UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION

COMMISSIONERS: Jon Leibowitz, Chairman
William E. Kovacic
J. Thomas Rosch
Edith Ramirez
Julie Brill

In the Matter of

MARK DREHER, PH.D.,
individually.

DOCKET NO. C-4306

DECISION AND ORDER

The Federal Trade Commission having initiated an investigation of certain acts and practices of the Respondent named in the caption hereof, and the Respondent having been furnished thereafter with a copy of a draft of complaint which the Bureau of Consumer Protection proposed to present to the Commission for its consideration and which, if issued by the Commission, would charge the Respondent with violation of the Federal Trade Commission Act; and

The Respondent and counsel for the Commission having thereafter executed an agreement containing a consent order, an admission by the Respondent of all the jurisdictional facts set forth in the aforesaid draft complaint, a statement that the signing of the agreement is for settlement purposes only and does not constitute an admission by the Respondent that the law has been violated as alleged in such complaint, or that any of the facts as alleged in such complaint, other than jurisdictional facts, are true, and waivers and other provisions as required by the Commission’s Rules; and

The Commission having thereafter considered the matter and having determined that it had reason to believe that the Respondent has violated the Act, and that complaint should issue stating its charges in that respect, and having thereupon accepted the executed consent agreement and placed such agreement on the public record for a period of thirty (30) days for the receipt and consideration of public comments, and having duly considered the comments received from interested persons, now in further conformity with the procedure described in Commission Rule 2.34, 16 C.F.R. § 2.34, the Commission hereby issues its complaint, makes the following jurisdictional findings, and issues the following Order:
1. Respondent Mark Dreher, Ph.D., was the Vice President of Science & Regulatory Affairs of POM Wonderful LLC from approximately August 2005 to May 2009. His current principal office or place of business is located in Wimberley, Texas.

2. The Federal Trade Commission has jurisdiction of the subject matter of this proceeding and of the Respondent and this proceeding is in the public interest.

ORDER

DEFINITIONS

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

1. Unless otherwise specified, “Respondent” shall mean Mark Dreher, Ph.D., individually.


3. “Covered Product” shall mean any food, drug, or dietary supplement for human use or consumption, including, but not limited to, the POM Products.


5. “Endorsement” shall mean as defined in 16 C.F.R. § 255.0.

6. “Employment” shall mean any affiliation with any business, non-profit, or government entity, including the performance of services as an officer, owner, manager, supervisor, employee, consultant, or independent contractor; and “Employer” shall mean any and all individuals or entities for whom Respondent performs services as an employee, consultant, or independent contractor.

7. “POM Product” shall mean any food, drug, or dietary supplement labeled, advertised, promoted, offered for sale, sold, or distributed by POM Wonderful LLC, Roll International Corporation, and their successors and assigns, containing POM Wonderful pomegranate or its components, including, but not limited to, POM Wonderful 100% Pomegranate Juice and pomegranate juice blends, POMx Pills, POMx Liquid, POMx Tea, POMx Iced Coffee, POMx Bars, and POMx Shots.

8. The term “including” in this Order shall mean “without limitation.”

9. The terms “and” and “or” in this Order shall be construed conjunctively or disjunctively as necessary, to make the applicable phrase or sentence inclusive rather than exclusive.
I.

IT IS ORDERED that Respondent, directly or through any corporation, partnership, subsidiary, division, trade name, or other device, in connection with the manufacturing, labeling, advertising, promotion, offering for sale, sale, or distribution of any POM Product, in or affecting commerce, shall not make any representation in any manner, expressly or by implication, including through the use of a product name, endorsement, depiction, illustration, trademark, or trade name, that such product is effective in the diagnosis, cure, mitigation, treatment, or prevention of any disease, including, but not limited to, any representation that the product will treat, prevent, or reduce the risk of heart disease, including by decreasing arterial plaque, lowering blood pressure, or improving blood flow to the heart; or treat, prevent, or reduce the risk of prostate cancer, including by prolonging prostate-specific antigen doubling time (“PSADT”); unless, at the time it is made, the representation is non-misleading and:

A. the product is subject to a final over-the-counter (“OTC”) drug monograph promulgated by the Food and Drug Administration (“FDA”) for such use, and conforms to the conditions of such use;
B. the product remains covered by a tentative final OTC drug monograph for such use and adopts the conditions of such use;
C. the product is the subject of a new drug application for such use approved by FDA, and conforms to the conditions of such use;
D. the representation is specifically permitted in labeling for such product by regulations promulgated by the FDA pursuant to the Nutrition Labeling and Education Act of 1990.

II.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Respondent, directly or through any corporation, partnership, subsidiary, division, trade name, or other device, in connection with the manufacturing, labeling, advertising, promotion, offering for sale, sale, or distribution of any Covered Product, in or affecting commerce, shall not misrepresent, in any manner, expressly or by implication, including through the use of a product name, endorsement, depiction, or illustration, trademark, or trade name, the existence, contents, validity, results, conclusions, or interpretations of any test, study, or research.

