

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA

FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION,

Plaintiff,

v.

SAMUEL JAMES SMITH, also d/b/a Weblio,  
a/k/a Weblio Squeeze,

ROBERT WILLIAM SHAFER, also d/b/a Shafer  
MM&I, a/k/a MMI,

CHARLES JOSEPH GARIS, JR., individually  
and as an owner, officer, and/or manager of  
Business Revolution Group Inc., and also d/b/a  
Joe Gaines, and

BUSINESS REVOLUTION GROUP INC., a  
Pennsylvania Corporation, also d/b/a Joe Gaines,

Defendants.

**Filed Under Seal**

**Case No. Civil 23-4848**

**EX PARTE TEMPORARY RESTRAINING ORDER WITH ASSET FREEZE,  
AND OTHER EQUITABLE RELIEF, WITH ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE WHY A  
PRELIMINARY INJUNCTION SHOULD NOT ISSUE**

Plaintiff, the Federal Trade Commission, has filed its Complaint for Permanent Injunction, Monetary Relief, and Other Relief pursuant to Sections 13(b) and 19 of the Federal Trade Commission Act (“FTC Act”), 15 U.S.C. §§ 53(b) and 57b, and the Telemarketing and Consumer Fraud and Abuse Prevention Act (“Telemarketing Act”), 15 U.S.C. §§ 6101-6108, (Docket No. 23-4848), and has moved, pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 65(b), for a temporary restraining order, asset freeze, other equitable relief, and an order to show cause why a preliminary injunction should not issue against Defendants Samuel James Smith (also d/b/a

Weblio, a/k/a Weblio Squeeze), Robert William Shafer (also d/b/a Shafer MM&I, a/k/a MMI), Charles Joseph Garis, Jr. (also d/b/a Joe Gaines), and Business Revolution Group Inc. (also d/b/a Joe Gaines). (ECF 3.)

### **PRELIMINARY FINDINGS OF FACT**

The Court, having considered the Complaint, the Motion for a Temporary Restraining Order, declarations, exhibits, and the memorandum of points and authorities filed in support thereof, and being otherwise advised, finds a substantial evidentiary basis on which to make the following provisional findings in support of *ex parte* relief:

A. This Court has jurisdiction over the subject matter of this case, and there is good cause to believe that it will have jurisdiction over all parties hereto and that venue in this district is proper.

B. Defendants operate an online enterprise that offers a purported business or money-making opportunity to the public. Defendants falsely claim that if consumers buy a membership in their business or money-making opportunity, they will earn large sums of money in short periods of time with little to no effort. With membership in their business or money-making opportunity, Defendants say, consumers should prepare to “make more money every month than most people make in an entire year.”

C. Defendants market and sell memberships in their business or money-making opportunity through telemarketing and other means.

D. In numerous instances, in connection with the advertising, marketing, promotion, offering for sale, or sale of their business or money-making opportunity, Defendants have: (1) made false or unsubstantiated earnings claims and (2) provided the means and instrumentalities for the commission of deceptive acts or practices in or affecting commerce, as “commerce” is

defined in Section 4 of the FTC Act, 15 U.S.C. 44, including the making of false or unsubstantiated earnings claims.

E. In numerous instances, in connection with telemarketing related to the advertising, marketing, promotion, offering for sale, or sale of their business or money-making opportunity, Defendants have: (1) made false or misleading statements regarding past, present, or future sales or earnings to induce consumers to pay for their goods and services and (2) misrepresented, directly or by implication, material aspects of an Investment Opportunity (as defined *infra*), including risk, liquidity, earnings potential, or profitability.

F. In numerous instances, in connection with telemarketing related to the advertising, marketing, promotion, offering for sale, or sale of Defendants' business or money-making opportunity, Defendants Shafer, Garis, and Business Revolution Group have engaged in initiating or causing the initiation of Outbound Telephone Calls (as defined *infra*) that deliver prerecorded messages to induce the sale of Defendants' goods and services.

G. There is good cause to believe that Defendants have taken at least \$7 million from consumers in connection with their unlawful acts or practices.

H. There is good cause to believe that all Defendants have engaged in and are likely to engage in acts or practices that violate Section 5(a) of the FTC Act, 15 U.S.C. § 45(a), and Sections 310.3(a)(4) and 310.3(a)(2)(vi) of the Telemarketing Sales Rule ("TSR"), 16 C.F.R. Part 310, an FTC Trade Regulation, and that Plaintiff is therefore likely to prevail on the merits of Counts I through IV of its Complaint. As demonstrated by consumer declarations, a declaration of the FTC's investigator, transcripts of phone calls, voicemails, and marketing videos, and other documentation filed by the FTC, the FTC has established a likelihood of success in showing that Defendants have (1) made material misrepresentations in the promotion

and sale of their business or money-making opportunity to consumers through telemarketing and other means, including that consumers are likely to earn substantial amounts of money if they buy a membership in the business or money-making opportunity, and (2) provided the means and instrumentalities for the commission of deceptive acts or practices in the promotion and sale of their business or money-making opportunity.

I. There is good cause to believe that Defendants Shafer, Garis, and Business Revolution Group have engaged in and are likely to engage in acts or practices that violate Section 310.4(b)(1)(v) of the TSR, 16 C.F.R. Part 310, and that Plaintiff is therefore likely to prevail on the merits of Count V of its Complaint. As demonstrated by consumer declarations, a declaration of the FTC's investigator, transcripts of phone calls, voicemails, and marketing videos, and other documentation filed by the FTC, the FTC has established a likelihood of success in showing that Defendants Shafer, Garis, and Business Revolution Group have engaged in initiating or causing the initiation of Outbound Telephone Calls (as defined *infra*) that deliver prerecorded messages to induce the sale of Defendants' business or money-making opportunity.

J. There is good cause to believe that immediate and irreparable harm will result from Defendants' ongoing violations of the FTC Act and TSR unless Defendants are restrained and enjoined by order of this Court.

K. There is good cause to believe that immediate and irreparable damage to the Court's ability to grant effective final relief for consumers—including monetary restitution, rescission, or refunds—will occur from the sale, transfer, destruction or other disposition or concealment by Defendants of their assets or records, unless Defendants are immediately restrained and enjoined by order of this Court; and that, in accordance with Fed. R. Civ. P. 65(b), the interests of justice require that this Order be granted without prior notice to Defendants.

Thus, there is good cause for relieving Plaintiff of the duty to provide Defendants with prior notice of its Motion for a Temporary Restraining Order.

L. Good cause exists for freezing Defendants' assets, requiring Defendants to turnover business records to the Plaintiff, and permitting the Plaintiff to take expedited discovery.

M. Weighing the equities and considering Plaintiff's likelihood of ultimate success on the merits, a temporary restraining order with an asset freeze, turnover of business records, expedited discovery, and other equitable relief is in the public interest.

N. This Court has authority to issue this Order pursuant to Sections 13(b) and 19 of the FTC Act, 15 U.S.C. § 53(b) and 57b; Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 65; and the All Writs Act, 28 U.S.C. § 1651.

O. No security is required of any agency of the United States for issuance of a temporary restraining order. Fed. R. Civ. P. 65(c).

#### **DEFINITIONS**

For the purpose of this Order, the following definitions shall apply:

A. "**Asset**" means any legal or equitable interest in, right to, or claim to, any property, wherever located and by whomever held.

B. "**Corporate Defendant**" means Business Revolution Group Inc., also d/b/a Joe Gaines, and each of its subsidiaries, affiliates, successors, and assigns.

C. "**Garis Defendants**" means the Corporate Defendant and Charles Joseph Garis, Jr., also d/b/a Joe Gaines.

D. **“Defendants”** means the Garis Defendants, Samuel James Smith, also d/b/a Weblio, a/k/a Weblio Squeeze, and Robert William Shafer, also d/b/a Shafer MM&I, a/k/a MMI, individually, collectively, or in any combination.

E. **“Document”** is synonymous in meaning and equal in scope to the usage of “document” and “electronically stored information” in Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 34(a), Fed. R. Civ. P. 34(a), and includes writings, drawings, graphs, charts, photographs, sound and video recordings, images, Internet sites, web pages, websites, electronic correspondence, including e-mail and instant messages, contracts, accounting data, advertisements, FTP Logs, Server Access Logs, books, written or printed records, handwritten notes, telephone logs, telephone scripts, receipt books, ledgers, personal and business canceled checks and check registers, bank statements, appointment books, computer records, customer or sales databases and any other electronically stored information, including Documents located on remote servers or cloud computing systems, and other data or data compilations from which information can be obtained directly or, if necessary, after translation into a reasonably usable form. A draft or non-identical copy is a separate document within the meaning of the term.

F. **“Electronic Data Host”** means any person or entity in the business of storing, hosting, or otherwise maintaining electronically stored information. This includes, but is not limited to, any entity hosting a website or server, and any entity providing “cloud based” electronic storage.

G. **“Individual Defendants”** means Charles Joseph Garis, Jr., also d/b/a Joe Gaines, Samuel James Smith, also d/b/a Weblio, a/k/a Weblio Squeeze, and Robert William Shafer, also d/b/a Shafer MM&I, a/k/a MMI, individually, collectively, or in any combination.

H. **“Investment Opportunity”** means anything, tangible or intangible, that is offered, offered for sale, sold, or traded based wholly or in part on representations, either express or implied, about past, present, or future income, profit, or appreciation.

I. **“Outbound Telephone Call”** means a call initiated by a Telemarketer to induce the purchase of goods or services.

J. **“Ringless Voicemails”** means a prerecorded message delivered to consumers by calling their phone numbers in a way that typically does not cause their phones to ring and does not give consumers the opportunity to answer or block the incoming message.

K. **“Seller”** means any person who, in connection with a Telemarketing transaction, provides, offers to provide, or arranges for others to provide goods or services to the customer in exchange for consideration.

L. **“Telemarketer”** means any person who, in connection with Telemarketing, initiates or receives telephone calls to or from a customer.

M. **“Telemarketing”** means any plan, program, or campaign that is conducted to induce the purchase of goods or services by use of one or more telephone calls.

## **ORDER**

### **I. PROHIBITED BUSINESS ACTIVITIES**

**IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED** that Defendants, Defendants’ officers, agents, employees, and attorneys, and all other persons in active concert or participation with them, who receive actual notice of this Order by personal service or otherwise, whether acting directly or indirectly, in connection with the advertising, marketing, promoting, or offering for sale of any goods or services, including any business or money-making opportunity, are temporarily restrained and enjoined from:

- A. Misrepresenting or assisting others in misrepresenting, expressly or by implication, any material fact, including, but not limited to, misrepresenting:
  - 1. That consumers who purchase Defendants' purported business or money-making opportunity will earn or are likely to earn substantial income; and
  - 2. Any other fact material to consumers concerning any good or service, such as: the total costs; any material restrictions, limitations, or conditions; or any material aspect of its performance, efficacy, nature, or central characteristics.
  
- B. Providing, or arranging for others to provide, advertising or marketing materials or services to be used in recruiting consumers to buy, invest in, or otherwise join any business or money-making opportunity when those materials or services contain or facilitate the dissemination of false or misleading representations.

**II. PROHIBITION REGARDING TELEMARKETING**

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that Defendants, Defendants' officers, agents, employees, and attorneys, and all other persons in active concert or participation with any of them, who receive actual notice of this Order, whether acting directly or indirectly, in connection with Telemarketing of any good or service, including any business or money-making opportunity, are hereby temporarily restrained and enjoined from:

- A. Initiating, or causing others to initiate, an Outbound Telephone Call:
  - 1. That makes a false or misleading statement to induce any person to pay for goods or services;
  - 2. That misrepresents, directly or by implication, any material aspect of an Investment Opportunity including, but not limited to, risk, liquidity, earnings potential, or profitability; and



3. That delivers a prerecorded message, including a Ringless Voicemail, to induce the sale of goods or services.
- B. Violating any provision of the TSR, 16 C.F.R. Part 310, appended hereto as Attachment A.

### **III. PROHIBITION ON RELEASE OF CUSTOMER INFORMATION**

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that Defendants, Defendants' officers, agents, employees, and attorneys, and all other persons in active concert or participation with any of them, who receive actual notice of this Order, whether acting directly or indirectly, are hereby temporarily restrained and enjoined from:

- A. Selling, renting, leasing, transferring, or otherwise disclosing, the name, address, birth date, telephone number, email address, credit card number, bank account number, Social Security number, or other financial or identifying information of any person that any Defendant obtained in connection with any activity that pertains to the subject matter of this Order; and
- B. Benefitting from or using the name, address, birth date, telephone number, email address, credit card number, bank account number, Social Security number, or other financial or identifying information of any person that any Defendant obtained in connection with any activity that pertains to the subject matter of this Order.

Provided, however, that Defendants may disclose such identifying information to a law enforcement agency, to their attorneys as required for their defense, as required by any law, regulation, or court order, or in any filings, pleadings, or discovery in this action in the manner required by the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure and by any protective order in this action.

#### IV. ASSET FREEZE

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that Defendants and their officers, agents, employees, and attorneys, and all other persons in active concert or participation with any of them, who receive actual notice of this Order, whether acting directly or indirectly, are hereby temporarily restrained and enjoined from:

A. Transferring, liquidating, converting, encumbering, pledging, loaning, selling, concealing, dissipating, disbursing, assigning, relinquishing, spending, withdrawing, granting a lien or security interest or other interest in, or otherwise disposing of any Assets that are:

1. owned or controlled, directly or indirectly, by any Defendant;
2. held, in part or in whole, for the benefit of any Defendant;
3. in the actual or constructive possession of any Defendant; or
4. owned or controlled by, in the actual or constructive possession of, or otherwise held for the benefit of, any corporation, partnership, asset protection trust, or other entity that is directly or indirectly owned, managed, or controlled by any Defendant.

B. Opening or causing to be opened any safe deposit boxes, commercial mailboxes, or storage facilities titled in the name of any Defendant or subject to access by any Defendant;

C. Incurring charges or cash advances on any credit, debit, or ATM card issued in the name, individually or jointly, of the Corporate Defendant or any corporation, partnership, or other entity directly or indirectly owned, managed, or controlled by any Defendant or of which any Defendant is an officer, director, member, or manager. This includes any corporate bankcard or corporate credit card account for which any Defendant is, or was on the date that this Order was signed, an authorized signor; or

D. Cashing any checks or depositing any money orders or cash received from consumers, clients, or customers of any Defendant.

The Assets affected by this Section shall include: (1) all Assets of Defendants as of the time this Order is entered; and (2) Assets obtained by Defendants after this Order is entered if those Assets are derived from any activity that is the subject of the Complaint in this matter or that is prohibited by this Order. This Section does not prohibit repatriation of foreign Assets specifically required by this order.

