

**UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION**

In the Matter of)	FILE NO. 022 3053
)	
THE LASER VISION INSTITUTE, LLC,)	
a corporation, et al.)	AGREEMENT CONTAINING
)	CONSENT ORDER
)	

The Federal Trade Commission has conducted an investigation of certain acts and practices of The Laser Vision Institute, LLC, a corporation, and Marco Musa, Max Musa, and Marc’Andrea Musa, individually and as officers of the corporation ("proposed respondents"). Proposed respondents, having been represented by counsel, are willing to enter into an agreement containing a consent order resolving the allegations contained in the attached draft complaint. Therefore,

IT IS HEREBY AGREED by and between The Laser Vision Institute, LLC, by its duly authorized officer, and Marco Musa, Max Musa, and Marc’Andrea Musa, individually and as officers of the corporation, and counsel for the Federal Trade Commission that:

- 1.a. Proposed respondent The Laser Vision Institute, LLC ("LVI"), is a Florida corporation with its principal office or place of business at 3801 South Congress Avenue, Lake Worth, Florida 33461.
- 1.b. Proposed respondent Marco Musa is the President of the corporate respondent. Individually or in concert with others, he formulates, directs, controls, or participates in the policies, acts, or practices of the corporation. His principal office or place of business is the same as that of LVI.
- 1.c. Proposed respondent Max Musa is the Chief Executive Officer of the corporate respondent. Individually or in concert with others, he formulates, directs, controls, or participates in the policies, acts, or practices of the corporation. His principal office or place of business is the same as that of LVI.
- 1.d. Proposed respondent Marc’Andrea Musa is the Vice-President of the corporate respondent. Individually or in concert with others, he formulates, directs, controls, or participates in the policies, acts, or practices of the corporation. His principal office or place of business is the same as that of LVI.
- 2. Proposed respondents admit all the jurisdictional facts set forth in the draft complaint.

3. Proposed respondents waive:
 - a. Any further procedural steps;
 - b. The requirement that the Commission's decision contain a statement of findings of fact and conclusions of law; and
 - c. All rights to seek judicial review or otherwise to challenge or contest the validity of the order entered pursuant to this agreement.

4. This agreement shall not become part of the public record of the proceeding unless and until it is accepted by the Commission. If this agreement is accepted by the Commission, it, together with the draft complaint, will be placed on the public record for a period of thirty (30) days and information about it publicly released. The Commission thereafter may either withdraw its acceptance of this agreement and so notify proposed respondents, in which event it will take such action as it may consider appropriate, or issue and serve its complaint (in such form as the circumstances may require) and decision in disposition of the proceeding.

5. This agreement is for settlement purposes only and does not constitute an admission by proposed respondents that the law has been violated as alleged in the draft complaint, or that the facts as alleged in the draft complaint, other than the jurisdictional facts, are true.

6. This agreement contemplates that, if it is accepted by the Commission, and if such acceptance is not subsequently withdrawn by the Commission pursuant to the provisions of Section 2.34 of the Commission's Rules, the Commission may, without further notice to proposed respondents, (1) issue its complaint corresponding in form and substance with the attached draft complaint and its decision containing the following order in disposition of the proceeding, and (2) make information about it public. When so entered, the order shall have the same force and effect and may be altered, modified, or set aside in the same manner and within the same time provided by statute for other orders. The order shall become final upon service. Delivery of the complaint and the decision and order to proposed respondents' address as stated in this agreement by any means specified in Section 4.4(a) of the Commission's Rules shall constitute service. Proposed respondents waive any right they may have to any other manner of service. The complaint may be used in construing the terms of the order, and no agreement, understanding, representation, or interpretation not contained in the order or the agreement may be used to vary or contradict the terms of the order.

7. Proposed respondents have read the draft complaint and consent order. They understand that they may be liable for civil penalties in the amount provided by law and other appropriate relief for each violation of the order after it becomes final.

ORDER

DEFINITIONS

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

1. Unless otherwise specified, "respondents" shall mean The Laser Vision Institute, LLC, a corporation, its successors and assigns and its officers; Marco Musa, Max Musa, and Marc' Andrea Musa, individually and as officers of the corporation; and each of the above's agents, representatives, and employees.
2. "Competent and reliable scientific evidence" shall mean tests, analyses, research, studies, or other evidence based on the expertise of professionals in the relevant area, that has been conducted and evaluated in an objective manner by persons qualified to do so, using procedures generally accepted in the profession to yield accurate and reliable results.
3. "Refractive surgery services" shall mean any surgical procedure designed to improve the focusing power of the eye by permanently changing the shape of the cornea.
4. "Device," shall mean as defined in Section 15 of the Federal Trade Commission Act, 15 U.S.C. § 55.
5. "Commerce" shall mean as defined in Section 4 of the Federal Trade Commission Act, 15 U.S.C. § 44.

