserted against Countrywide Home Loans, Inc., and Countrywide Home Loans Servicing, LP, now known as Bank of America, N.A. Count One asserts that these Defendants violated chapter 480 of Hawaii Revised Statutes by ignoring standard loan underwriting

requirements in qualifying Camat for the loans. <u>See</u> Second Amended Complaint ¶ 38. Camat contends that the prequalifying letters did not state the terms of the loans and qualified her for loans she could not afford. Camat claims that these acts were therefore "unfair, deceptive, oppressive, predatory, unconscionable, and contrary to public policy." <u>Id.</u> ¶ 39.

Countrywide Home Loans, Inc., and Countrywide Home Loans Servicing, LP, now known as Bank of America, N.A., seek dismissal of Count One, arguing that the factual allegations in the Second Amended Complaint fail to allege that they had anything to do with the prequalification and issuance of loans to Instead, the Second Amended Complaint alleges that Camat. Gilbert Borrego, a mortgage consultant with First Magnus, prequalified Camat for her loans. See Second Amended Complaint ¶ 13; Prequalifying Letters, ECF No. 1-1, PageID #s 28-29. right to collect payments on Camat's \$615,200 loan was assigned by MERS, nominee of First Magnus, to Countrywide Home Loans, Inc., effective August 1, 2007. See ECF No. 1-1, PageID #74 and The mortgage was assigned to Countrywide Home Loans Servicing, LP, on February 27, 2009. <u>Id.</u>, PageID #83. simply no facts alleged in the Second Amended Complaint that support its conclusory allegation that Countrywide Home Loans, Inc., or Countrywide Home Loans Servicing, LP, now known as Bank of America, N.A., was involved with qualifying Camat for her

loans. At most, the closing instructions for the \$615,200 loan state that "THIS IS A COUNTRYWIDE SPECIFIC PROGRAM REQUIRING OFF-SHEET PRICING." See, Closing Instructions for Loan No. 4692521423, ECF No. 1-1, PageID #70. That language does not demonstrate that any Defendant named in Count One was involved with qualifying Camat for the loan.

Citing Yamaguchi v. United States Department of the Air Force, 109 F.3d 1475 (9^{th} Cir. 1997), Camat argues that her Second Amended Complaint is sufficient because it does not appear beyond doubt that she can prove no set of facts entitling her to relief. Camat misunderstands the liberal pleading requirements. Under Rule 8(a)(2) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, Camat's Second Amended Complaint was required to contain "a short and plain statement of the claim showing that the pleader is entitled to relief." In 2007, the Supreme Court clarified that, to survive a Rule 12(b)(6) motion to dismiss, "factual allegations must be enough to raise a right to relief above the speculative level, on the assumption that all the allegations in the complaint are true even if doubtful in fact." Bell Atl. Corp. v. Twombly, 550 U.S. 544, 555 (2007) (citations and internal quotations omitted). Accord Ashcroft v. Iqbal, 556 U.S. 662, 678 (2009) ("the pleading standard Rule 8 announces does not require 'detailed factual allegations,' but it demands more than an unadorned, the-defendant-unlawfully-harmed-me accusation").

The Supreme Court stated, "While a complaint attacked by a Rule 12(b)(6) motion to dismiss does not need detailed factual allegations, a plaintiff's obligation to provide the 'grounds' of his 'entitlement to relief' requires more than labels and conclusions, and a formulaic recitation of the elements of a cause of action will not do." Twombly, 550 U.S. at 555. In other words, "While legal conclusions can provide the framework of a complaint, they must be supported by factual allegations." Igbal, 556 U.S. at 678.

A complaint is required to "state a claim to relief that is plausible on its face." Twombly, 550 U.S. at 570. "A claim has facial plausibility when the plaintiff pleads factual content that allows the court to draw the reasonable inference that the defendant is liable for the misconduct alleged." Iqbal, 556 U.S. at 678. Nothing in the Second Amended Complaint allows a reasonable inference to be drawn that Countrywide Home Loans, Inc., or Countrywide Home Loans Servicing, LP, now known as Bank of America, N.A., is liable for the prequalification letters or Camat's qualifying for the loans, as that conduct was allegedly done by First Magnus.