**V. DUTIES OF ASSET HOLDERS AND OTHER THIRD PARTIES**

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that any financial or brokerage institution, Electronic Data Host, credit card processor, payment processor, merchant bank, acquiring bank, independent sales organization, third party processor, payment gateway, insurance company, business entity, or person who receives actual notice of this Order (by service or otherwise) that:

(a) has held, controlled, or maintained custody, through an account or otherwise, of any Document on behalf of any Defendant or any Asset that has been owned or controlled, directly or indirectly, by any Defendant; held, in part or in whole, for the benefit of any Defendant; in the actual or constructive possession of any Defendant; or owned or controlled by, in the actual or constructive possession of, or otherwise held for the benefit of, any corporation, partnership, asset protection trust, or other entity that is directly or indirectly owned, managed or controlled by any Defendant;

(b) has held, controlled, or maintained custody, through an account or otherwise, of any Document or Asset associated with credits, debits, or charges made on behalf of any Defendant, including reserve funds held by payment processors, credit card processors, merchant banks, acquiring banks, independent sales organizations, third party processors, payment gateways, insurance companies, or other entities; or

(c) has extended credit to any Defendant, including through a credit card account, shall:

A. Hold, preserve, and retain within its control and prohibit the withdrawal, removal, alteration, assignment, transfer, pledge, encumbrance, disbursement, dissipation, relinquishment, conversion, sale, or other disposal of any such Document or Asset, as well as all Documents or other property related to such Assets, except by further order of this Court; provided, however, that this provision does not prohibit an Individual Defendant from incurring charges on a personal credit card established prior to entry of this Order, up to the pre-existing credit limit;

B. Deny any person access to any safe deposit box, commercial mailbox, or storage facility that is titled in the name of any Defendant, either individually or jointly, or otherwise subject to access by any Defendant;

C. Provide Plaintiff's counsel, within three (3) days of receiving a copy of this Order, a sworn statement setting forth, for each Asset or account covered by this Section:

1. The identification number of each such account or Asset;
2. The balance of each such account, or a description of the nature and value of each such Asset as of the close of business on the day on which this Order is served, and, if the account or other Asset has been closed or removed, the date closed or removed, the total funds removed in order to close the account, and the name of the person or entity to whom such account or other Asset was remitted; and
3. The identification of any safe deposit box, commercial mailbox, or storage facility that is either titled in the name, individually or jointly, of any Defendant, or is otherwise subject to access by any Defendant; and

D. Upon the request of Plaintiff's counsel, promptly provide Plaintiff's counsel with copies of all records or other Documents pertaining to any account or Asset covered by this Section, including originals or copies of account applications, account statements, signature cards, checks, drafts, deposit tickets, transfers to and from the accounts, including wire transfers and wire transfer instructions, all other debit and credit instruments or slips, currency transaction reports, 1099 forms, and all logs and records pertaining to safe deposit boxes, commercial mailboxes, and storage facilities.

Provided, however, that this Section does not prohibit repatriation of foreign Assets specifically required by this order.

## VI. FINANCIAL DISCLOSURES

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that each Defendant, within five (5) days of service of this Order upon them, shall prepare and deliver to Plaintiff's counsel:

A. completed financial statements on the forms appended to this Order as **Attachment B** (Financial Statement of Individual Defendant) for each Individual Defendant, and **Attachment C** (Financial Statement of Corporate Defendant) for the Corporate Defendant;

B. a full accounting, verified under oath and accurate as of the date of this order, of:

1. each good or service marketed, advertised, promoted, offered for sale, sold, or distributed by or on behalf of the responding Defendant since January 1, 2020, including a brief description of each good or service and its name;
2. gross revenues and net profits (in U.S. dollars) obtained by the responding Defendant from the marketing, advertising, sale, or distribution of each good or service identified in response to Section VI.C.1 of this Order from

the inception of the marketing, advertising, or sale through the entry of this Order; and

3. the name, address, telephone number, email address, and contact person (when applicable) for each entity or person who (i) supplied, manufactured, formulated, or created each good or service identified in response to Section VI.C.1 of this Order; (ii) marketed, advertised, sold, or distributed each good or service identified in response to Section VI.C.1 of this Order; (iii) received payment for disseminating or publishing, or assisting in the dissemination or publication, of advertisements for each good or service identified Section VI.C.1 of this Order, including those advertisements disseminated through Telemarketing; and (iv) paid, directly or indirectly, for each good or service identified in response to Section VI.C.1 of this Order, including the amount paid by the person or entity and the name of the good or service purchased.

## **VII. FOREIGN ASSET REPATRIATION**

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that within five (5) days following the service of this Order, each Defendant shall:

- A. Provide Plaintiff's counsel with a full accounting, verified under oath and accurate as of the date of this Order, of all Assets, Documents, and accounts outside of the United States which are: (1) titled in the name, individually or jointly, of any Defendant; (2) held by any person or entity for the benefit of any Defendant or for the benefit of any corporation, partnership, asset protection trust, or other entity that is directly or indirectly owned, managed or controlled by any Defendant; or (3) under the direct or indirect control, whether jointly or singly, of any Defendant;

B. Take all steps necessary to provide Plaintiff's counsel access to all Documents and records that may be held by third parties located outside of the territorial United States of America, including signing the Consent to Release of Financial Records appended to this Order as **Attachment D**.

C. Transfer to the territory of the United States all Documents and Assets located in foreign countries which are: (1) titled in the name, individually or jointly, of any Defendant; (2) held by any person or entity for the benefit of any Defendant or for the benefit of any corporation, partnership, asset protection trust, or other entity that is directly or indirectly owned, managed or controlled by any Defendant; or (3) under the direct or indirect control, whether jointly or singly, of any Defendant; and

D. The same business day as any repatriation, (1) notify counsel for Plaintiff of the name and location of the financial institution or other entity that is the recipient of such Documents or Assets; and (2) serve this Order on any such financial institution or other entity.

#### **VIII. NON-INTERFERENCE WITH REPATRIATION**

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that Defendants, Defendants' officers, agents, employees, and attorneys, and all other persons in active concert or participation with any of them, who receive actual notice of this Order, whether acting directly or indirectly, are hereby temporarily restrained and enjoined from taking any action, directly or indirectly, which may result in the encumbrance or dissipation of foreign Assets, or in the hindrance of the repatriation required by this Order, including, but not limited to:

A. Sending any communication or engaging in any other act, directly or indirectly, that results in a determination by a foreign trustee or other entity that a "duress" event has occurred under the terms of a foreign trust agreement until such time that all Defendants' Assets have been fully repatriated pursuant to this Order; or

B. Notifying any trustee, protector or other agent of any foreign trust or other related entities of either the existence of this Order, or of the fact that repatriation is required pursuant to a court order, until such time that all Defendants' Assets have been fully repatriated pursuant to this Order.

#### **IX. CONSUMER CREDIT REPORTS**

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that Plaintiff may obtain credit reports concerning any Defendants pursuant to Section 604(a)(1) of the Fair Credit Reporting Act, 15 U.S.C. 1681b(a)(1), and that, upon written request, any credit reporting agency from which such reports are requested shall provide them to Plaintiff.

#### **X. PRESERVATION OF RECORDS**

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that Defendants, Defendants' officers, agents, employees, and attorneys, and all other persons in active concert or participation with any of them, who receive actual notice of this Order, whether acting directly or indirectly, are hereby temporarily restrained and enjoined from:

A. Destroying, erasing, falsifying, writing over, mutilating, concealing, altering, transferring, or otherwise disposing of, in any manner, directly or indirectly, Documents that relate to: (1) the business, business practices, Assets, or business or personal finances of any Defendant; (2) the business practices or finances of entities directly or indirectly under the control of any Defendant; or (3) the business practices or finances of entities directly or indirectly under common control with any other Defendant; and

B. Failing to create and maintain Documents that, in reasonable detail, accurately, fairly, and completely reflect Defendants' incomes, disbursements, transactions, and use of Defendants' Assets.



## **XI. REPORT OF NEW BUSINESS ACTIVITY**

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that Defendants, Defendants' officers, agents, employees, and attorneys, and all other persons in active concert or participation with any of them, who receive actual notice of this Order, whether acting directly or indirectly, are hereby temporarily restrained and enjoined from creating, operating, or exercising any control over any business entity, whether newly formed or previously inactive, including any partnership, limited partnership, joint venture, sole proprietorship, or corporation, without first providing Plaintiff's counsel with a written statement disclosing: (1) the name of the business entity; (2) the address and telephone number of the business entity; (3) the names of the business entity's officers, directors, principals, managers, and employees; and (4) a detailed description of the business entity's intended activities.

## **XII. IMMEDIATE PRODUCTION OF BUSINESS RECORDS**

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that Defendants allow Plaintiff, through its employees and agents, access to Defendants' business records so that Plaintiff may inspect, inventory, and copy Documents in preparation for the preliminary injunction hearing and identify and locate assets.

Within five (5) days of receiving notice of this Order, Defendants must produce to the Plaintiff for inspection, inventory, and copying, at a location designated by Plaintiff, the following Documents or information:

A. All customer databases maintained by or for the benefit of any of the Defendants related to the sale of any business or money-making opportunity, including marketing packages and other related goods or services;

B. Documents sufficient to identify all customers who paid any Defendant for any business or money-making opportunity, including marketing packages and other related goods or

services, and providing customer names, phone numbers, addresses, email addresses, payment amounts, and payment methods;

C. All contracts reflecting customer purchases of any business or money-making opportunity, including marketing packages and other related goods and services, from any of the Defendants;

D. All contracts reflecting termination of purchases of any business or money-making opportunity, including marketing packages and other related goods and services, offered by any of the Defendants;

E. An electronic copy of each:

1. advertisement, including videos disseminated online or other mediums, used by any of the Defendants to promote and sell any business or money-making opportunity, including marketing packages and other related goods or services; and

2. webpage or website used by any of the Defendants to promote and sell any business or money-making opportunity, including marketing packages and other related goods or services;

F. All scripts used by any of the Defendants in the advertising, marketing, or sale of any business or money-making opportunity, including marketing packages and other related goods or services;

G. All Documents that substantiate claims made about commissions or earnings during the advertisement, marketing, or sale of any business or money-making opportunity, including marketing packages and other related goods or services, offered by any Defendant;

H. All Documents relating to commissions paid to customers who paid any Defendant for any business or money-making opportunity, including marketing packages and other related goods or services;

I. All video or audio recordings of telephone calls or other communications related to the advertising, marketing, or sale of any business or money-making opportunity, including marketing packages and other related goods or services, by any Defendant;

J. All complaints from customers who purchased any business or money-making opportunity, including marketing packages and other related goods or services, from any Defendant;

K. All complaints from customers who received goods or services, including marketing packages, related to any business or money-making opportunity from any Defendant;

L. All Documents relating to any earnings disclaimer or disclosure used in the advertising, marketing, or sale of any business or money-making opportunity offered by any Defendant, including Documents reflecting underlying data used to support or draft any such disclaimer or disclosure;

M. All Documents relating to refund policies applicable to the sale of business or money-making opportunities by any Defendant, including the number or people who requested refunds, the number of people who received refunds, the basis for denial of refund requests, and written policies or procedures regarding refunds; and

N. All financial records and accounting information relating to the sale of any business or money-making opportunity by any Defendant, including profit and loss statements, annual reports, receipt books, ledgers, personal and business canceled checks and check

registers, bank statements, appointment books, copies of federal, state, or local business or personal income or property tax returns, and 1099 forms.

The Commission shall return materials produced under this Section within five (5) business days of completing said inventory and copying. Production of Documents under this Section shall not provide grounds for any Defendant to object to any subsequent requests for Documents served by Plaintiff under this Order or the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure.

### **XIII. DISTRIBUTION OF ORDER BY DEFENDANTS**

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that Defendants shall immediately provide a copy of this Order to each affiliate, telemarketer, marketer, sales entity, successor, assign, member, officer, director, employee, agent, independent contractor, client, attorney, spouse, subsidiary, division, and representative of any Defendant, and shall, within ten (10) days from the date of entry of this Order, and provide Plaintiff with a sworn statement that this provision of the Order has been satisfied, which statement shall include the names, physical addresses, phone numbers, and email addresses of each such person or entity who received a copy of the Order. Furthermore, Defendants shall not take any action that would encourage officers, agents, members, directors, employees, salespersons, independent contractors, attorneys, subsidiaries, affiliates, successors, assigns or other persons or entities in active concert or participation with them to disregard this Order or believe that they are not bound by its provisions.

### **XIV. EXPEDITED DISCOVERY**

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that, notwithstanding the provisions of the Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(d) and (f) and 30(a)(2)(A)(iii), and pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 30(a), 33, 34, and 45, Plaintiff is granted leave, at any time after service of this Order, to conduct limited expedited discovery for the purpose of discovering: (1) the nature, location, status, and extent of Defendants' Assets; (2) the nature, location, and extent of Defendants' business transactions and operations; (3)

Documents reflecting Defendants' business transactions and operations, including Documents reflecting any substantiation for earnings claims used by any Defendant in the sale of any business or money-making opportunity; and (4) compliance with this Order. The limited expedited discovery set forth in this Section shall proceed as follows:

A. Plaintiff may take the deposition of parties and non-parties. Forty-eight (48) hours' notice shall be sufficient notice for such depositions. The limitations and conditions set forth in Rules 30(a)(2)(A) and 31(a)(2)(A) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure regarding subsequent depositions of an individual shall not apply to depositions taken pursuant to this Section. Any such deposition taken pursuant to this Section shall not be counted towards the deposition limit set forth in Rules 30(a)(2)(A) and 31(a)(2)(A) and depositions may be taken by telephone or other remote electronic means;

B. Plaintiff may serve upon parties requests for production of Documents or inspection that require production or inspection within five (5) days of service, provided, however, that three (3) days of notice shall be deemed sufficient for the production of any such Documents that are maintained or stored only in an electronic format.

C. Plaintiff may serve upon parties interrogatories that require response within five (5) days after Plaintiff serves such interrogatories;

D. The Plaintiff may serve subpoenas upon non-parties that direct production or inspection within five (5) days of service.

E. Service of discovery upon a party to this action, taken pursuant to this Section, shall be sufficient if made by facsimile, email, or by overnight delivery.

F. Any expedited discovery taken pursuant to this Section is in addition to, and is not subject to, the limits on discovery set forth in the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure and the Local

Rules of this Court. The expedited discovery permitted by this Section does not require a meeting or conference of the parties, pursuant to Rules 26(d) & (f) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure.

G. The Parties are exempted from making initial disclosures under Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(a)(1) until further order of this Court.

#### **XV. SERVICE OF THIS ORDER**

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that copies of this Order as well as the Motion for Temporary Restraining Order and all other pleadings, Documents, and exhibits filed contemporaneously with that Motion (other than the complaint and summons), may be served by any means, including facsimile transmission, email or other electronic messaging, personal or overnight delivery, U.S. Mail or FedEx, by agents and employees of Plaintiff, by any law enforcement agency, or by private process server, upon any Defendant or any person (including any financial institution) that may have possession, custody or control of any Asset or Document of any Defendant, or that may be subject to any provision of this Order pursuant to Rule 65(d)(2) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure. For purposes of this Section, service upon any branch, subsidiary, affiliate, or office of any entity shall affect service upon the entire entity.

#### **XVI. CORRESPONDENCE AND SERVICE ON PLAINTIFF**

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that, for the purpose of this Order, all correspondence and service of pleadings on Plaintiff shall be accomplished via email to: Connell McNulty at [pmcnulty@ftc.gov](mailto:pmcnulty@ftc.gov) and Lauren Rivard at [lrivard@ftc.gov](mailto:lrivard@ftc.gov).