I.

IT IS ORDERED that respondents, directly or through any corporation, subsidiary, division, or other device, in connection with the advertising, promotion, offering for sale, or sale of LASIK surgery services or any other refractive surgery services, in or affecting commerce, shall not represent, in any manner, expressly or by implication, that such services:

- A. Eliminate the need for glasses and contacts for life;
- B. Eliminate the need for reading glasses; or
- C. Eliminate the need for bifocals,

unless, at the time it is made, respondents possess and rely upon competent and reliable scientific evidence that substantiates the representation.

II.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that respondents, directly or through any corporation, subsidiary, division, or other device, in connection with the advertising, promotion, offering for sale, or sale, of LASIK refractive surgery services or any other refractive surgery services, in or affecting commerce, shall not make any representation, in any manner, expressly or by implication, about the efficacy, safety, performance, or benefits of such services, unless, at the time it is made, respondents possess and rely upon competent and reliable scientific evidence that substantiates the representation.

III.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that respondents, directly or through any corporation, subsidiary, division, or other device, in connection with the advertising, promotion, offering for sale, or sale, of LASIK refractive surgery services or any other refractive surgery services, in or affecting commerce, shall not misrepresent, in any manner, expressly or by implication:

- A. That consumers will receive a free consultation that determines their candidacy for LASIK or any other refractive surgery services,
- B. The cost to consumers to have their candidacy for refractive surgery services determined, or
- C. The information consumers will receive during a consultation for refractive surgery services.

IV.

Nothing in this order shall prohibit respondents from making any representation for any device that is permitted in labeling for such device under any new medical device application approved by the Food and Drug Administration.

V.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that respondent The Laser Vision Institute, LLC, and its successors and assigns, and respondents Marco Musa, Max Musa, and Marc' Andrea Musa 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 Federal Trade Commission for inspection and copying:

- A. All advertisements and promotional materials containing the representation;

- B. All materials that were relied upon in disseminating the representation; and
- C. All tests, reports, studies, surveys, demonstrations, or other evidence in their 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.

VI.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that respondent The Laser Vision Institute, LLC, and its successors and assigns, and respondents Marco Musa, Max Musa, and Marc' Andrea Musa shall deliver a copy of this order to all current and future principals, officers, and directors, 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. Respondents shall deliver this order to current personnel within thirty (30) days after the date of service of this order, and to future personnel within thirty (30) days after the person assumes such position or responsibilities.

VII.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that respondent The Laser Vision Institute, LLC., and its successors and assigns shall notify the Commission at least thirty (30) days prior to any change in the corporation that may affect compliance obligations arising under this order, including, but not limited to, a dissolution, assignment, sale, merger, or other action that would result in the emergence of a successor corporation; the creation or dissolution of a subsidiary, parent, or affiliate that engages in any acts or practices subject to this order; the proposed filing of a bankruptcy petition; or a change in the corporate name or address. Provided, however, that, with respect to any proposed change in the corporation about which respondent learns less than thirty (30) days prior to the date such action is to take place, respondent shall notify the Commission as soon as is practicable after obtaining such knowledge. All notices required by this Part shall be sent by certified mail to the Associate Director, Division of Enforcement, Bureau of Consumer Protection, Federal Trade Commission, 600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20580.

VIII.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that respondents Marco Musa, Max Musa, and Marc' Andrea Musa, for a period of five (5) years after the date of issuance of this order, shall notify the Commission of the discontinuance of their individual current business or employment, or of their individual affiliation with any new business or employment in the eye care industry. 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. All notices required by this Part shall be sent by

certified mail to the Associate Director, Division of Enforcement, Bureau of Consumer Protection, Federal Trade Commission, 600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20580.

IX.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that respondent The Laser Vision Institute, and its successors and assigns, and respondents Marco Musa, Max Musa, and Marc' Andrea Musa shall, within sixty (60) days after service of this order, and at such other times as the Federal Trade Commission may require, file with the Commission a report, in writing, setting forth in detail the manner and form in which they have complied with this order.

X.

This order will terminate twenty (20) years from the date of its issuance, or twenty (20) years from the most recent date that the United States or the Federal Trade 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;
- B. This order's application to any respondent that is not named as a defendant in such complaint; and
- C. 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 the 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.

Signed this _____ day of _____, 2002.

THE LASER VISION INSTITUTE, LLC

By: _____
MARCO MUSA
President of the corporation

MARCO MUSA, individually
and as President of the corporation

MAX MUSA, individually
and as Chief Executive Officer
of the corporation

MARC'ANDREA MUSA, individually
and as Vice-President of the corporation

MATTHEW ZIFRONY
TRIPP SCOTT
Attorney for Respondents

MATTHEW DAYNARD
Counsel for the Federal Trade Commission

APPROVED:

MAY K. ENGLE
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Division of Advertising Practices

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