Camat argues that this case involves "table funding."

That is, Camat argues that, because funding for her loan may have been provided by Countrywide Home Loans, Inc., First Magnus became its agent, making Countrywide Home Loans, Inc., and

Countrywide Home Loans Servicing, LP, now known as Bank of America, N.A., liable for their purported agent's actions. <u>See</u> Opposition at 5; Second Amended Complaint ¶ 21 ("Although both loans indicate First Magnus as the lender, Countrywide appears to be the funding source . . ."). However, no facts establishing such an agency relationship are alleged in the Second Amended Complaint. Certainly, no facts are alleged that support a claim against Countrywide Home Loans Servicing, LP, now known as Bank of America, N.A., as Camat contends that Countrywide Home Loans, Inc., was the entity that may have provided the funding.

No reasonable inference that First Magnus was

Countrywide Home Loans, Inc.'s agent flows from the allegation
that Countrywide Home Loans, Inc., may have provided the funds
lent to Camat. See Restatement (Third) of Agency § 1.01 ("Agency
is the fiduciary relationship that arises when one person (a
'principal') manifests assent to another person (an 'agent') that
the agent shall act on the principal's behalf and subject to the
principal's control, and the agent manifests assent or otherwise
consents so to act."). At the hearing, Camat appeared to concede
as much when she noted that, if given the opportunity, she could
expand on the facts regarding the supposed agency relationship.
Camat must allege something more to establish agency, especially
when the allegations of the Second Amended Complaint are vague
enough to allow for the possibility that First Magnus initially

funded the loan but then promptly sold it to Countrywide Home Loans, Inc. Accordingly, Count One is dismissed.

B. Count Two, Which Asserts Fraud in the Inducement, is Dismissed.

Count Two of the Second Amended Complaint asserts that Countrywide Home Loans, Inc., and Countrywide Home Loans

Servicing, LP, now known as Bank of America, N.A., fraudulently induced Camat into entering into the loans. Camat says that she relied on the loan prequalification to her detriment. That is, Camat allegedly felt forced to sign the loan documents because she had already entered into a DROA for the property that provided for a nonrefundable \$10,000 deposit. Camat faults the named Defendants for offering the loan terms that she accepted.

See Second Amended Complaint ¶¶ 14, 42. Camat also bases Count Two on a First Magnus employee's alleged representation that Camat could refinance her loans at a lower rate. Id. ¶¶ 16, 17.

Like Count One, the fraudulent inducement claim asserted in Count Two fails to meet the minimum pleading standard set forth in Rule 8(a)(2) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure. It certainly fails to satisfy the heightened pleading standard for fraud-based claims set forth in Rule 9(b) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure. As discussed above, the Second Amended Complaint alleges that Gilbert Borrego of First Magnus prequalified Camat for the loans. There are no factual allegations in the Second Amended Complaint indicating that

Countrywide Home Loans, Inc., or Countrywide Home Loans
Servicing, LP, now known as Bank of America, N.A., had any
involvement in the prequalification process. Nor are there any
allegations indicating that any Defendant named in this count
promised Camat that she could refinance her loans at a lower
rate. As discussed above, to the extent Camat may be asserting
that the named Defendants are liable for fraud because First
Magnus was their agent, the Second Amended Complaint fails to
allege facts from which that agency relationship may be
reasonably inferred. No viable fraudulent inducement claim is
therefore asserted in the Second Amended Complaint.

Camat's fraudulent inducement claim is also substantively lacking. The Hawaii Supreme Court has discussed fraud in the inducement, stating:

To constitute fraudulent inducement sufficient to invalidate the terms of a contract, there must be (1) a representation of a material fact, (2) made for the purpose of inducing the other party to act, (3) known to be false but reasonably believed true by the other party, and (4) upon which the other party relies and acts to his or her damage.

The false representation, to be actionable, must relate to a past or existing material fact, and not to the happening of future events. Generally, fraud cannot be predicated upon statements [that] are promissory in their nature at the time they are made and that relate to future actions or conduct. A promise relating to future action or conduct will be actionable, however, if the promise was made without the present intent to fulfill the promise.