#### **XVII. PRELIMINARY INJUNCTION HEARING**

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that, pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 65(b), Defendants shall appear before this Court on the 29<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2023, at 10:00 a.m., in Courtroom 9B of the Byrne Courthouse, 601 Market Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, to show cause, if there is

any, why this Court should not enter a preliminary injunction, pending final ruling on the Complaint against Defendants, enjoining the violations of the law alleged in the Complaint, continuing the freeze of their Assets, and imposing such additional relief as may be appropriate.

**XVIII. BRIEFS AND AFFIDAVITS CONCERNING PRELIMINARY INJUNCTION**

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that:

A. Defendants shall file with the Court and serve on Plaintiff's counsel any answering pleadings, affidavits, motions, expert reports or declarations, or legal memoranda no later than four (4) days prior to the order to show cause hearing scheduled pursuant to this Order. Plaintiff may file responsive or supplemental pleadings, materials, affidavits, or memoranda with the Court and serve the same on counsel for Defendants no later than one (1) day prior to the order to show Cause hearing. Provided that such affidavits, pleadings, motions, expert reports, declarations, legal memoranda, or oppositions must be served by personal or overnight delivery, facsimile, or email, and be received by the other party or parties no later than 5:00 p.m. EST four days prior to the hearing date.

B. An evidentiary hearing on Plaintiff's request for a preliminary injunction is not necessary unless Defendants demonstrate that they have, and intend to introduce, evidence that raises a genuine and material factual issue. The question of whether this Court should enter a preliminary injunction shall be resolved on the pleadings, declarations, exhibits, and memoranda filed by, and oral argument of, the parties. Live testimony shall be heard only on further order of this Court. Any motion to permit such testimony shall be filed with the Court and served on counsel for the other parties at least five (5) days prior to the preliminary injunction hearing in this matter. Such motion shall set forth the name, address, and telephone number of each proposed witness, a detailed summary or affidavit revealing the substance of each proposed witness's expected testimony, and an explanation of why the taking of live testimony would be

helpful to this Court. Any papers opposing a timely motion to present live testimony or to present live testimony in response to another party's timely motion to present live testimony shall be filed with this Court and served on the other parties at least three (3) days prior to the order to show cause hearing.

Provided, however, that service shall be performed by personal or overnight delivery, facsimile or email, and Documents shall be delivered so that they shall be received by the other parties no later than 5:00 p.m. EST four days before the hearing date.

**XIX. DURATION OF THE ORDER**

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that this Order shall expire fourteen (14) days from the date of entry noted below, unless within such time, the Order is extended for an additional period pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 65(b)(2).

**XX. RETENTION OF JURISDICTION**

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that this Court shall retain jurisdiction of this matter for all purposes.

**SO ORDERED** as set forth above, this 8<sup>th</sup> day of December 2023, at 4:00 p.m.

/s/Gerald Austin McHugh  
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE





- Sec.
- 310.1 Scope of regulations in this part.
- 310.2 Definitions.
- 310.3 Deceptive telemarketing acts or practices.
- 310.4 Abusive telemarketing acts or practices.
- 310.5 Recordkeeping requirements.
- 310.6 Exemptions.
- 310.7 Actions by states and private persons.
- 310.8 Fee for access to the National Do Not Call Registry.
- 310.9 Severability.

AUTHORITY: 15 U.S.C. 6101-6108.

SOURCE: 75 FR 48516, Aug. 10, 2010, unless otherwise noted.

This part implements the Telemarketing and Consumer Fraud and Abuse Prevention Act, 15 U.S.C. 6101-6108, as amended.

**§310.2 Definitions.**

(a) *Acquirer* means a business organization, financial institution, or an agent of a business organization or financial institution that has authority from an organization that operates or licenses a credit card system to authorize merchants to accept, transmit, or process payment by credit card through the credit card system for money, goods or services, or anything else of value.

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(b) *Attorney General* means the chief legal officer of a state.

(c) *Billing information* means any data that enables any person to access a customer's or donor's account, such as a credit card, checking, savings, share or similar account, utility bill, mortgage loan account, or debit card.

(d) *Caller identification service* means a service that allows a telephone subscriber to have the telephone number, and, where available, name of the calling party transmitted contemporaneously with the telephone call, and displayed on a device in or connected to the subscriber's telephone.

(e) *Cardholder* means a person to whom a credit card is issued or who is authorized to use a credit card on behalf of or in addition to the person to whom the credit card is issued.

(f) *Cash-to-cash money transfer* means the electronic (as defined in section 106(2) of the Electronic Signatures in Global and National Commerce Act (15 U.S.C. 7006(2)) transfer of the value of cash received from one person to another person in a different location that is sent by a money transfer provider and received in the form of cash. For purposes of this definition, *money transfer provider* means any person or financial institution that provides cash-to-cash money transfers for a person in the normal course of its business, whether or not the person holds an account with such person or financial institution. The term *cash-to-cash money transfer* includes a remittance transfer, as defined in section 919(g)(2) of the Electronic Fund Transfer Act ("EFTA"), 15 U.S.C. 1693a, that is a cash-to-cash transaction; however it does not include any transaction that is:

- (1) An electronic fund transfer as defined in section 903 of the EFTA;
- (2) Covered by Regulation E, 12 CFR 1005.20, pertaining to gift cards; or
- (3) Subject to the Truth in Lending Act, 15 U.S.C. 1601 *et seq.*

(g) *Cash reload mechanism* is a device, authorization code, personal identification number, or other security measure that makes it possible for a person to convert cash into an electronic (as defined in section 106(2) of the Electronic Signatures in Global and National Commerce Act (15 U.S.C. 7006(2)) form

that can be used to add funds to a general-use prepaid card, as defined in Regulation E, 12 CFR 1005.2, or an account with a payment intermediary. For purposes of this definition, a cash reload mechanism is not itself a general-use prepaid debit card or a swipe reload process or similar method in which funds are added directly onto a person's own general-use prepaid card or account with a payment intermediary.

(h) *Charitable contribution* means any donation or gift of money or any other thing of value.

(i) *Commission* means the Federal Trade Commission.

(j) *Credit* means the right granted by a creditor to a debtor to defer payment of debt or to incur debt and defer its payment.

(k) *Credit card* means any card, plate, coupon book, or other credit device existing for the purpose of obtaining money, property, labor, or services on credit.

(l) *Credit card sales draft* means any record or evidence of a credit card transaction.

(m) *Credit card system* means any method or procedure used to process credit card transactions involving credit cards issued or licensed by the operator of that system.

(n) *Customer* means any person who is or may be required to pay for goods or services offered through telemarketing.

(o) *Debt relief service* means any program or service represented, directly or by implication, to renegotiate, settle, or in any way alter the terms of payment or other terms of the debt between a person and one or more unsecured creditors or debt collectors, including, but not limited to, a reduction in the balance, interest rate, or fees owed by a person to an unsecured creditor or debt collector.

(p) *Donor* means any person solicited to make a charitable contribution.

(q) *Established business relationship* means a relationship between a seller and a consumer based on:

- (1) the consumer's purchase, rental, or lease of the seller's goods or services or a financial transaction between the

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consumer and seller, within the eighteen (18) months immediately preceding the date of a telemarketing call; or

(2) the consumer's inquiry or application regarding a product or service offered by the seller, within the three (3) months immediately preceding the date of a telemarketing call.

(r) *Free-to-pay conversion* means, in an offer or agreement to sell or provide any goods or services, a provision under which a customer receives a product or service for free for an initial period and will incur an obligation to pay for the product or service if he or she does not take affirmative action to cancel before the end of that period.

(s) *Investment opportunity* means anything, tangible or intangible, that is offered, offered for sale, sold, or traded based wholly or in part on representations, either express or implied, about past, present, or future income, profit, or appreciation.

(t) *Material* means likely to affect a person's choice of, or conduct regarding, goods or services or a charitable contribution.

(u) *Merchant* means a person who is authorized under a written contract with an acquirer to honor or accept credit cards, or to transmit or process for payment credit card payments, for the purchase of goods or services or a charitable contribution.

(v) *Merchant agreement* means a written contract between a merchant and an acquirer to honor or accept credit cards, or to transmit or process for payment credit card payments, for the purchase of goods or services or a charitable contribution.

(w) *Negative option feature* means, in an offer or agreement to sell or provide any goods or services, a provision under which the customer's silence or failure to take an affirmative action to reject goods or services or to cancel the agreement is interpreted by the seller as acceptance of the offer.

(x) *Outbound telephone call* means a telephone call initiated by a telemarketer to induce the purchase of goods or services or to solicit a charitable contribution.

(y) *Person* means any individual, group, unincorporated association, limited or general partnership, corporation, or other business entity.

(z) *Preacquired account information* means any information that enables a seller or telemarketer to cause a charge to be placed against a customer's or donor's account without obtaining the account number directly from the customer or donor during the telemarketing transaction pursuant to which the account will be charged.

(aa) *Prize* means anything offered, or purportedly offered, and given, or purportedly given, to a person by chance. For purposes of this definition, chance exists if a person is guaranteed to receive an item and, at the time of the offer or purported offer, the telemarketer does not identify the specific item that the person will receive.

(bb) *Prize promotion* means:

(1) A sweepstakes or other game of chance; or

(2) An oral or written express or implied representation that a person has won, has been selected to receive, or may be eligible to receive a prize or purported prize.

(cc) *Remotely created payment order* means any payment instruction or order drawn on a person's account that is created by the payee or the payee's agent and deposited into or cleared through the check clearing system. The term includes, without limitation, a "remotely created check," as defined in Regulation CC, Availability of Funds and Collection of Checks, 12 CFR 229.2(fff), but does not include a payment order cleared through an Automated Clearinghouse (ACH) Network or subject to the Truth in Lending Act, 15 U.S.C. 1601 *et seq.*, and Regulation Z, 12 CFR part 1026.

(dd) *Seller* means any person who, in connection with a telemarketing transaction, provides, offers to provide, or arranges for others to provide goods or services to the customer in exchange for consideration.

(ee) *State* means any state of the United States, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the Northern Mariana Islands, and any territory or possession of the United States.

(ff) *Telemarketer* means any person who, in connection with telemarketing, initiates or receives telephone calls to or from a customer or donor.

(gg) *Telemarketing* means a plan, program, or campaign which is conducted

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to induce the purchase of goods or services or a charitable contribution, by use of one or more telephones and which involves more than one interstate telephone call. The term does not include the solicitation of sales through the mailing of a catalog which: contains a written description or illustration of the goods or services offered for sale; includes the business address of the seller; includes multiple pages of written material or illustrations; and has been issued not less frequently than once a year, when the person making the solicitation does not solicit customers by telephone but only receives calls initiated by customers in response to the catalog and during those calls takes orders only without further solicitation. For purposes of the previous sentence, the term “further solicitation” does not include providing the customer with information about, or attempting to sell, any other item included in the same catalog which prompted the customer’s call or in a substantially similar catalog.

(hh) *Upselling* means soliciting the purchase of goods or services following an initial transaction during a single telephone call. The upsell is a separate telemarketing transaction, not a continuation of the initial transaction. An “external upsell” is a solicitation made by or on behalf of a seller different from the seller in the initial transaction, regardless of whether the initial transaction and the subsequent solicitation are made by the same telemarketer. An “internal upsell” is a solicitation made by or on behalf of the same seller as in the initial transaction, regardless of whether the initial transaction and subsequent solicitation are made by the same telemarketer.

[75 FR 48516, Aug. 10, 2010, as amended at 80 FR 77557, Dec. 14, 2015]

**§ 310.3 Deceptive telemarketing acts or practices.**

(a) *Prohibited deceptive telemarketing acts or practices.* It is a deceptive telemarketing act or practice and a violation of this Rule for any seller or telemarketer to engage in the following conduct:

(1) Before a customer consents to pay<sup>659</sup> for goods or services offered, failing to disclose truthfully, in a clear and conspicuous manner, the following material information:

(i) The total costs to purchase, receive, or use, and the quantity of, any goods or services that are the subject of the sales offer;<sup>660</sup>

(ii) All material restrictions, limitations, or conditions to purchase, receive, or use the goods or services that are the subject of the sales offer;

(iii) If the seller has a policy of not making refunds, cancellations, exchanges, or repurchases, a statement informing the customer that this is the seller’s policy; or, if the seller or telemarketer makes a representation about a refund, cancellation, exchange, or repurchase policy, a statement of all material terms and conditions of such policy;

(iv) In any prize promotion, the odds of being able to receive the prize, and, if the odds are not calculable in advance, the factors used in calculating the odds; that no purchase or payment is required to win a prize or to participate in a prize promotion and that any purchase or payment will not increase the person’s chances of winning; and the no-purchase/no-payment method of participating in the prize promotion with either instructions on how to participate or an address or local or toll-free telephone number to which customers may write or call for information on how to participate;

<sup>659</sup> When a seller or telemarketer uses, or directs a customer to use, a courier to transport payment, the seller or telemarketer must make the disclosures required by § 310.3(a)(1) before sending a courier to pick up payment or authorization for payment, or directing a customer to have a courier pick up payment or authorization for payment. In the case of debt relief services, the seller or telemarketer must make the disclosures required by § 310.3(a)(1) before the consumer enrolls in an offered program.

<sup>660</sup> For offers of consumer credit products subject to the Truth in Lending Act, 15 U.S.C. 1601 *et seq.*, and Regulation Z, 12 CFR 226, compliance with the disclosure requirements under the Truth in Lending Act and Regulation Z shall constitute compliance with § 310.3(a)(1)(i) of this Rule.

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(v) All material costs or conditions to receive or redeem a prize that is the subject of the prize promotion;

(vi) In the sale of any goods or services represented to protect, insure, or otherwise limit a customer's liability in the event of unauthorized use of the customer's credit card, the limits on a cardholder's liability for unauthorized use of a credit card pursuant to 15 U.S.C. 1643;

(vii) If the offer includes a negative option feature, all material terms and conditions of the negative option feature, including, but not limited to, the fact that the customer's account will be charged unless the customer takes an affirmative action to avoid the charge(s), the date(s) the charge(s) will be submitted for payment, and the specific steps the customer must take to avoid the charge(s); and

(viii) In the sale of any debt relief service:

(A) the amount of time necessary to achieve the represented results, and to the extent that the service may include a settlement offer to any of the customer's creditors or debt collectors, the time by which the debt relief service provider will make a bona fide settlement offer to each of them;

(B) to the extent that the service may include a settlement offer to any of the customer's creditors or debt collectors, the amount of money or the percentage of each outstanding debt that the customer must accumulate before the debt relief service provider will make a bona fide settlement offer to each of them;

(C) to the extent that any aspect of the debt relief service relies upon or results in the customer's failure to make timely payments to creditors or debt collectors, that the use of the debt relief service will likely adversely affect the customer's creditworthiness, may result in the customer being subject to collections or sued by creditors or debt collectors, and may increase the amount of money the customer owes due to the accrual of fees and interest; and

(D) to the extent that the debt relief service requests or requires the customer to place funds in an account at an insured financial institution, that the customer owns the funds held in

the account, the customer may withdraw from the debt relief service at any time without penalty, and, if the customer withdraws, the customer must receive all funds in the account, other than funds earned by the debt relief service in compliance with § 310.4(a)(5)(i)(A) through (C).

