

## UNITED STATES OF AMERICA FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D.C. 20580

Alan Dellinger Newsweek Media Group 61 Cherokee Circle Unit 102 Madison, WI 53704 MAY 1 0 2018

Re:

FOIA-2018-00259

Tinder, et. al

Dear Mr. Dellinger:

This is in response to your request dated December 1, 2017, under the Freedom of Information Act seeking access to consumer complaints pertaining to Tinder, PlentyOfFish, Bumble, OKCupid, Coffee Meets Bagel, Happn, Blendr, Grindr and Match.com. In accordance with the FOIA and agency policy, we have searched our records, as of December 1, 2017, the date we received your request in our FOIA office.

Your request did not indicate an agreement to pay any fees associated with the processing of your request. However, the Commission's fee regulations specify that fees less than \$25 will be waived. See 16 C.F.R. § 4.8(b)(4). Because the fees associated with the processing of your request did not exceed \$25, we have processed your request free of charge. In the future, please provide a fee agreement to facilitate the processing of your request.

We have located approximately 2,802 responsive complaints. Please consider this our first partial release of the records located. I am granting partial access to, and am enclosing copies of the accessible records. These complaints, and portions of other complaints, are subject to two of the nine exemptions to the FOIA's disclosure requirements, as explained below.

We are withholding approximately 14 complaints under FOIA Exemption 3, 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(3), because they are exempt from disclosure by another statute; specifically, Section 21(f) of the FTC Act provides that the FTC may not disclose any material reflecting a consumer complaint obtained from a foreign source if that foreign source has requested confidential treatment. 15 U.S.C.§ 57b-2(f).

Enclosed are approximately 2,491 responsive complaints that consumers have sent to the Federal Trade Commission ("FTC"). You should know that the enclosed complaints have not necessarily been verified by the FTC. Therefore, you should make your own judgment about relying on the information provided. I am denying access to consumers' names and addresses, and any other identifying information found in the complaints. This information is exempt from release under FOIA Exemption 6, 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(6), because individuals' right to privacy outweighs the general public's interest in seeing personal identifying information. See The Lakin Law Firm v. FTC, 352 F.3d 1122 (7th Cir. 2003).

There are approximately 297 consumer complaints remaining in our review that will be released to you under separate cover. Additional consumer complaints concerning the topic of Online Dating are posted to the FOIA frequently requested records section on FTC.gov, here: <a href="https://www.ftc.gov/about-ftc/foia/frequently-requested-records">https://www.ftc.gov/about-ftc/foia/frequently-requested-records</a>

If you are not satisfied with this response to your request, you may appeal by writing to Freedom of Information Act Appeal, Office of the General Counsel, Federal Trade Commission, 600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20580, or via email at <a href="FOIAAppeal@ftc.gov">FOIAAppeal@ftc.gov</a>, within 90 days of the date of this letter. Please enclose a copy of your original request and a copy of this response.

You also may seek dispute resolution services from the FTC FOIA Public Liaison Richard Gold via telephone at 202-326-3355 or via e-mail at <a href="mailto:rgold@ftc.gov">rgold@ftc.gov</a>; or from the Office of Government Information Services via e-mail at <a href="mailto:rgold@nara.gov">rgold@ftc.gov</a>; or from the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS), National Archives and Records Administration, 8601 Adelphi Road, College Park, MD 20740.

If you have any questions about the way we handled your request, or about our FOIA regulations or procedures, please contact Jacqueline Lightle at 202-326-3737.

Sincerely,

Dione J. Stearns

Assistant General Counsel