Hawaii Cmty. Fed. Credit Union v. Keka, 94 Haw. 213, 230, 11 P.3d

1, 18 (2000) (quoting Honolulu Fed. Sav. & Loan Ass'n v. Murphy,

7 Haw. App. 196, 201-02, 753 P.2d 807, 811-12 (1988) (brackets omitted)).

Even assuming that Countrywide Home Loans, Inc., or Countrywide Home Loans Servicing, LP, now known as Bank of America, N.A., could be held responsible for the prequalification letters, no actionable fraudulent inducement claim is alleged in the Second Amended Complaint. At most, the prequalification letters simply stated that Camat would qualify for an unidentified type of loan. The letters did not promise loans on specific terms. In fact, no promise to lend money to Camat was even made in the letters. Instead, the letters conditioned loan qualification on matters such as satisfaction of underwriting criteria and satisfactory income/asset documentation. See Prequalification Letters, ECF No. 1-1, PageID #s 28-29. No false representation of any material fact has been identified in the prequalification letters that could possibly form the basis of a fraudulent inducement claim.

Nor does Camat sufficiently allege a fraudulent inducement claim based on a First Magnus employee's alleged statement to Camat that she could refinance her loan at a lower rate. Interpreting the facts alleged in the light most favorable to Camat, the court finds the claim still lacking. It pertains

to a future event and includes no allegation that the First Magnus employee who allegedly made the statement, even if attributable to a named Defendant, lacked a present intention to fulfill the promise at the time it was made. See Hawaii Cmty. Fed. Credit Union, 94 Haw. at 230, 11 P.3d at 18.

Accordingly, Count Two is dismissed.

C. Count Three, Which Asserts a Wrongful Foreclosure Claim, is Dismissed.

Although Count Three of the Second Amended Complaint appears to assert that Countrywide Home Loans Servicing, LP, improperly conducted a nonjudicial foreclosure, Camat indicated at the hearing that she is asserting this claim against all Defendants.

Camat does not allege that she complied with the terms of the loan. Instead, Camat contends that she should be relieved of her obligations under the loan because MERS allegedly improperly transferred the note and mortgage to Countrywide Home Loans Servicing, LP, after First Magnus had filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy, making the note and mortgage part of the bankruptcy estate. See Second Amended Complaint ¶ 44.

Even assuming that Camat can challenge the validity of the transfer, she lacks a factual basis for her position. The mortgage securing the \$615,200 note granted MERS, in the capacity of nominee of First Magnus, the power to foreclose and sell the property and to take any action required of First Magnus. See

ECF 1-1, PageID #45. As this court noted in Cooper v. Bank of New York Mellon, 2011 WL 3705058, *13 (D. Haw. Aug. 23, 2011), First Magnus's bankruptcy did not on its own affect the validity of the assignment, because First Magnus transferred its beneficial interest in the mortgage to MERS before instituting the bankruptcy proceedings. Additionally, the right to collect on the note was transferred to Countrywide Home Loans Servicing, LP, effective August 1, 2007. See Notice of Assignment, sale, or Transfer of Servicing Rights, July 11, 2007, ECF 1-1, PageID #s 74 and 75. First Magnus filed the bankruptcy proceeding three weeks later, on August 21, 2007. See ECF No. 1-1, PageID #89.2

It is not entirely clear whether Camat is alleging that MERS improperly assigned the mortgage after First Magnus was dissolved. To the extent Camat is making that argument, it is unpersuasive. First, it appears to be factually unsupported, as a document attached to the Second Amended Complaint indicates that First Magnus was administratively dissolved on April 2, 2009, after the February 2009 assignment of the mortgage by MERS.

See ECF No. 1-1, PageID #92. But even if it could be argued that First Magnus was dissolved earlier, that dissolution would not prevent MERS from transferring any interest in the mortgage. In

²Camat does not appear to be arguing that the transfer, having occurred within 90 days of the bankruptcy filing, fell within the preference period. It is, by now, too late to assert such an argument, and Camat does not say she had standing to raise such an argument in 2007.