(2) Misrepresenting, directly or by implication, in the sale of goods or services any of the following material information:

(i) The total costs to purchase, receive, or use, and the quantity of, any goods or services that are the subject of a sales offer;

(ii) Any material restriction, limitation, or condition to purchase, receive, or use goods or services that are the subject of a sales offer;

(iii) Any material aspect of the performance, efficacy, nature, or central characteristics of goods or services that are the subject of a sales offer;

(iv) Any material aspect of the nature or terms of the seller's refund, cancellation, exchange, or repurchase policies;

(v) Any material aspect of a prize promotion including, but not limited to, the odds of being able to receive a prize, the nature or value of a prize, or that a purchase or payment is required to win a prize or to participate in a prize promotion;

(vi) Any material aspect of an investment opportunity including, but not limited to, risk, liquidity, earnings potential, or profitability;

(vii) A seller's or telemarketer's affiliation with, or endorsement or sponsorship by, any person or government entity;

(viii) That any customer needs offered goods or services to provide protections a customer already has pursuant to 15 U.S.C. 1643;

(ix) Any material aspect of a negative option feature including, but not limited to, the fact that the customer's account will be charged unless the customer takes an affirmative action to avoid the charge(s), the date(s) the charge(s) will be submitted for payment, and the specific steps the customer must take to avoid the charge(s); or



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(x) Any material aspect of any debt relief service, including, but not limited to, the amount of money or the percentage of the debt amount that a customer may save by using such service; the amount of time necessary to achieve the represented results; the amount of money or the percentage of each outstanding debt that the customer must accumulate before the provider of the debt relief service will initiate attempts with the customer's creditors or debt collectors or make a bona fide offer to negotiate, settle, or modify the terms of the customer's debt; the effect of the service on a customer's creditworthiness; the effect of the service on collection efforts of the customer's creditors or debt collectors; the percentage or number of customers who attain the represented results; and whether a debt relief service is offered or provided by a non-profit entity.

(3) Causing billing information to be submitted for payment, or collecting or attempting to collect payment for goods or services or a charitable contribution, directly or indirectly, without the customer's or donor's express verifiable authorization, except when the method of payment used is a credit card subject to protections of the Truth in Lending Act and Regulation Z,<sup>661</sup> or a debit card subject to the protections of the Electronic Fund Transfer Act and Regulation E.<sup>662</sup> Such authorization shall be deemed verifiable if any of the following means is employed:

(i) Express written authorization by the customer or donor, which includes the customer's or donor's signature;<sup>663</sup>

(ii) Express oral authorization which is audio-recorded and made available upon request to the customer or donor, and the customer's or donor's bank or other billing entity, and which evidences clearly both the customer's or

donor's authorization of payment for the goods or services or charitable contribution that are the subject of the telemarketing transaction and the customer's or donor's receipt of all of the following information:

(A) An accurate description, clearly and conspicuously stated, of the goods or services or charitable contribution for which payment authorization is sought;

(B) The number of debits, charges, or payments (if more than one);

(C) The date(s) the debit(s), charge(s), or payment(s) will be submitted for payment;

(D) The amount(s) of the debit(s), charge(s), or payment(s);

(E) The customer's or donor's name;

(F) The customer's or donor's billing information, identified with sufficient specificity such that the customer or donor understands what account will be used to collect payment for the goods or services or charitable contribution that are the subject of the telemarketing transaction;

(G) A telephone number for customer or donor inquiry that is answered during normal business hours; and

(H) The date of the customer's or donor's oral authorization; or

(iii) Written confirmation of the transaction, identified in a clear and conspicuous manner as such on the outside of the envelope, sent to the customer or donor via first class mail prior to the submission for payment of the customer's or donor's billing information, and that includes all of the information contained in §§ 310.3(a)(3)(ii)(A)-(G) and a clear and conspicuous statement of the procedures by which the customer or donor can obtain a refund from the seller or telemarketer or charitable organization in the event the confirmation is inaccurate; provided, however, that this means of authorization shall not be deemed verifiable in instances in which goods or services are offered in a transaction involving a free-to-pay conversion and preacquired account information.

(4) Making a false or misleading statement to induce any person to pay for goods or services or to induce a charitable contribution.

<sup>661</sup> Truth in Lending Act, 15 U.S.C. 1601 *et seq.*, and Regulation Z, 12 CFR part 226.

<sup>662</sup> Electronic Fund Transfer Act, 15 U.S.C. 1693 *et seq.*, and Regulation E, 12 CFR part 205.

<sup>663</sup> For purposes of this Rule, the term "signature" shall include an electronic or digital form of signature, to the extent that such form of signature is recognized as a valid signature under applicable federal law or state contract law.

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(b) *Assisting and facilitating.* It is a deceptive telemarketing act or practice and a violation of this Rule for a person to provide substantial assistance or support to any seller or telemarketer when that person knows or consciously avoids knowing that the seller or telemarketer is engaged in any act or practice that violates §§310.3(a), (c) or (d), or §310.4 of this Rule.

(c) *Credit card laundering.* Except as expressly permitted by the applicable credit card system, it is a deceptive telemarketing act or practice and a violation of this Rule for:

(1) A merchant to present to or deposit into, or cause another to present to or deposit into, the credit card system for payment, a credit card sales draft generated by a telemarketing transaction that is not the result of a telemarketing credit card transaction between the cardholder and the merchant;

(2) Any person to employ, solicit, or otherwise cause a merchant, or an employee, representative, or agent of the merchant, to present to or deposit into the credit card system for payment, a credit card sales draft generated by a telemarketing transaction that is not the result of a telemarketing credit card transaction between the cardholder and the merchant; or

(3) Any person to obtain access to the credit card system through the use of a business relationship or an affiliation with a merchant, when such access is not authorized by the merchant agreement or the applicable credit card system.

(d) *Prohibited deceptive acts or practices in the solicitation of charitable contributions.* It is a fraudulent charitable solicitation, a deceptive telemarketing act or practice, and a violation of this Rule for any telemarketer soliciting charitable contributions to misrepresent, directly or by implication, any of the following material information:

(1) The nature, purpose, or mission of any entity on behalf of which a charitable contribution is being requested;

(2) That any charitable contribution is tax deductible in whole or in part;

(3) The purpose for which any charitable contribution will be used;

(4) The percentage or amount of any charitable contribution that will go to

a charitable organization or to any particular charitable program;

(5) Any material aspect of a prize promotion including, but not limited to: the odds of being able to receive a prize; the nature or value of a prize; or that a charitable contribution is required to win a prize or to participate in a prize promotion; or

(6) A charitable organization's or telemarketer's affiliation with, or endorsement or sponsorship by, any person or government entity.

[75 FR 48516, Aug. 10, 2010, as amended at 80 FR 77558, Dec. 14, 2015]

#### § 310.4 Abusive telemarketing acts or practices.

(a) *Abusive conduct generally.* It is an abusive telemarketing act or practice and a violation of this Rule for any seller or telemarketer to engage in the following conduct:

(1) Threats, intimidation, or the use of profane or obscene language;

(2) Requesting or receiving payment of any fee or consideration for goods or services represented to remove derogatory information from, or improve, a person's credit history, credit record, or credit rating until:

(i) The time frame in which the seller has represented all of the goods or services will be provided to that person has expired; and

(ii) The seller has provided the person with documentation in the form of a consumer report from a consumer reporting agency demonstrating that the promised results have been achieved, such report having been issued more than six months after the results were achieved. Nothing in this Rule should be construed to affect the requirement in the Fair Credit Reporting Act, 15 U.S.C. 1681, that a consumer report may only be obtained for a specified permissible purpose;

(3) Requesting or receiving payment of any fee or consideration from a person for goods or services represented to recover or otherwise assist in the return of money or any other item of value paid for by, or promised to, that person in a previous transaction, until seven (7) business days after such money or other item is delivered to that person. This provision shall not

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apply to goods or services provided to a person by a licensed attorney;

(4) Requesting or receiving payment of any fee or consideration in advance of obtaining a loan or other extension of credit when the seller or telemarketer has guaranteed or represented a high likelihood of success in obtaining or arranging a loan or other extension of credit for a person;

(5)(i) Requesting or receiving payment of any fee or consideration for any debt relief service until and unless:

(A) The seller or telemarketer has renegotiated, settled, reduced, or otherwise altered the terms of at least one debt pursuant to a settlement agreement, debt management plan, or other such valid contractual agreement executed by the customer;

(B) The customer has made at least one payment pursuant to that settlement agreement, debt management plan, or other valid contractual agreement between the customer and the creditor or debt collector; and

(C) To the extent that debts enrolled in a service are renegotiated, settled, reduced, or otherwise altered individually, the fee or consideration either:

(1) Bears the same proportional relationship to the total fee for renegotiating, settling, reducing, or altering the terms of the entire debt balance as the individual debt amount bears to the entire debt amount. The individual debt amount and the entire debt amount are those owed at the time the debt was enrolled in the service; or

(2) Is a percentage of the amount saved as a result of the renegotiation, settlement, reduction, or alteration. The percentage charged cannot change from one individual debt to another. The amount saved is the difference between the amount owed at the time the debt was enrolled in the service and the amount actually paid to satisfy the debt.

(ii) Nothing in §310.4(a)(5)(i) prohibits requesting or requiring the customer to place funds in an account to be used for the debt relief provider's fees and for payments to creditors or debt collectors in connection with the renegotiation, settlement, reduction, or other alteration of the terms of payment or other terms of a debt, provided that:

(A) The funds are held in an account at an insured financial institution;

(B) The customer owns the funds held in the account and is paid accrued interest on the account, if any;

(C) The entity administering the account is not owned or controlled by, or in any way affiliated with, the debt relief service;

(D) The entity administering the account does not give or accept any money or other compensation in exchange for referrals of business involving the debt relief service; and

(E) The customer may withdraw from the debt relief service at any time without penalty, and must receive all funds in the account, other than funds earned by the debt relief service in compliance with §310.4(a)(5)(i)(A) through (C), within seven (7) business days of the customer's request.

(6) Disclosing or receiving, for consideration, unencrypted consumer account numbers for use in telemarketing; provided, however, that this paragraph shall not apply to the disclosure or receipt of a customer's or donor's billing information to process a payment for goods or services or a charitable contribution pursuant to a transaction;

(7) Causing billing information to be submitted for payment, directly or indirectly, without the express informed consent of the customer or donor. In any telemarketing transaction, the seller or telemarketer must obtain the express informed consent of the customer or donor to be charged for the goods or services or charitable contribution and to be charged using the identified account. In any telemarketing transaction involving preacquired account information, the requirements in paragraphs (a)(7)(i) through (ii) of this section must be met to evidence express informed consent.

(i) In any telemarketing transaction involving preacquired account information and a free-to-pay conversion feature, the seller or telemarketer must:

(A) Obtain from the customer, at a minimum, the last four (4) digits of the account number to be charged;

(B) Obtain from the customer his or her express agreement to be charged for the goods or services and to be



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charged using the account number pursuant to paragraph (a)(7)(i)(A) of this section; and,

(C) Make and maintain an audio recording of the entire telemarketing transaction.

(ii) In any other telemarketing transaction involving preacquired account information not described in paragraph (a)(7)(i) of this section, the seller or telemarketer must:

(A) At a minimum, identify the account to be charged with sufficient specificity for the customer or donor to understand what account will be charged; and

(B) Obtain from the customer or donor his or her express agreement to be charged for the goods or services and to be charged using the account number identified pursuant to paragraph (a)(7)(ii)(A) of this section;

(8) Failing to transmit or cause to be transmitted the telephone number, and, when made available by the telemarketer's carrier, the name of the telemarketer, to any caller identification service in use by a recipient of a telemarketing call; provided that it shall not be a violation to substitute (for the name and phone number used in, or billed for, making the call) the name of the seller or charitable organization on behalf of which a telemarketing call is placed, and the seller's or charitable organization's customer or donor service telephone number, which is answered during regular business hours;

(9) Creating or causing to be created, directly or indirectly, a remotely created payment order as payment for goods or services offered or sold through telemarketing or as a charitable contribution solicited or sought through telemarketing; or

(10) Accepting from a customer or donor, directly or indirectly, a cash-to-cash money transfer or cash reload mechanism as payment for goods or services offered or sold through telemarketing or as a charitable contribution solicited or sought through telemarketing.

(b) *Pattern of calls.* (1) It is an abusive telemarketing act or practice and a violation of this Rule for a telemarketer to engage in, or for a seller

to cause a telemarketer to engage in, the following conduct:

(i) Causing any telephone to ring, or engaging any person in telephone conversation, repeatedly or continuously with intent to annoy, abuse, or harass any person at the called number;

(ii) Denying or interfering in any way, directly or indirectly, with a person's right to be placed on any registry of names and/or telephone numbers of persons who do not wish to receive outbound telephone calls established to comply with paragraph (b)(1)(iii)(A) of this section, including, but not limited to, harassing any person who makes such a request; hanging up on that person; failing to honor the request; requiring the person to listen to a sales pitch before accepting the request; assessing a charge or fee for honoring the request; requiring a person to call a different number to submit the request; and requiring the person to identify the seller making the call or on whose behalf the call is made;

(iii) Initiating any outbound telephone call to a person when:

(A) That person previously has stated that he or she does not wish to receive an outbound telephone call made by or on behalf of the seller whose goods or services are being offered or made on behalf of the charitable organization for which a charitable contribution is being solicited; or

(B) That person's telephone number is on the "do-not-call" registry, maintained by the Commission, of persons who do not wish to receive outbound telephone calls to induce the purchase of goods or services unless the seller or telemarketer:

(1) Can demonstrate that the seller has obtained the express agreement, in writing, of such person to place calls to that person. Such written agreement shall clearly evidence such person's authorization that calls made by or on behalf of a specific party may be placed to that person, and shall include the telephone number to which the calls may be placed and the signature<sup>664</sup> of that person; or

<sup>664</sup>For purposes of this Rule, the term "signature" shall include an electronic or digital form of signature, to the extent that such form of signature is recognized as a

*Continued*

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(2) Can demonstrate that the seller has an established business relationship with such person, and that person has not stated that he or she does not wish to receive outbound telephone calls under paragraph (b)(1)(iii)(A) of this section; or

(iv) Abandoning any outbound telephone call. An outbound telephone call is “abandoned” under this section if a person answers it and the telemarketer does not connect the call to a sales representative within two (2) seconds of the person’s completed greeting.

