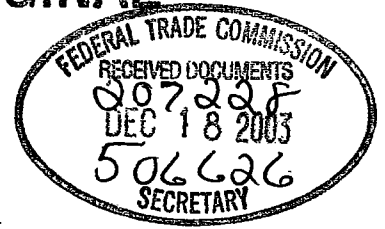


ORIGINAL



UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
BEFORE FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION

IN THE MATTER OF

NORTH TEXAS SPECIALTY PHYSICIANS,  
A CORPORATION.

Docket No. 9312

**RESPONDENT'S OBJECTIONS AND RESPONSES TO COMPLAINT COUNSEL'S  
REQUESTS FOR ADMISSIONS TO RESPONDENT NORTH TEXAS SPECIALTY PHYSICIANS**

Respondent North Texas Specialty Physicians ("NTSP") submits this its Objections and Responses to Complaint Counsel's Requests for Admissions to Respondent North Texas Specialty Physicians.

**GENERAL OBJECTIONS**

NTSP objects to Complaint Counsel's Requests for Admissions to the extent those Requests use terms which vary from normal usage. NTSP also objects to Complaint Counsel's Requests for Admissions to the extent those Requests are vague or susceptible of more than one meaning.

**RESPONSES**

1. Admit that the dissemination by NTSP to participating physicians of aggregated data regarding participating physicians' minimum acceptable compensation for fee-for-service medical services was not reasonably necessary to the achievement of material improvements in the quality of participating physicians' (a) fee-for-service medical services and (b) other than fee-for-service medical services.

**RESPONSE:** Denied.

2. Admit that the dissemination by NTSP to participating physicians of aggregated data regarding participating physicians' minimum acceptable compensation for fee-for-service

medical services was not reasonably necessary to the achievement of material reductions in the cost of participating physicians' (a) fee-for-service medical services and (b) other than fee-for-service medical services.

**RESPONSE:** Denied.

3. Admit that the establishment by NTSP of minimum contract prices for fee-for-service medical services was not reasonably necessary to the achievement of material improvements in the quality of participating physicians' (a) fee-for-service medical services and (b) other than fee-for-service medical services.

**RESPONSE:** Denied.

4. Admit that the establishment by NTSP of minimum contract prices for fee-for-service medical services was not reasonably necessary to the achievement of material reductions in the cost of participating physicians' (a) fee-for-service medical services and (b) other than fee-for-service medical services.

**RESPONSE:** Denied.

5. Admit that the refusal by NTSP to submit to NTSP physicians offers from payors that do not satisfy minimum contract prices established by NTSP for fee-for-services medical services was not reasonably necessary to the achievement of material improvements in the quality of participating physicians' (a) fee-for-service medical services and (b) other than fee-for-service medical services.

**RESPONSE:** Denied.

6. Admit that the refusal by NTSP to submit to NTSP physicians offers from payors that do not satisfy minimum contract prices established by NTSP for fee-for-services medical services was not reasonably necessary to the achievement of material reductions in the

cost of participating physicians' (a) fee-for-service medical services and (b) other than fee-for-service medical services.

**RESPONSE:** Denied.

7. Admit that the deparicipating by NTSP of NTSP physicians from payor agreements that do not satisfy minimum contract prices established by NTSP for fee-for-services medical services was not reasonably necessary to the achievement of material improvements in the quality of participating physicians' (a) fee-for-service medical services and (b) other than fee-for-service medical services.

**RESPONSE:** Denied.

8. Admit that the deparicipating by NTSP of NTSP physicians from payor agreements that do not satisfy minimum contract prices established by NTSP for fee-for-services medical services was not reasonably necessary to the achievement of material reductions in the cost of participating physicians' (a) fee-for-service medical services and (b) other than fee-for-service medical services.

**RESPONSE:** Denied.

Respectfully submitted,



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Gregory S. C. Huffman

William M. Katz, Jr.

Gregory D. Binns

THOMPSON & KNIGHT LLP  
1700 Pacific Avenue, Suite 3300  
Dallas TX 75201-4693  
214 969 1700  
214 969 1751 - Fax  
gregory.huffman@tklaw.com  
william.katz@tklaw.com  
gregory.binns@tklaw.com

**ATTORNEYS FOR NORTH TEXAS  
SPECIALTY PHYSICIANS**

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, Gregory S. C. Huffman, hereby certify that on December 17, 2003, I caused a copy of Respondent's Objections and Responses to Complaint Counsel's Requests for Admissions to Respondent North Texas Specialty Physicians to be served upon the following persons by First Class mail, email and/or and by Federal Express:

Michael Bloom  
Senior Counsel  
Federal Trade Commission  
Northeast Region  
One Bowling Green, Suite 318  
New York, NY 10004

Office of the Secretary  
Federal Trade Commission  
Room H-159  
600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW  
Washington, D.C. 20580

Hon. D. Michael Chappell  
Administrative Law Judge  
Federal Trade Commission  
Room H-104  
600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW  
Washington, D.C. 20580

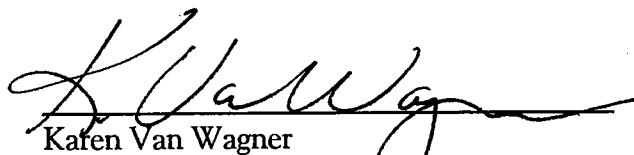
and by e-mail upon the following: Susan Raitt (srait@ftc.gov), and Jonathan Platt (jplatt@ftc.gov).

  
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Gregory Huffman


VERIFICATION

I, Karen Van Wagner, Executive Director of North Texas Specialty Physicians, have read the foregoing Respondent's Objections and Responses to Complaint Counsel's Requests for Admissions to Respondent North Texas Specialty Physicians, and know the contents thereof, and affirm that they are true.

Dated: 12/17, 2003.

  
Karen Van Wagner  
Executive Director  
NORTH TEXAS SPECIALTY PHYSICIANS

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN TO BEFORE ME in the County of Tarrant, State of Texas, this 17 day of December, 2003.

  
NOTARY PUBLIC

My commission expires

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