<u>Kiah v. Aurora Loan Servs.</u>, <u>LLC</u>, 2011 WL 841282, at *4 (D. Mass. March 4, 2011), for example, the court ruled:

The plain language of the mortgage states that MERS was acting as nominee for First Magnus and its "successors and assigns." . . . First Magnus' dissolution would not prevent its successors and assigns, including Aurora, from seeking transfer of the mortgage from MERS.

Accordingly, the dissolution of First Magnus would not and could not prevent Aurora from obtaining an assignment of the mortgage from MERS, both as a matter of law and according to the arrangement that existed between MERS and Aurora as a "successor and assign" of First Magnus.

The court is unpersuaded by Camat's citation of <u>Deutshe</u>

<u>Bank National Trust Company v. Williams</u>, 2012 WL 1081174 (D. Haw.

Mar. 29, 2012), as that case did not involve MERS. In <u>Williams</u>,

Judge J. Michael Seabright indicated that it "appeared" that Home

123 could not validly assign a mortgage it held while it was in

bankruptcy. <u>See id.</u> at *3. <u>Williams</u> did not examine whether

MERS could transfer a mortgage based on language in the mortgage

that allowed MERS to do so.

Because the Second Amended Complaint fails to allege facts supporting a viable wrongful foreclosure claim, it is therefore dismissed.

D. Count Four, Which Asserts a Claim for Quiet Title, and Count Five, Which Asserts a Claim for Injunctive Relief, Are Dismissed.

In Count Four of the Second Amended Complaint, Camat seeks to quiet title to her former property against all Defendants. Camat claims that she is entitled to such relief because of the allegedly wrongful foreclosure. See Second Amended Complaint ¶ 48. Similarly, Count Five of the Second Amended Complaint, which seeks injunctive relief, as opposed to asserting a claim, is also based on the allegedly wrongful foreclosure.

Because the wrongful foreclosure claim has been dismissed, there is no factual basis for the quiet title claim and injunctive relief requested in Counts Four and Five of the Second Amended Complaint. Nor is there a legal basis for Count Five, as a claim for "injunctive relief" standing alone is not a cause of action. Instead, injunctive relief may be available as a remedy if Camat prevails on a substantive claim. See Hoilien v. OneWest Bank, FSB, 2012 WL 1379318 (D. Haw. Apr. 20, 2012) ("the Court follows the well-settled rule that a claim for injunctive relief cannot stand as an independent cause of action"); Pugal v. ASC (America's Servicing Co.), 2011 WL 4435089 (D. Haw. Sept. 21, 2011) (same). Accordingly, Counts Four and Five are dismissed. Because amendment of the injunctive relief claim would be futile, that claim is dismissed with prejudice.

Camat may, of course, seek injunctive relief as a remedy for an appropriate claim should she choose to file a Third Amended Complaint.

V. CONCLUSION.

For the foregoing reasons, the motion to dismiss is granted. Counts One through Four are dismissed without prejudice and Camat is granted leave to file a Third Amended Complaint no later than July 13, 2012. Although this court would not normally grant leave to file a Third Amended Complaint without a motion, the court notes that no court has examined the sufficiency of any of the prior versions of Camat's pleading. The original state-court Complaint was filed on June 13, 2011. See ECF No. 11-3. An Amended Complaint was filed on July 15, 2011. See ECF No. 11-4. On March 21, 2012, Camat filed an Ex Parte Motion for Leave to File the Second Amended Complaint. See ECF No. 11-6. That motion was denied, but she renewed her motion on March 21, 2012. See ECF No. 11-12. That motion was apparently granted. Under these circumstances, granting leave to file another amended complaint is appropriate.

Count Five is dismissed with prejudice, as there is no claim that could be reasserted as a viable claim.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

DATED: Honolulu, June 22, 2012.



/s/ Susan Oki Mollway

Susan Oki Mollway Chief United States District Judge

Camat v. Fed. Nat'l Mortgage Assn., et al., Civ. No. 12-00149 SOM/BMK; ORDER DISMISSING SECOND AMENDED COMPLAINT WITH LEAVE TO AMEND