(v) Initiating any outbound telephone call that delivers a prerecorded message, other than a prerecorded message permitted for compliance with the call abandonment safe harbor in §310.4(b)(4)(iii), unless:

(A) In any such call to induce the purchase of any good or service, the seller has obtained from the recipient of the call an express agreement, in writing, that:

(i) The seller obtained only after a clear and conspicuous disclosure that the purpose of the agreement is to authorize the seller to place prerecorded calls to such person;

(ii) The seller obtained without requiring, directly or indirectly, that the agreement be executed as a condition of purchasing any good or service;

(iii) Evidences the willingness of the recipient of the call to receive calls that deliver prerecorded messages by or on behalf of a specific seller; and

(iv) Includes such person’s telephone number and signature;<sup>665</sup> and

(B) In any such call to induce the purchase of any good or service, or to induce a charitable contribution from a member of, or previous donor to, a non-profit charitable organization on whose behalf the call is made, the seller or telemarketer:

(i) Allows the telephone to ring for at least fifteen (15) seconds or four (4) rings before disconnecting an unanswered call; and

valid signature under applicable federal law or state contract law.

<sup>665</sup> For purposes of this Rule, the term “signature” shall include an electronic or digital form of signature, to the extent that such form of signature is recognized as a valid signature under applicable federal law or state contract law.

(ii) Within two (2) seconds after the completed greeting of the person called, plays a prerecorded message that promptly provides the disclosures required by §310.4(d) or (e), followed immediately by a disclosure of one or both of the following:

(A) In the case of a call that could be answered in person by a consumer, that the person called can use an automated interactive voice and/or keypress-activated opt-out mechanism to assert a Do Not Call request pursuant to §310.4(b)(1)(iii)(A) at any time during the message. The mechanism must:

(1) Automatically add the number called to the seller’s entity-specific Do Not Call list;

(2) Once invoked, immediately disconnect the call; and

(3) Be available for use at any time during the message; and

(B) In the case of a call that could be answered by an answering machine or voicemail service, that the person called can use a toll-free telephone number to assert a Do Not Call request pursuant to §310.4(b)(1)(iii)(A). The number provided must connect directly to an automated interactive voice or keypress-activated opt-out mechanism that:

(1) Automatically adds the number called to the seller’s entity-specific Do Not Call list;

(2) Immediately thereafter disconnects the call; and

(3) Is accessible at any time throughout the duration of the telemarketing campaign; and

(iii) Complies with all other requirements of this part and other applicable federal and state laws.

(C) Any call that complies with all applicable requirements of this paragraph (v) shall not be deemed to violate §310.4(b)(1)(iv) of this part.

(D) This paragraph (v) shall not apply to any outbound telephone call that delivers a prerecorded healthcare message made by, or on behalf of, a covered entity or its business associate, as those terms are defined in the HIPAA Privacy Rule, 45 CFR 160.103.

(2) It is an abusive telemarketing act or practice and a violation of this Rule for any person to sell, rent, lease, purchase, or use any list established to comply with §310.4(b)(1)(iii)(A), or

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maintained by the Commission pursuant to §310.4(b)(1)(iii)(B), for any purpose except compliance with the provisions of this Rule or otherwise to prevent telephone calls to telephone numbers on such lists.

(3) A seller or telemarketer will not be liable for violating §310.4(b)(1)(ii) and (iii) if it can demonstrate that, as part of the seller's or telemarketer's routine business practice:

(i) It has established and implemented written procedures to comply with §310.4(b)(1)(ii) and (iii);

(ii) It has trained its personnel, and any entity assisting in its compliance, in the procedures established pursuant to §310.4(b)(3)(i);

(iii) The seller, or a telemarketer or another person acting on behalf of the seller or charitable organization, has maintained and recorded a list of telephone numbers the seller or charitable organization may not contact, in compliance with §310.4(b)(1)(iii)(A);

(iv) The seller or a telemarketer uses a process to prevent telemarketing to any telephone number on any list established pursuant to §310.4(b)(3)(iii) or 310.4(b)(1)(iii)(B), employing a version of the "do-not-call" registry obtained from the Commission no more than thirty-one (31) days prior to the date any call is made, and maintains records documenting this process;

(v) The seller or a telemarketer or another person acting on behalf of the seller or charitable organization, monitors and enforces compliance with the procedures established pursuant to §310.4(b)(3)(i); and

(vi) Any subsequent call otherwise violating paragraph (b)(1)(ii) or (iii) of this section is the result of error and not of failure to obtain any information necessary to comply with a request pursuant to paragraph (b)(1)(iii)(A) of this section not to receive further calls by or on behalf of a seller or charitable organization.

(4) A seller or telemarketer will not be liable for violating §310.4(b)(1)(iv) if:

(i) The seller or telemarketer employs technology that ensures abandonment of no more than three (3) percent of all calls answered by a person, measured over the duration of a single calling campaign, if less than 30 days, or separately over each successive 30-

day period or portion thereof that the campaign continues.

(ii) The seller or telemarketer, for each telemarketing call placed, allows the telephone to ring for at least fifteen (15) seconds or four (4) rings before disconnecting an unanswered call;

(iii) Whenever a sales representative is not available to speak with the person answering the call within two (2) seconds after the person's completed greeting, the seller or telemarketer promptly plays a recorded message that states the name and telephone number of the seller on whose behalf the call was placed<sup>666</sup>; and

(iv) The seller or telemarketer, in accordance with §310.5(b)-(d), retains records establishing compliance with §310.4(b)(4)(i)-(iii).

(c) *Calling time restrictions.* Without the prior consent of a person, it is an abusive telemarketing act or practice and a violation of this Rule for a telemarketer to engage in outbound telephone calls to a person's residence at any time other than between 8:00 a.m. and 9:00 p.m. local time at the called person's location.

(d) *Required oral disclosures in the sale of goods or services.* It is an abusive telemarketing act or practice and a violation of this Rule for a telemarketer in an outbound telephone call or internal or external upsell to induce the purchase of goods or services to fail to disclose truthfully, promptly, and in a clear and conspicuous manner to the person receiving the call, the following information:

(1) The identity of the seller;

(2) That the purpose of the call is to sell goods or services;

(3) The nature of the goods or services; and

(4) That no purchase or payment is necessary to be able to win a prize or participate in a prize promotion if a prize promotion is offered and that any purchase or payment will not increase the person's chances of winning. This disclosure must be made before or in conjunction with the description of the prize to the person called. If requested

<sup>666</sup> This provision does not affect any seller's or telemarketer's obligation to comply with relevant state and federal laws, including but not limited to the TCPA, 47 U.S.C. 227, and 47 CFR part 64.1200.

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by that person, the telemarketer must disclose the no-purchase/no-payment entry method for the prize promotion; provided, however, that, in any internal upsell for the sale of goods or services, the seller or telemarketer must provide the disclosures listed in this section only to the extent that the information in the upsell differs from the disclosures provided in the initial telemarketing transaction.

(e) *Required oral disclosures in charitable solicitations.* It is an abusive telemarketing act or practice and a violation of this Rule for a telemarketer, in an outbound telephone call to induce a charitable contribution, to fail to disclose truthfully, promptly, and in a clear and conspicuous manner to the person receiving the call, the following information:

(1) The identity of the charitable organization on behalf of which the request is being made; and

(2) That the purpose of the call is to solicit a charitable contribution.

[75 FR 48516, Aug. 10, 2010, as amended at 76 FR 58716, Sept. 22, 2011; 80 FR 77559, Dec. 14, 2015]

**§ 310.5 Recordkeeping requirements.**

(a) Any seller or telemarketer shall keep, for a period of 24 months from the date the record is produced, the following records relating to its telemarketing activities:

(1) All substantially different advertising, brochures, telemarketing scripts, and promotional materials;

(2) The name and last known address of each prize recipient and the prize awarded for prizes that are represented, directly or by implication, to have a value of \$25.00 or more;

(3) The name and last known address of each customer, the goods or services purchased, the date such goods or services were shipped or provided, and the amount paid by the customer for the goods or services;<sup>667</sup>

(4) The name, any fictitious name used, the last known home address and

telephone number, and the job title(s) for all current and former employees directly involved in telephone sales or solicitations; provided, however, that if the seller or telemarketer permits fictitious names to be used by employees, each fictitious name must be traceable to only one specific employee; and

(5) All verifiable authorizations or records of express informed consent or express agreement required to be provided or received under this Rule.

(b) A seller or telemarketer may keep the records required by § 310.5(a) in any form, and in the same manner, format, or place as they keep such records in the ordinary course of business. Failure to keep all records required by § 310.5(a) shall be a violation of this Rule.

(c) The seller and the telemarketer calling on behalf of the seller may, by written agreement, allocate responsibility between themselves for the recordkeeping required by this Section. When a seller and telemarketer have entered into such an agreement, the terms of that agreement shall govern, and the seller or telemarketer, as the case may be, need not keep records that duplicate those of the other. If the agreement is unclear as to who must maintain any required record(s), or if no such agreement exists, the seller shall be responsible for complying with §§ 310.5(a)(1)–(3) and (5); the telemarketer shall be responsible for complying with § 310.5(a)(4).

(d) In the event of any dissolution or termination of the seller's or telemarketer's business, the principal of that seller or telemarketer shall maintain all records as required under this section. In the event of any sale, assignment, or other change in ownership of the seller's or telemarketer's business, the successor business shall maintain all records required under this section.

**§ 310.6 Exemptions.**

(a) Solicitations to induce charitable contributions via outbound telephone calls are not covered by § 310.4(b)(1)(iii)(B) of this Rule.

(b) The following acts or practices are exempt from this Rule:

<sup>667</sup> For offers of consumer credit products subject to the Truth in Lending Act, 15 U.S.C. 1601 *et seq.*, and Regulation Z, 12 CFR 226, compliance with the recordkeeping requirements under the Truth in Lending Act, and Regulation Z, shall constitute compliance with § 310.5(a)(3) of this Rule.



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(1) The sale of pay-per-call services subject to the Commission's Rule entitled "Trade Regulation Rule Pursuant to the Telephone Disclosure and Dispute Resolution Act of 1992," 16 CFR part 308, *provided*, however, that this exemption does not apply to the requirements of §§ 310.4(a)(1), (a)(7), (b), and (c);

(2) The sale of franchises subject to the Commission's Rule entitled "Disclosure Requirements and Prohibitions Concerning Franchising," ("Franchise Rule") 16 CFR part 436, and the sale of business opportunities subject to the Commission's Rule entitled "Disclosure Requirements and Prohibitions Concerning Business Opportunities," ("Business Opportunity Rule") 16 CFR part 437, *provided*, however, that this exemption does not apply to the requirements of §§ 310.4(a)(1), (a)(7), (b), and (c);

(3) Telephone calls in which the sale of goods or services or charitable solicitation is not completed, and payment or authorization of payment is not required, until after a face-to-face sales or donation presentation by the seller or charitable organization, *provided*, however, that this exemption does not apply to the requirements of §§ 310.4(a)(1), (a)(7), (b), and (c);

(4) Telephone calls initiated by a customer or donor that are not the result of any solicitation by a seller, charitable organization, or telemarketer, *provided*, however, that this exemption does not apply to any instances of upselling included in such telephone calls;

(5) Telephone calls initiated by a customer or donor in response to an advertisement through any medium, other than direct mail solicitation, *provided*, however, that this exemption does not apply to:

(i) Calls initiated by a customer or donor in response to an advertisement relating to investment opportunities, debt relief services, business opportunities other than business arrangements covered by the Franchise Rule or Business Opportunity Rule, or advertisements involving offers for goods or services described in § 310.3(a)(1)(vi) or § 310.4(a)(2) through (4);

(ii) The requirements of § 310.4(a)(9) or (10); or

(iii) Any instances of upselling included in such telephone calls;

(6) Telephone calls initiated by a customer or donor in response to a direct mail solicitation, including solicitations via the U.S. Postal Service, facsimile transmission, electronic mail, and other similar methods of delivery in which a solicitation is directed to specific address(es) or person(s), that clearly, conspicuously, and truthfully discloses all material information listed in § 310.3(a)(1), for any goods or services offered in the direct mail solicitation, and that contains no material misrepresentation regarding any item contained in § 310.3(d) for any requested charitable contribution; *provided*, however, that this exemption does not apply to:

(i) Calls initiated by a customer in response to a direct mail solicitation relating to prize promotions, investment opportunities, debt relief services, business opportunities other than business arrangements covered by the Franchise Rule or Business Opportunity Rule, or goods or services described in § 310.3(a)(1)(vi) or § 310.4(a)(2) through (4);

(ii) The requirements of § 310.4(a)(9) or (10); or

(iii) Any instances of upselling included in such telephone calls; and

(7) Telephone calls between a telemarketer and any business to induce the purchase of goods or services or a charitable contribution by the business, except calls to induce the retail sale of nondurable office or cleaning supplies; *provided*, however, that §§ 310.4(b)(1)(iii)(B) and 310.5 shall not apply to sellers or telemarketers of nondurable office or cleaning supplies.

[75 FR 48516, Aug. 10, 2010, as amended at 80 FR 77559, Dec. 14, 2015]

**§ 310.7 Actions by states and private persons.**

(a) Any attorney general or other officer of a state authorized by the state to bring an action under the Telemarketing and Consumer Fraud and Abuse Prevention Act, and any private person who brings an action under that Act, shall serve written notice of its action on the Commission, if feasible, prior to its initiating an action under this Rule. The notice shall be sent to

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the Office of the Director, Bureau of Consumer Protection, Federal Trade Commission, Washington, DC 20580, and shall include a copy of the state's or private person's complaint and any other pleadings to be filed with the court. If prior notice is not feasible, the state or private person shall serve the Commission with the required notice immediately upon instituting its action.

(b) Nothing contained in this Section shall prohibit any attorney general or other authorized state official from proceeding in state court on the basis of an alleged violation of any civil or criminal statute of such state.

**§ 310.8 Fee for access to the National Do Not Call Registry.**

(a) It is a violation of this Rule for any seller to initiate, or cause any telemarketer to initiate, an outbound telephone call to any person whose telephone number is within a given area code unless such seller, either directly or through another person, first has paid the annual fee, required by § 310.8(c), for access to telephone numbers within that area code that are included in the National Do Not Call Registry maintained by the Commission under § 310.4(b)(1)(iii)(B); provided, however, that such payment is not necessary if the seller initiates, or causes a telemarketer to initiate, calls solely to persons pursuant to §§ 310.4(b)(1)(iii)(B)(i) or (ii), and the seller does not access the National Do Not Call Registry for any other purpose.

(b) It is a violation of this Rule for any telemarketer, on behalf of any seller, to initiate an outbound telephone call to any person whose telephone number is within a given area code unless that seller, either directly or through another person, first has paid the annual fee, required by § 310.8(c), for access to the telephone numbers within that area code that are included in the National Do Not Call Registry; provided, however, that such payment is not necessary if the seller initiates, or causes a telemarketer to initiate, calls solely to persons pursuant to §§ 310.4(b)(1)(iii)(B)(i) or (ii), and the seller does not access the National Do

Not Call Registry for any other purpose.

(c) The annual fee, which must be paid by any person prior to obtaining access to the National Do Not Call Registry, is \$75 for each area code of data accessed, up to a maximum of \$20,740; *provided*, however, that there shall be no charge to any person for accessing the first five area codes of data, and *provided further*, that there shall be no charge to any person engaging in or causing others to engage in outbound telephone calls to consumers and who is accessing area codes of data in the National Do Not Call Registry if the person is permitted to access, but is not required to access, the National Do Not Call Registry under 47 CFR 64.1200, or any other Federal regulation or law. No person may participate in any arrangement to share the cost of accessing the National Do Not Call Registry, including any arrangement with any telemarketer or service provider to divide the costs to access the registry among various clients of that telemarketer or service provider.

