

**UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
BEFORE FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION**

In the Matter of
American Renal Associates, Inc.,
a corporation, and
Fresenius Medical Care Holdings, Inc.,
a corporation.

File No. 051 0234

AGREEMENT CONTAINING CONSENT ORDERS

The Federal Trade Commission (“Commission”), having initiated an investigation of the proposed acquisition by American Renal Associates, Inc., of certain assets owned by Fresenius Medical Care Holdings, Inc. (hereafter “Proposed Respondents”), and of certain acts and practices of the Proposed Respondents, and it now appearing that Proposed Respondents are willing to enter into this Agreement Containing Consent Order (“Consent Agreement”) to cease and desist from certain actions and providing for other relief:

IT IS HEREBY AGREED by and between Proposed Respondents, by their duly authorized officers and attorneys, and counsel for the Commission that:

1. American Renal Associates, Inc., is a corporation organized, existing and doing business under and by virtue of the laws of the State of Delaware, with its office and principal place of business located at 66 Cherry Hill Drive, Beverly, Massachusetts 01915.
2. A Fresenius Medical Care Holdings, Inc., is a corporation organized, existing, and doing business under and by virtue of the laws of the State of New York, with its principal place of business located at 920 Winter Street, Waltham, Massachusetts 02451.
3. Proposed Respondents admit all the jurisdictional facts set forth in the draft of Complaint here attached.
4. Proposed Respondents waive:
 - a. any further procedural steps;
 - b. the requirement that the Commission’s Decision and Order, attached hereto, contain a statement of findings of fact and conclusions of law;

- c. all rights to seek judicial review or otherwise challenge or contest the validity of the Decision and Order entered pursuant to this Consent Agreement; and
 - d. any claim under the Equal Access to Justice Act.
5. Each Proposed Respondent shall submit an initial report, pursuant to Section 2.33 of the Commission's Rules, 16 C.F.R. § 2.33, within fifteen (15) days of the date on which it executes this Consent Agreement and every thirty (30) days thereafter until the Decision and Order becomes final. Each such report shall be signed by the Proposed Respondent and shall set forth in detail the manner in which the Proposed Respondent has to date complied or has prepared to comply, is complying, and will comply with the Decision and Order. Such reports will not become part of the public record unless and until the Consent Agreement and Decision and Order are accepted by the Commission for public comment.
 6. This Consent Agreement shall not become part of the public record of the proceeding unless and until it is accepted by the Commission. If this Consent Agreement is accepted by the Commission, it, together with the draft of Complaint contemplated thereby, will be placed on the public record for a period of thirty (30) days and information in respect thereto publicly released. The Commission thereafter may either withdraw its acceptance of this Consent Agreement and so notify Proposed Respondents, in which event it will take such action as it may consider appropriate, or issue or amend its Complaint (in such form as the circumstances may require) and issue its Decision and Order, in disposition of the proceeding.
 7. This Consent 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 of Complaint here attached, or that the facts as alleged in the draft of Complaint, other than jurisdictional facts, are true.
 8. This Consent Agreement contemplates that, if it is accepted by the Commission, the Commission may (a) issue and serve its Complaint corresponding in form and substance with the draft of Complaint here attached, and (b) make information public with respect thereto. If such acceptance is not subsequently withdrawn by the Commission pursuant to the provisions of Commission Rule 2.34, 16 C.F.R. § 2.34, the Commission may, without further notice to the Proposed Respondents, issue the attached Decision and Order containing an order to divest and providing for other relief in disposition of the proceeding.
 9. When final, the Decision and 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 Decision and Order shall become final upon service. Delivery of the Complaint and the Decision and Order, to Proposed Respondents by any means provided in Commission Rule 4.4(a), 16 C.F.R. § 4.4(a), shall constitute service. Proposed Respondents waive any right they may have to any other manner of service. Proposed Respondents also

waive any right they may otherwise have to service of any Appendices incorporated by reference into the Decision and Order, and agree that they are bound to comply with and will comply with the Decision and Order to the same extent as if it had been served with copies of the Appendices, where Proposed Respondents are already in possession of copies of such Appendices.

10. The Complaint may be used in construing the terms of the Decision and Order, and no agreement, understanding, representation, or interpretation not contained in the Decision and Order, or the Consent Agreement may be used to vary or contradict the terms of the Decision and Order.
11. By signing this Consent Agreement, Proposed Respondents represent and warrant that they can accomplish the full relief contemplated by the attached Decision and Order and that all parents, subsidiaries, affiliates, and successors necessary to effectuate the full relief contemplated by this Consent Agreement are parties to this Consent Agreement.
12. Proposed Respondents have read the draft of the Complaint and the Decision and Order contemplated hereby. Proposed Respondents understand that once the Decision and Order has been issued, each Proposed Respondent will be required to file one or more compliance reports showing that they have fully complied with the Decision and Order. Proposed Respondents agree to comply with the terms of the proposed Decision and Order from the date they sign this Consent Agreement. Proposed Respondents further understand that they may be liable for civil penalties in the amount provided by law for each violation of the Decision and Order after it become final.

Signed this ____ day of _____, 2006.

**FRESENIUS MEDICAL CARE
HOLDINGS, INC.**

FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION

By: _____
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Fresenius Medical Care Holdings, Inc.

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