III.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Respondent, directly or through any corporation, partnership, subsidiary, division, trade name, or other device, in connection with the manufacturing, labeling, advertising, promotion, offering for sale, sale, or distribution of any Covered Product, in or affecting commerce, shall not make any representation, other than representations under Part I of this Order, in any manner, expressly or by implication, including through the use of a product name, endorsement, depiction, illustration, trademark, or trade name, the existence, contents, validity, results, conclusions, or interpretations of any test, study, or research.
name, about the health benefits, performance, or efficacy of any Covered Product, unless the representation is non-misleading, and, at the time of making such representation, Respondent relies upon competent and reliable scientific evidence that is sufficient in quality and quantity based on standards generally accepted in the relevant scientific fields, when considered in light of the entire body of relevant and reliable scientific evidence, to substantiate that the representation is true. Provided that, for any representation made by Respondent as an expert endorser, Respondent must possess and rely upon competent and reliable scientific evidence, and an actual exercise of his represented expertise in evaluating medical research at least as extensive as an expert in that field would normally conduct in order to support the conclusions presented in the representation. For purposes of this Part, competent and reliable scientific evidence means tests, analyses, research, or studies that have been conducted and evaluated in an objective manner by qualified persons, and that are generally accepted in the profession to yield accurate and reliable results.

IV.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that:

A. Nothing in Parts II and III of this Order shall prohibit Respondent from making any representation for any product that is specifically permitted in labeling for such product by regulations promulgated by the Food and Drug Administration pursuant to the Nutrition Labeling and Education Act of 1990; and

B. Nothing in Parts II and III of this Order shall prohibit Respondent from making any representation for any drug that is permitted in the labeling for such drug under any tentative final or final monograph promulgated by the Food and Drug Administration, or under any new drug application approved by the Food and Drug Administration.

V.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Respondent shall, for five (5) years after the last date of dissemination of any representation covered by this Order, maintain and upon request make available to the Commission for inspection and copying:

A. All advertisements, labeling, packaging, and promotional materials containing the representation;

B. All materials that were relied upon in disseminating the representation;

C. All tests, reports, studies, surveys, demonstrations, or other evidence in his possession or control that contradict, qualify, or call into question the representation, or the basis relied upon for the representation, including complaints and other communications with consumers or with governmental or consumer protection organizations; and
D. All acknowledgments of receipt of this Order, obtained pursuant to Part VI.

VI.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Respondent shall, for a period of seven (7) years after the date of issuance of this Order, deliver a copy of this Order to all current and future principals, officers, directors, and managers, and to all current and future employees, agents, and representatives having responsibilities with respect to the subject matter of this Order, and shall secure from each such person a signed and dated statement acknowledging receipt of the Order. Respondent shall deliver this Order to such current personnel within thirty (30) days after the effective date of this Order, and to such future personnel within thirty (30) days after the person assumes such position or responsibilities.

VII.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Respondent shall, for a period of five (5) years after the date of issuance of this Order, notify the Commission of the discontinuance of his current business or employment, or of his affiliation with any new business or employment. The notice shall include Respondent’s new business address and telephone number and a description of the nature of the business or employment and his duties and responsibilities. Unless otherwise directed by a representative of the Commission, all notices required by this Part shall be sent by overnight courier to the Associate Director for Enforcement, Bureau of Consumer Protection, Federal Trade Commission, 600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20580, with the subject line FTC v. Mark Dreher. Provided, however, that, in lieu of overnight courier, notices may be sent by first-class mail, but only if electronic versions of such notices are contemporaneously sent to the Commission at DEbrief@ftc.gov.

VIII.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Respondent shall within sixty (60) days after the effective date of this Order, file with the Commission a true and accurate report, in writing, setting forth in detail the manner and form of his compliance with this Order. Within ten (10) days of receipt of written notice from a representative of the Commission, he shall submit additional true and accurate written reports.

IX.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Respondent must reasonably and in good faith cooperate with the Commission in connection with its litigation in the matter of POM Wonderful LLC et al. (File No. 082-3122) and any subsequent investigations or litigation related to or associated with the transactions or occurrences that are the subject of the Commission’s administrative complaint in that matter. Respondent acknowledges, understands, and agrees that such cooperation shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

A. Appearing for interviews as may reasonably be requested by the Commission;
B. Responding to all reasonable inquiries of the Commission;

C. Providing all documents, records, and other tangible evidence reasonably requested by the Commission;

D. Providing truthful declarations, affidavits, certifications, and written testimony reasonably requested by the Commission; and

E. Appearing and providing oral testimony at any trial, deposition, or other proceeding. Respondent agrees to accept service by overnight delivery of any subpoena to appear and provide testimony.

The foregoing cooperation shall be upon reasonable written notice by the Commission. Respondent’s failure to cooperate as required herein constitutes a material breach of the settlement between the parties and a violation of this Order.

X.

This Order will terminate on November 4, 2030, or twenty (20) years from the most recent date that the United States or the Commission files a complaint (with or without an accompanying consent decree) in federal court alleging any violation of the Order, whichever comes later; provided, however, that the filing of such a complaint will not affect the duration of:

A. Any Part in this Order that terminates in less than twenty (20) years; and

B. This Order if such complaint is filed after the Order has terminated pursuant to this Part.

Provided, further, that if such complaint is dismissed or a federal court rules that Respondent did not violate any provision of the Order, and the dismissal or ruling is either not appealed or upheld on appeal, then the Order will terminate according to this Part as though the complaint had never been filed, except that the Order will not terminate between the date such complaint is filed and the later of the deadline for appealing such dismissal or ruling and the date such dismissal or ruling is upheld on appeal.

By the Commission.

Donald S. Clark
Secretary

ISSUED: November 4, 2010