(d) Each person who pays, either directly or through another person, the annual fee set forth in paragraph (c) of this section, each person excepted under paragraph (c) from paying the annual fee, and each person excepted from paying an annual fee under § 310.4(b)(1)(iii)(B), will be provided a unique account number that will allow that person to access the registry data for the selected area codes at any time for the twelve month period beginning on the first day of the month in which the person paid the fee (“the annual period”). To obtain access to additional area codes of data during the first six months of the annual period, each person required to pay the fee under paragraph (c) of this section must first pay \$75 for each additional area code of data not initially selected. To obtain access to additional area codes of data during the second six months of the annual period, each person required to pay the fee under paragraph (c) of this section must first pay \$38 for each additional area code of data not initially selected. The payment of the additional fee will permit the person to access the additional area codes of data for the remainder of the annual period.

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(e) Access to the National Do Not Call Registry is limited to telemarketers, sellers, others engaged in or causing others to engage in telephone calls to consumers, service providers acting on behalf of such persons, and any government agency that has law enforcement authority. Prior to accessing the National Do Not Call Registry, a person must provide the identifying information required by the operator of the registry to collect the fee, and must certify, under penalty of law, that the person is accessing the registry solely to comply with the provisions of this Rule or to otherwise prevent telephone calls to telephone numbers on the registry. If the person is accessing the registry on behalf of sellers, that person also must identify each of the sellers on whose behalf it is accessing the registry, must provide each seller's unique account number for access to the national registry, and must certify, under penalty of law, that the sellers will be using the information gathered from the registry solely to comply with the provisions of this Rule or otherwise to prevent telephone calls to telephone numbers on the registry.

[75 FR 46516, Aug. 10, 2010; 75 FR 51934, Aug. 24, 2010, as amended at 77 FR 51697, Aug. 27, 2012; 78 FR 53643, Aug. 30, 2013; 79 FR 51478, Aug. 29, 2014; 80 FR 77560, Dec. 14, 2016; 81 FR 59845, Aug. 31, 2016; 82 FR 39534, Aug. 21, 2017; 83 FR 46640, Sept. 14, 2018; 84 FR 44687, Aug. 27, 2019; 85 FR 62597, Oct. 5, 2020; 86 FR 48301, Aug. 30, 2021; 87 FR 53373, Aug. 31, 2022]

#### § 310.9 Severability.

The provisions of this Rule are separate and severable from one another. If any provision is stayed or determined

FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION

FINANCIAL STATEMENT OF INDIVIDUAL DEFENDANT

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**Definitions and Instructions:**

1. Complete all items. Enter "None" or "N/A" ("Not Applicable") in the first field only of any item that does not apply to you. If you cannot fully answer a question, explain why.
2. "Dependents" include your spouse, live-in companion, dependent children, or any other person, whom you or your spouse (or your children's other parent) claimed or could have claimed as a dependent for tax purposes at any time during the past five years.
3. "Assets" and "Liabilities" include ALL assets and liabilities, located within the United States or any foreign country or territory, whether held individually or jointly and whether held by you, your spouse, or your dependents, or held by others for the benefit of you, your spouse, or your dependents.
4. Attach continuation pages as needed. On the financial statement, state next to the Item number that the Item is being continued. On the continuation page(s), identify the Item number(s) being continued.
5. Type or print legibly.
6. Initial each page in the space provided in the lower right corner.
7. Sign and date the completed financial statement on the last page.

**Penalty for False Information:**

Federal law provides that any person may be imprisoned for not more than five years, fined, or both, if such person:

(1) "in any matter within the jurisdiction of the executive, legislative, or judicial branch of the Government of the United States, knowingly and willfully falsifies, conceals or covers up by any trick, scheme, or devise a material fact; makes any materially false, fictitious or fraudulent statement or representation; or makes or uses any false writing or document knowing the same to contain any materially false, fictitious or fraudulent statement or entry" (18 U.S.C. § 1001);

(2) "in any . . . statement under penalty of perjury as permitted under section 1746 of title 28, United States Code, willfully subscribes as true any material matter which he does not believe to be true" (18 U.S.C. § 1621); or

(3) "in any ( . . . statement under penalty of perjury as permitted under section 1746 of title 28, United States Code) in any proceeding before or ancillary to any court or grand jury of the United States knowingly makes any false material declaration or makes or uses any other information . . . knowing the same to contain any false material declaration" (18 U.S.C. § 1623).

For a felony conviction under the provisions cited above, federal law provides that the fine may be not more than the greater of (i) \$250,000 for an individual or \$500,000 for a corporation, or (ii) if the felony results in pecuniary gain to any person or pecuniary loss to any person other than the defendant, the greater of twice the gross gain or twice the gross loss. 18 U.S.C. § 3571.



**BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

**Item 1. Information About You**

Full Name	Social Security No.		
Current Address of Primary Residence	Driver's License No.		State Issued
	Phone Numbers Home: ( ) Fax: ( )	Date of Birth: / / (mm/dd/yyyy)	
	Place of Birth		
<input type="checkbox"/> Rent <input type="checkbox"/> Own From (Date): / / (mm/dd/yyyy)	E-Mail Address		
Internet Home Page			

**Previous Addresses for past five years** (if required, use additional pages at end of form)

Address	From: / / (mm/dd/yyyy)	Until: / / (mm/dd/yyyy)
	<input type="checkbox"/> Rent <input type="checkbox"/> Own	
Address	From: / /	Until: / /
	<input type="checkbox"/> Rent <input type="checkbox"/> Own	
Address	From: / /	Until: / /
	<input type="checkbox"/> Rent <input type="checkbox"/> Own	

Identify any other name(s) and/or social security number(s) you have used, and the time period(s) during which they were used:

**Item 2. Information About Your Spouse or Live-In Companion**

Spouse/Companion's Name	Social Security No.	Date of Birth / / (mm/dd/yyyy)
Address (if different from yours)	Phone Number ( )	Place of Birth
	<input type="checkbox"/> Rent <input type="checkbox"/> Own From (Date): / / (mm/dd/yyyy)	

Identify any other name(s) and/or social security number(s) you have used, and the time period(s) during which they were used:

Employer's Name and Address	Job Title	
	Years in Present Job	Annual Gross Salary/Wages \$

**Item 3. Information About Your Previous Spouse**

Name and Address	Social Security No.
	Date of Birth / / (mm/dd/yyyy)

**Item 4. Contact Information** (name and address of closest living relative other than your spouse)

Name and Address	Phone Number ( )
------------------	---------------------

Initials: \_\_\_\_\_

<b>Item 5. Information About Dependents</b> (whether or not they reside with you)		
Name and Address	Social Security No.	Date of Birth / / (mm/dd/yyyy)
Relationship		
Name and Address	Social Security No.	Date of Birth / / (mm/dd/yyyy)
Relationship		
Name and Address	Social Security No.	Date of Birth / / (mm/dd/yyyy)
Relationship		
Name and Address	Social Security No.	Date of Birth / / (mm/dd/yyyy)
Relationship		

**Item 6. Employment Information/Employment Income**  
 Provide the following information for this year-to-date and for each of the previous five full years, for each business entity of which you were a director, officer, member, partner, employee (including self-employment), agent, owner, shareholder, contractor, participant or consultant at any time during that period. "Income" includes, but is not limited to, any salary, commissions, distributions, draws, consulting fees, loans, loan payments, dividends, royalties, and benefits for which you did not pay (e.g., health insurance premiums, automobile lease or loan payments) received by you or anyone else on your behalf.

Company Name and Address	Dates Employed		Income Received: Y-T-D & 5 Prior Yrs.	
	From (Month/Year) /	To (Month/Year) /	Year	Income
Ownership Interest? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No			20	\$
Positions Held	From (Month/Year) /	To (Month/Year) /		\$
	/	/		\$
	/	/		\$
	/	/		\$
Company Name and Address	Dates Employed		Income Received: Y-T-D & 5 Prior Yrs.	
	From (Month/Year) /	To (Month/Year) /	Year	Income
Ownership Interest? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No			20	\$
Positions Held	From (Month/Year) /	To (Month/Year) /		\$
	/	/		\$
	/	/		\$
	/	/		\$
Company Name and Address	Dates Employed		Income Received: Y-T-D & 5 Prior Yrs.	
	From (Month/Year) /	To (Month/Year) /	Year	Income
Ownership Interest? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No			20	\$
Positions Held	From (Month/Year) /	To (Month/Year) /		\$
	/	/		\$
	/	/		\$
	/	/		\$

Initials: \_\_\_\_\_

**Item 7. Pending Lawsuits Filed By or Against You or Your Spouse**

List all pending lawsuits that have been filed by or against you or your spouse in any court or before an administrative agency in the United States or in any foreign country or territory. **Note:** At Item 12, list lawsuits that resulted in final judgments or settlements in your favor. At Item 21, list lawsuits that resulted in final judgments or settlements against you.

Caption of Proceeding	Court or Agency and Location	Case No.	Nature of Proceeding	Relief Requested	Status or Disposition

**Item 8. Safe Deposit Boxes**

List all safe deposit boxes, located within the United States or in any foreign country or territory, whether held individually or jointly and whether held by you, your spouse, or any of your dependents, or held by others for the benefit of you, your spouse, or any of your dependents.

Name of Owner(s)	Name & Address of Depository Institution	Box No.	Contents

Initials: \_\_\_\_\_

**FINANCIAL INFORMATION**

**REMINDER:** When an item asks for information regarding your "assets" and "liabilities" include ALL assets and liabilities, located within the United States or in any foreign country or territory, or institution, whether held individually or jointly, and whether held by you, your spouse, or any of your dependents, or held by others for the benefit of you, your spouse, or any of your dependents. In addition, provide all documents requested in Item 24 with your completed Financial Statement.

**ASSETS**

**Item 9. Cash, Bank, and Money Market Accounts**

List cash on hand (as opposed to cash in bank accounts or other financial accounts) and all bank accounts, money market accounts, or other financial accounts, including but not limited to checking accounts, savings accounts, and certificates of deposit. The term "cash on hand" includes but is not limited to cash in the form of currency, uncashed checks, and money orders.

a. Amount of Cash on Hand \$		Form of Cash on Hand	
b. Name on Account	Name & Address of Financial Institution	Account No.	Current Balance
			\$
			\$
			\$
			\$
			\$

**Item 10. Publicly Traded Securities**

List all publicly traded securities, including but not limited to, stocks, stock options, corporate bonds, mutual funds, U.S. government securities (including but not limited to treasury bills and treasury notes), and state and municipal bonds. Also list any U.S. savings bonds.

Owner of Security	Issuer	Type of Security	No. of Units Owned
Broker House, Address	Broker Account No.		
	Current Fair Market Value	Loan(s) Against Security	
	\$	\$	
Owner of Security	Issuer	Type of Security	No. of Units Owned
Broker House, Address	Broker Account No.		
	Current Fair Market Value	Loan(s) Against Security	
	\$	\$	
Owner of Security	Issuer	Type of Security	No. of Units Owned
Broker House, Address	Broker Account No.		
	Current Fair Market Value	Loan(s) Against Security	
	\$	\$	

Initials: \_\_\_\_\_

**Item 11. Non-Public Business and Financial Interests**

List all non-public business and financial interests, including but not limited to any interest in a non-public corporation, subchapter-S corporation, limited liability corporation ("LLC"), general or limited partnership, joint venture, sole proprietorship, international business corporation or personal investment corporation, and oil or mineral lease.

Entity's Name & Address	Type of Business or Financial Interest (e.g., LLC, partnership)	Owner (e.g., self, spouse)	Ownership %	If Officer, Director, Member or Partner, Exact Title

**Item 12. Amounts Owed to You, Your Spouse, or Your Dependents**

Debtor's Name & Address	Date Obligation Incurred (Month/Year) /	Original Amount Owed \$	Nature of Obligation (if the result of a final court judgment or settlement, provide court name and docket number)
	Current Amount Owed \$	Payment Schedule \$	
Debtor's Telephone	Debtor's Relationship to You		
Debtor's Name & Address	Date Obligation Incurred (Month/Year) /	Original Amount Owed \$	Nature of Obligation (if the result of a final court judgment or settlement, provide court name and docket number)
	Current Amount Owed \$	Payment Schedule \$	
Debtor's Telephone	Debtor's Relationship to You		

**Item 13. Life Insurance Policies**

List all life insurance policies (including endowment policies) with any cash surrender value.

Insurance Company's Name, Address, & Telephone No.	Beneficiary	Policy No.	Face Value \$
	Insured	Loans Against Policy \$	Surrender Value \$
Insurance Company's Name, Address, & Telephone No.	Beneficiary	Policy No.	Face Value \$
	Insured	Loans Against Policy \$	Surrender Value \$

**Item 14. Deferred Income Arrangements**

List all deferred income arrangements, including but not limited to, deferred annuities, pensions plans, profit-sharing plans, 401(k) plans, IRAs, Keoghs, other retirement accounts, and college savings plans (e.g., 529 Plans).

Trustee or Administrator's Name, Address & Telephone No.	Name on Account		Account No.
	Date Established / / (mm/dd/yyyy)	Type of Plan	Surrender Value before Taxes and Penalties \$
Trustee or Administrator's Name, Address & Telephone No.	Name on Account		Account No.
	Date Established / /	Type of Plan	Surrender Value before Taxes and Penalties \$

Initials: \_\_\_\_\_

**Item 15. Pending Insurance Payments or Inheritances**

List any pending insurance payments or inheritances owed to you.

Type	Amount Expected	Date Expected (mm/dd/yyyy)
	\$	/ /
	\$	/ /
	\$	/ /

**Item 16. Vehicles**

List all cars, trucks, motorcycles, boats, airplanes, and other vehicles.

Vehicle Type	Year	Registered Owner's Name	Purchase Price \$	Original Loan Amount \$	Current Balance \$
Make		Registration State & No.	Account/Loan No.	Current Value \$	Monthly Payment \$
Model		Address of Vehicle's Location	Lender's Name and Address		
Vehicle Type	Year	Registered Owner's Name	Purchase Price \$	Original Loan Amount \$	Current Balance \$
Make		Registration State & No.	Account/Loan No.	Current Value \$	Monthly Payment \$
Model		Address of Vehicle's Location	Lender's Name and Address		
Vehicle Type	Year	Registered Owner's Name	Purchase Price \$	Original Loan Amount \$	Current Balance \$
Make		Registration State & No.	Account/Loan No.	Current Value \$	Monthly Payment \$
Model		Address of Vehicle's Location	Lender's Name and Address		
Vehicle Type	Year	Registered Owner's Name	Purchase Price \$	Original Loan Amount \$	Current Balance \$
Make		Registration State & No.	Account/Loan No.	Current Value \$	Monthly Payment \$
Model		Address of Vehicle's Location	Lender's Name and Address		
Vehicle Type	Year	Registered Owner's Name	Purchase Price \$	Original Loan Amount \$	Current Balance \$
Make		Registration State & No.	Account/Loan No.	Current Value \$	Monthly Payment \$
Model		Address of Vehicle's Location	Lender's Name and Address		

**Item 17. Other Personal Property**

List all other personal property not listed in Items 9-16 by category, whether held for personal use, investment or any other reason, including but not limited to coins, stamps, artwork, gemstones, jewelry, bullion, other collectibles, copyrights, patents, and other intellectual property.

Property Category (e.g., artwork, jewelry)	Name of Owner	Property Location	Acquisition Cost	Current Value
			\$	\$
			\$	\$
			\$	\$

Initials: \_\_\_\_\_

<b>Item 18. Real Property</b>			
List all real property interests (including any land contract)			
Property's Location		Type of Property	Name(s) on Title or Contract and Ownership Percentages
Acquisition Date (mm/dd/yyyy) / /	Purchase Price \$	Current Value \$	Basis of Valuation
Lender's Name and Address		Loan or Account No.	Current Balance On First Mortgage or Contract \$
			Monthly Payment \$
Other Mortgage Loan(s) (describe)		Monthly Payment \$	<input type="checkbox"/> Rental Unit
		Current Balance \$	Monthly Rent Received \$
Property's Location		Type of Property	Name(s) on Title or Contract and Ownership Percentages
Acquisition Date (mm/dd/yyyy) / /	Purchase Price \$	Current Value \$	Basis of Valuation
Lender's Name and Address		Loan or Account No.	Current Balance On First Mortgage or Contract \$
			Monthly Payment \$
Other Mortgage Loan(s) (describe)		Monthly Payment \$	<input type="checkbox"/> Rental Unit
		Current Balance \$	Monthly Rent Received \$
<b>LIABILITIES</b>			
<b>Item 19. Credit Cards</b>			
List each credit card account held by you, your spouse, or your dependents, and any other credit cards that you, your spouse, or your dependents use, whether issued by a United States or foreign financial institution.			
Name of Credit Card (e.g., Visa, MasterCard, Department Store)	Account No.	Name(s) on Account	Current Balance
			\$
			\$
			\$
			\$
			\$
<b>Item 20. Taxes Payable</b>			
List all taxes, such as income taxes or real estate taxes, owed by you, your spouse, or your dependents.			
Type of Tax	Amount Owed	Year Incurred	
	\$		
	\$		
	\$		

Initials: \_\_\_\_\_



**Item 21. Other Amounts Owed by You, Your Spouse, or Your Dependents**

List all other amounts, not listed elsewhere in this financial statement, owed by you, your spouse, or your dependents.

Lender/Creditor's Name, Address, and Telephone No.	Nature of Debt (if the result of a court judgment or settlement, provide court name and docket number)
	Lender/Creditor's Relationship to You

Date Liability Was Incurred / / (mm/dd/yyyy)	Original Amount Owed \$	Current Amount Owed \$	Payment Schedule
--	----------------------------	---------------------------	------------------

Lender/Creditor's Name, Address, and Telephone No.	Nature of Debt (if the result of a court judgment or settlement, provide court name and docket number)
	Lender/Creditor's Relationship to You

Date Liability Was Incurred / / (mm/dd/yyyy)	Original Amount Owed \$	Current Amount Owed \$	Payment Schedule
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**OTHER FINANCIAL INFORMATION**

**Item 22. Trusts and Escrows**

List all funds and other assets that are being held in trust or escrow by any person or entity for you, your spouse, or your dependents. Include any legal retainers being held on your behalf by legal counsel. Also list all funds or other assets that are being held in trust or escrow by you, your spouse, or your dependents, for any person or entity.

Trustee or Escrow Agent's Name & Address	Date Established (mm/dd/yyyy)	Grantor	Beneficiaries	Present Market Value of Assets*
	/ /			\$
	/ /			\$
	/ /			\$

\*If the market value of any asset is unknown, describe the asset and state its cost, if you know it.

**Item 23. Transfers of Assets**

List each person or entity to whom you have transferred, in the aggregate, more than \$5,000 in funds or other assets during the previous five years by loan, gift, sale, or other transfer (exclude ordinary and necessary living and business expenses paid to unrelated third parties). For each such person or entity, state the total amount transferred during that period.

Transferee's Name, Address, & Relationship	Property Transferred	Aggregate Value*	Transfer Date (mm/dd/yyyy)	Type of Transfer (e.g., Loan, Gift)
		\$	/ /	
		\$	/ /	
		\$	/ /	

\*If the market value of any asset is unknown, describe the asset and state its cost, if you know it.

Initials: \_\_\_\_\_



**Item 24. Document Requests**

Provide copies of the following documents with your completed Financial Statement.

	Federal tax returns filed during the last three years by or on behalf of you, your spouse, or your dependents.
	All applications for bank loans or other extensions of credit (other than credit cards) that you, your spouse, or your dependents have submitted within the last two years, including by obtaining copies from lenders if necessary.
Item 9	For each bank account listed in Item 9, all account statements for the past 3 years.
Item 11	For each business entity listed in Item 11, provide (including by causing to be generated from accounting records) the most recent balance sheet, tax return, annual income statement, the most recent year-to-date income statement, and all general ledger files from account records.
Item 17	All appraisals that have been prepared for any property listed in Item 17, including appraisals done for insurance purposes. You may exclude any category of property where the total appraised value of all property in that category is less than \$2,000.
Item 18	All appraisals that have been prepared for real property listed in Item 18.
Item 21	Documentation for all debts listed in Item 21.
Item 22	All executed documents for any trust or escrow listed in Item 22. Also provide any appraisals, including insurance appraisals that have been done for any assets held by any such trust or in any such escrow.

**SUMMARY FINANCIAL SCHEDULES****Item 25. Combined Balance Sheet for You, Your Spouse, and Your Dependents**

Assets		Liabilities	
Cash on Hand (Item 9)	\$	Loans Against Publicly Traded Securities (Item 10)	\$
Funds Held in Financial Institutions (Item 9)	\$	Vehicles - Liens (Item 16)	\$
U.S. Government Securities (Item 10)	\$	Real Property – Encumbrances (Item 18)	\$
Publicly Traded Securities (Item 10)	\$	Credit Cards (Item 19)	\$
Non-Public Business and Financial Interests (Item 11)	\$	Taxes Payable (Item 20)	\$
Amounts Owed to You (Item 12)	\$	Amounts Owed by You (Item 21)	\$
Life Insurance Policies (Item 13)	\$	<b>Other Liabilities (Itemize)</b>	
Deferred Income Arrangements (Item 14)	\$		\$
Vehicles (Item 16)	\$		\$
Other Personal Property (Item 17)	\$		\$
Real Property (Item 18)	\$		\$
<b>Other Assets (Itemize)</b>			\$
	\$		\$
	\$		\$
	\$		\$
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>\$</b>

**Item 26. Combined Current Monthly Income and Expenses for You, Your Spouse, and Your Dependents**

Provide the current monthly income and expenses for you, your spouse, and your dependents. Do not include credit card payments separately; rather, include credit card expenditures in the appropriate categories.

Income (State source of each item)		Expenses	
Salary - After Taxes Source:	\$	Mortgage or Rental Payments for Residence(s)	\$
Fees, Commissions, and Royalties Source:	\$	Property Taxes for Residence(s)	\$
Interest Source:	\$	Rental Property Expenses, Including Mortgage Payments, Taxes, and Insurance	\$
Dividends and Capital Gains Source:	\$	Car or Other Vehicle Lease or Loan Payments	\$
Gross Rental Income Source:	\$	Food Expenses	\$
Profits from Sole Proprietorships Source:	\$	Clothing Expenses	\$
Distributions from Partnerships, S-Corporations, and LLCs Source:	\$	Utilities	\$

Initials: \_\_\_\_\_

<b>Item 26. Combined Current Monthly Income and Expenses for You, Your Spouse, and Your Dependents (cont.)</b>			
Distributions from Trusts and Estates Source:	\$	Medical Expenses, Including Insurance	\$
Distributions from Deferred Income Arrangements Source:	\$	Other Insurance Premiums	\$
Social Security Payments	\$	Other Transportation Expenses	\$
Alimony/Child Support Received	\$	<b>Other Expenses (Itemize)</b>	
Gambling Income	\$		\$
<b>Other Income (Itemize)</b>			\$
	\$		\$
	\$		\$
	\$		\$
<b>Total Income</b>	\$	<b>Total Expenses</b>	\$

**ATTACHMENTS**

**Item 27. Documents Attached to this Financial Statement**

List all documents that are being submitted with this financial statement. For any Item 24 documents that are not attached, explain why.

Item No. Document Relates To	Description of Document

I am submitting this financial statement with the understanding that it may affect action by the Federal Trade Commission or a federal court. I have used my best efforts to obtain the information requested in this statement. The responses I have provided to the items above are true and contain all the requested facts and information of which I have notice or knowledge. I have provided all requested documents in my custody, possession, or control. I know of the penalties for false statements under 18 U.S.C. § 1001, 18 U.S.C. § 1621, and 18 U.S.C. § 1623 (five years imprisonment and/or fines). I certify under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed on:

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Date)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION

FINANCIAL STATEMENT OF CORPORATE DEFENDANT

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**Instructions:**

1. Complete all items. Enter “None” or "N/A" (“Not Applicable”) where appropriate. If you cannot fully answer a question, explain why.
2. The font size within each field will adjust automatically as you type to accommodate longer responses.
3. In completing this financial statement, “the corporation” refers not only to this corporation but also to each of its predecessors that are not named defendants in this action.
4. When an Item asks for information about assets or liabilities “held by the corporation,” include ALL such assets and liabilities, located within the United States or elsewhere, held by the corporation or held by others for the benefit of the corporation.
5. Attach continuation pages as needed. On the financial statement, state next to the Item number that the Item is being continued. On the continuation page(s), identify the Item number being continued.
6. Type or print legibly.
7. An officer of the corporation must sign and date the completed financial statement on the last page and initial each page in the space provided in the lower right corner.

**Penalty for False Information:**

Federal law provides that any person may be imprisoned for not more than five years, fined, or both, if such person:

- (1) “in any matter within the jurisdiction of any department or agency of the United States knowingly and willfully falsifies, conceals or covers up by any trick, scheme, or device a material fact, or makes any false, fictitious or fraudulent statements or representations, or makes or uses any false writing or document knowing the same to contain any false, fictitious or fraudulent statement or entry” (18 U.S.C. § 1001);
- (2) “in any . . . statement under penalty of perjury as permitted under section 1746 of title 28, United States Code, willfully subscribes as true any material matter which he does not believe to be true” (18 U.S.C. § 1621); or
- (3) “in any (. . . statement under penalty of perjury as permitted under section 1746 of title 28, United States Code) in any proceeding before or ancillary to any court or grand jury of the United States knowingly makes any false material declaration or makes or uses any other information . . . knowing the same to contain any false material declaration.” (18 U.S.C. § 1623)

For a felony conviction under the provisions cited above, federal law provides that the fine may be not more than the greater of (i) \$250,000 for an individual or \$500,000 for a corporation, or (ii) if the felony results in pecuniary gain to any person or pecuniary loss to any person other than the defendant, the greater of twice the gross gain or twice the gross loss. 18 U.S.C. § 3571.

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**BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

**Item 1.      General Information**

Corporation's Full Name \_\_\_\_\_

Primary Business Address \_\_\_\_\_ From (Date) \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone No. \_\_\_\_\_ Fax No. \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail Address \_\_\_\_\_ Internet Home Page \_\_\_\_\_

All other current addresses & previous addresses for past five years, including post office boxes and mail drops:

Address \_\_\_\_\_ From/Until \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ From/Until \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ From/Until \_\_\_\_\_

All predecessor companies for past five years:

Name & Address \_\_\_\_\_ From/Until \_\_\_\_\_

Name & Address \_\_\_\_\_ From/Until \_\_\_\_\_

Name & Address \_\_\_\_\_ From/Until \_\_\_\_\_

**Item 2.      Legal Information**

Federal Taxpayer ID No. \_\_\_\_\_ State & Date of Incorporation \_\_\_\_\_

State Tax ID No. \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Profit or Not For Profit \_\_\_\_\_

Corporation's Present Status: Active \_\_\_\_\_ Inactive \_\_\_\_\_ Dissolved \_\_\_\_\_

If Dissolved: Date dissolved \_\_\_\_\_ By Whom \_\_\_\_\_

Reasons \_\_\_\_\_

Fiscal Year-End (Mo./Day) \_\_\_\_\_ Corporation's Business Activities \_\_\_\_\_

**Item 3.      Registered Agent**

Name of Registered Agent \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone No. \_\_\_\_\_

**Item 4. Principal Stockholders**

List all persons and entities that own at least 5% of the corporation's stock.

<u>Name &amp; Address</u>	<u>% Owned</u>
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

**Item 5. Board Members**

List all members of the corporation's Board of Directors.

<u>Name &amp; Address</u>	<u>% Owned</u>	<u>Term (From/Until)</u>
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

**Item 6. Officers**

List all of the corporation's officers, including *de facto* officers (individuals with significant management responsibility whose titles do not reflect the nature of their positions).

<u>Name &amp; Address</u>	<u>% Owned</u>
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

**Item 7. Businesses Related to the Corporation**

List all corporations, partnerships, and other business entities in which this corporation has an ownership interest.

<u>Name &amp; Address</u>	<u>Business Activities</u>	<u>% Owned</u>

State which of these businesses, if any, has ever transacted business with the corporation \_\_\_\_\_

**Item 8. Businesses Related to Individuals**

List all corporations, partnerships, and other business entities in which the corporation’s principal stockholders, board members, or officers (i.e., the individuals listed in Items 4 - 6 above) have an ownership interest.

<u>Individual’s Name</u>	<u>Business Name &amp; Address</u>	<u>Business Activities</u>	<u>% Owned</u>

State which of these businesses, if any, have ever transacted business with the corporation \_\_\_\_\_

**Item 9. Related Individuals**

List all related individuals with whom the corporation has had any business transactions during the three previous fiscal years and current fiscal year-to-date. A “related individual” is a spouse, sibling, parent, or child of the principal stockholders, board members, and officers (i.e., the individuals listed in Items 4 - 6 above).

<u>Name and Address</u>	<u>Relationship</u>	<u>Business Activities</u>

**Item 10. Outside Accountants**

List all outside accountants retained by the corporation during the last three years.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Firm Name</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>CPA/PA?</u>

**Item 11. Corporation's Recordkeeping**

List all individuals within the corporation with responsibility for keeping the corporation's financial books and records for the last three years.

<u>Name, Address, &amp; Telephone Number</u>	<u>Position(s) Held</u>

**Item 12. Attorneys**

List all attorneys retained by the corporation during the last three years.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Firm Name</u>	<u>Address</u>

**Item 13. Pending Lawsuits Filed by the Corporation**

List all pending lawsuits that have been filed by the corporation in court or before an administrative agency. (List lawsuits that resulted in final judgments or settlements in favor of the corporation in Item 25).

Opposing Party's Name & Address \_\_\_\_\_

Court's Name & Address \_\_\_\_\_

Docket No. \_\_\_\_\_ Relief Requested \_\_\_\_\_ Nature of Lawsuit \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Status \_\_\_\_\_

Opposing Party's Name & Address \_\_\_\_\_

Court's Name & Address \_\_\_\_\_

Docket No. \_\_\_\_\_ Relief Requested \_\_\_\_\_ Nature of Lawsuit \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Status \_\_\_\_\_

Opposing Party's Name & Address \_\_\_\_\_

Court's Name & Address \_\_\_\_\_

Docket No. \_\_\_\_\_ Relief Requested \_\_\_\_\_ Nature of Lawsuit \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Status \_\_\_\_\_

Opposing Party's Name & Address \_\_\_\_\_

Court's Name & Address \_\_\_\_\_

Docket No. \_\_\_\_\_ Relief Requested \_\_\_\_\_ Nature of Lawsuit \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Status \_\_\_\_\_

Opposing Party's Name & Address \_\_\_\_\_

Court's Name & Address \_\_\_\_\_

Docket No. \_\_\_\_\_ Relief Requested \_\_\_\_\_ Nature of Lawsuit \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Status \_\_\_\_\_

Opposing Party's Name & Address \_\_\_\_\_

Court's Name & Address \_\_\_\_\_

Docket No. \_\_\_\_\_ Relief Requested \_\_\_\_\_ Nature of Lawsuit \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Status \_\_\_\_\_



**Item 14. Current Lawsuits Filed Against the Corporation**

List all pending lawsuits that have been filed against the corporation in court or before an administrative agency. (List lawsuits that resulted in final judgments, settlements, or orders in Items 26 - 27).

Opposing Party's Name & Address \_\_\_\_\_

Court's Name & Address \_\_\_\_\_

Docket No. \_\_\_\_\_ Relief Requested \_\_\_\_\_ Nature of Lawsuit \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Status \_\_\_\_\_

Opposing Party's Name & Address \_\_\_\_\_

Court's Name & Address \_\_\_\_\_

Docket No. \_\_\_\_\_ Relief Requested \_\_\_\_\_ Nature of Lawsuit \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Status \_\_\_\_\_

Opposing Party's Name & Address \_\_\_\_\_

Court's Name & Address \_\_\_\_\_

Docket No. \_\_\_\_\_ Relief Requested \_\_\_\_\_ Nature of Lawsuit \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Status \_\_\_\_\_

Opposing Party's Name & Address \_\_\_\_\_

Court's Name & Address \_\_\_\_\_

Docket No. \_\_\_\_\_ Relief Requested \_\_\_\_\_ Nature of Lawsuit \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Status \_\_\_\_\_

Opposing Party's Name & Address \_\_\_\_\_

Court's Name & Address \_\_\_\_\_

Docket No. \_\_\_\_\_ Relief Requested \_\_\_\_\_ Nature of Lawsuit \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Status \_\_\_\_\_

Opposing Party's Name & Address \_\_\_\_\_

Court's Name & Address \_\_\_\_\_

Docket No. \_\_\_\_\_ Relief Requested \_\_\_\_\_ Nature of Lawsuit \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Status \_\_\_\_\_

**Item 15. Bankruptcy Information**

List all state insolvency and federal bankruptcy proceedings involving the corporation.

Commencement Date \_\_\_\_\_ Termination Date \_\_\_\_\_ Docket No. \_\_\_\_\_

If State Court: Court & County \_\_\_\_\_ If Federal Court: District \_\_\_\_\_

Disposition \_\_\_\_\_

**Item 16. Safe Deposit Boxes**

List all safe deposit boxes, located within the United States or elsewhere, held by the corporation, or held by others for the benefit of the corporation. *On a separate page, describe the contents of each box.*

<u>Owner's Name</u>	<u>Name &amp; Address of Depository Institution</u>	<u>Box No.</u>
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**FINANCIAL INFORMATION**

**REMINDER: When an Item asks for information about assets or liabilities “held by the corporation,” include ALL such assets and liabilities, located within the United States or elsewhere, held by the corporation or held by others for the benefit of the corporation.**

**Item 17. Tax Returns**

List all federal and state corporate tax returns filed for the last three complete fiscal years. *Attach copies of all returns.*

<u>Federal/ State/Both</u>	<u>Tax Year</u>	<u>Tax Due Federal</u>	<u>Tax Paid Federal</u>	<u>Tax Due State</u>	<u>Tax Paid State</u>	<u>Preparer's Name</u>
		\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	
		\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	
		\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	

**Item 18. Financial Statements**

List all financial statements that were prepared for the corporation’s last three complete fiscal years and for the current fiscal year-to-date. *Attach copies of all statements, providing audited statements if available.*

<u>Year</u>	<u>Balance Sheet</u>	<u>Profit &amp; Loss Statement</u>	<u>Cash Flow Statement</u>	<u>Changes in Owner’s Equity</u>	<u>Audited?</u>
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

**Item 19. Financial Summary**

For each of the last three complete fiscal years and for the current fiscal year-to-date for which the corporation has not provided a profit and loss statement in accordance with Item 18 above, provide the following summary financial information.

	<u>Current Year-to-Date</u>	<u>1 Year Ago</u>	<u>2 Years Ago</u>	<u>3 Years Ago</u>
<u>Gross Revenue</u>	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
<u>Expenses</u>	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
<u>Net Profit After Taxes</u>	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
<u>Payables</u>	\$ _____			
<u>Receivables</u>	\$ _____			

**Item 20. Cash, Bank, and Money Market Accounts**

List cash and all bank and money market accounts, including but not limited to, checking accounts, savings accounts, and certificates of deposit, held by the corporation. The term “cash” includes currency and uncashed checks.

Cash on Hand \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Cash Held for the Corporation’s Benefit \$ \_\_\_\_\_

<u>Name &amp; Address of Financial Institution</u>	<u>Signator(s) on Account</u>	<u>Account No.</u>	<u>Current Balance</u>
_____	_____	_____	\$ _____
_____	_____	_____	\$ _____
_____	_____	_____	\$ _____
_____	_____	_____	\$ _____

**Item 21. Government Obligations and Publicly Traded Securities**

List all U.S. Government obligations, including but not limited to, savings bonds, treasury bills, or treasury notes, held by the corporation. Also list all publicly traded securities, including but not limited to, stocks, stock options, registered and bearer bonds, state and municipal bonds, and mutual funds, held by the corporation.

Issuer \_\_\_\_\_ Type of Security/Obligation \_\_\_\_\_

No. of Units Owned \_\_\_\_\_ Current Fair Market Value \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Maturity Date \_\_\_\_\_

Issuer \_\_\_\_\_ Type of Security/Obligation \_\_\_\_\_

No. of Units Owned \_\_\_\_\_ Current Fair Market Value \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Maturity Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Item 22. Real Estate**

List all real estate, including leaseholds in excess of five years, held by the corporation.

Type of Property \_\_\_\_\_ Property's Location \_\_\_\_\_

Name(s) on Title and Ownership Percentages \_\_\_\_\_

Current Value \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Loan or Account No. \_\_\_\_\_

Lender's Name and Address \_\_\_\_\_

Current Balance On First Mortgage \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly Payment \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Other Loan(s) (describe) \_\_\_\_\_ Current Balance \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Monthly Payment \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Rental Unit? \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly Rent Received \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Type of Property \_\_\_\_\_ Property's Location \_\_\_\_\_

Name(s) on Title and Ownership Percentages \_\_\_\_\_

Current Value \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Loan or Account No. \_\_\_\_\_

Lender's Name and Address \_\_\_\_\_

Current Balance On First Mortgage \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly Payment \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Other Loan(s) (describe) \_\_\_\_\_ Current Balance \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Monthly Payment \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Rental Unit? \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly Rent Received \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Item 23. Other Assets**

List all other property, by category, with an estimated value of \$2,500 or more, held by the corporation, including but not limited to, inventory, machinery, equipment, furniture, vehicles, customer lists, computer software, patents, and other intellectual property.

<u>Property Category</u>	<u>Property Location</u>	<u>Acquisition Cost</u>	<u>Current Value</u>
_____	_____	\$ _____	\$ _____
_____	_____	\$ _____	\$ _____
_____	_____	\$ _____	\$ _____
_____	_____	\$ _____	\$ _____
_____	_____	\$ _____	\$ _____
_____	_____	\$ _____	\$ _____
_____	_____	\$ _____	\$ _____
_____	_____	\$ _____	\$ _____
_____	_____	\$ _____	\$ _____
_____	_____	\$ _____	\$ _____

**Item 24. Trusts and Escrows**

List all persons and other entities holding funds or other assets that are in escrow or in trust for the corporation.

<u>Trustee or Escrow Agent's Name &amp; Address</u>	<u>Description and Location of Assets</u>	<u>Present Market Value of Assets</u>
_____	_____	\$ _____
_____	_____	\$ _____
_____	_____	\$ _____
_____	_____	\$ _____
_____	_____	\$ _____
_____	_____	\$ _____
_____	_____	\$ _____
_____	_____	\$ _____

**Item 25. Monetary Judgments and Settlements Owed To the Corporation**

List all monetary judgments and settlements, recorded and unrecorded, owed to the corporation.

Opposing Party's Name & Address \_\_\_\_\_

Court's Name & Address \_\_\_\_\_ Docket No. \_\_\_\_\_

Nature of Lawsuit \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Judgment \_\_\_\_\_ Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Opposing Party's Name & Address \_\_\_\_\_

Court's Name & Address \_\_\_\_\_ Docket No. \_\_\_\_\_

Nature of Lawsuit \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Judgment \_\_\_\_\_ Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Item 26. Monetary Judgments and Settlements Owed By the Corporation**

List all monetary judgments and settlements, recorded and unrecorded, owed by the corporation.

Opposing Party's Name & Address \_\_\_\_\_

Court's Name & Address \_\_\_\_\_ Docket No. \_\_\_\_\_

Nature of Lawsuit \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Opposing Party's Name & Address \_\_\_\_\_

Court's Name & Address \_\_\_\_\_ Docket No. \_\_\_\_\_

Nature of Lawsuit \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Judgment \_\_\_\_\_ Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Opposing Party's Name & Address \_\_\_\_\_

Court's Name & Address \_\_\_\_\_ Docket No. \_\_\_\_\_

Nature of Lawsuit \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Judgment \_\_\_\_\_ Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Opposing Party's Name & Address \_\_\_\_\_

Court's Name & Address \_\_\_\_\_ Docket No. \_\_\_\_\_

Nature of Lawsuit \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Judgment \_\_\_\_\_ Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Opposing Party's Name & Address \_\_\_\_\_

Court's Name & Address \_\_\_\_\_ Docket No. \_\_\_\_\_

Nature of Lawsuit \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Judgment \_\_\_\_\_ Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Item 27. Government Orders and Settlements**

List all existing orders and settlements between the corporation and any federal or state government entities.

Name of Agency \_\_\_\_\_ Contact Person \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone No. \_\_\_\_\_

Agreement Date \_\_\_\_\_ Nature of Agreement \_\_\_\_\_

**Item 28. Credit Cards**

List all of the corporation's credit cards and store charge accounts and the individuals authorized to use them.

Name of Credit Card or Store

Names of Authorized Users and Positions Held


**Item 29. Compensation of Employees**

List all compensation and other benefits received from the corporation by the five most highly compensated employees, independent contractors, and consultants (other than those individuals listed in Items 5 and 6 above), for the two previous fiscal years and current fiscal year-to-date. "Compensation" includes, but is not limited to, salaries, commissions, consulting fees, bonuses, dividends, distributions, royalties, pensions, and profit sharing plans. "Other benefits" include, but are not limited to, loans, loan payments, rent, car payments, and insurance premiums, whether paid directly to the individuals, or paid to others on their behalf.

<u>Name/Position</u>	<u>Current Fiscal Year-to-Date</u>	<u>1 Year Ago</u>	<u>2 Years Ago</u>	<u>Compensation or Type of Benefits</u>
	\$	\$	\$	
	\$	\$	\$	
	\$	\$	\$	
	\$	\$	\$	
	\$	\$	\$	



**Item 30. Compensation of Board Members and Officers**

List all compensation and other benefits received from the corporation by each person listed in Items 5 and 6, for the current fiscal year-to-date and the two previous fiscal years. "Compensation" includes, but is not limited to, salaries, commissions, consulting fees, dividends, distributions, royalties, pensions, and profit sharing plans. "Other benefits" include, but are not limited to, loans, loan payments, rent, car payments, and insurance premiums, whether paid directly to the individuals, or paid to others on their behalf.

<u>Name/Position</u>	<u>Current Fiscal Year-to-Date</u>	<u>1 Year Ago</u>	<u>2 Years Ago</u>	<u>Compensation or Type of Benefits</u>
	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	
	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	
	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	
	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	
	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	
	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	
	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	
	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	

**Item 31. Transfers of Assets Including Cash and Property**

List all transfers of assets over \$2,500 made by the corporation, other than in the ordinary course of business, during the previous three years, by loan, gift, sale, or other transfer.

<u>Transferee's Name, Address, &amp; Relationship</u>	<u>Property Transferred</u>	<u>Aggregate Value</u>	<u>Transfer Date</u>	<u>Type of Transfer (e.g., Loan, Gift)</u>
		\$ _____		
		\$ _____		
		\$ _____		
		\$ _____		
		\$ _____		

**Item 32. Documents Attached to the Financial Statement**

List all documents that are being submitted with the financial statement.

<u>Item No.</u>	<u>Document Relates To</u>	<u>Description of Document</u>

I am submitting this financial statement with the understanding that it may affect action by the Federal Trade Commission or a federal court. I have used my best efforts to obtain the information requested in this statement. The responses I have provided to the items above are true and contain all the requested facts and information of which I have notice or knowledge. I have provided all requested documents in my custody, possession, or control. I know of the penalties for false statements under 18 U.S.C. § 1001, 18 U.S.C. § 1621, and 18 U.S.C. § 1623 (five years imprisonment and/or fines). I certify under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed on:

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Date)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Corporate Position

CONSENT TO RELEASE FINANCIAL RECORDS

I, \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_, (City, State), do hereby direct any bank, saving and loan association, credit union, depository institution, finance company, commercial lending company, credit card processor, credit card processing entity, automated clearing house, network transaction processor, bank debit processing entity, brokerage house, escrow agent, money market or mutual fund, title company, commodity trading company, trustee, or person that holds, controls, or maintains custody of assets, wherever located, that are owned or controlled by me or at which there is an account of any kind upon which I am authorized to draw, and its officers, employees, and agents, to disclose all information and deliver copies of all documents of every nature in its possession or control which relate to the said accounts to any attorney of the Federal Trade Commission, and to give evidence relevant thereto, in the matter of [ \_\_\_\_\_ ], now pending in the United States District Court of [ \_\_\_\_\_ ], and this shall be irrevocable authority for so doing.

This direction is intended to apply to the laws of countries other than the United States of America which restrict or prohibit disclosure of bank or other financial information without the consent of the holder of the account, and shall be construed as consent with respect hereto, and the same shall apply to any of the accounts for which I may be a relevant principal.

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_