

FEB 10 2017

Chairman

January 30, 2017

Chairwoman Edith Ramirez
Federal Trade Commission
Office of the Secretary, Constitution Center
400 7th St. SW, Fifth Floor
Suite 5610 Annex C
Washington D.C. 20024

Dear Chairwoman Ramirez:

I am a practicing optometric physician. On a yearly basis, I provide care for many contact lens wearing patients. As a doctor, and in accordance with the American Optometric Association's Standards of Professional Conduct, my primary ethical responsibility is to place my patients' interest above my own. First, I would like to make clear that I comply with the requirements of the Fairness to Contact Lens Consumers Act (FCLCA) and the corresponding Contact Lens Rule by providing copies of contact lens prescriptions to contact wearing patients at the end of the contact lens fitting process.

I was disappointed to learn that the FTC will not seek to more fully address unscrupulous business practices of online contact lens sellers who have been putting the health and safety of my patients at risk for more than a decade. I oppose the new FTC proposal to require that all contact lens wearing patients sign an acknowledgment of receipt of a contact lens prescription that I will keep on file for years. This seems to be a heavy-handed step which presupposes that all doctors of optometry are not complying with federal law and communicating to patients they should be wary of their physician who might be a violator of federal law.

The FTC seems to dismiss the potential burden on physicians for complying. The proposal would undoubtedly add new costs for doctors and patients. It would require an additional step in the patient engagement process, which would necessitate ongoing staff training to ensure that doctors are meeting this unprecedented requirement. It would also require that doctors maintain these patient-signed forms for a number of years for possible review at a later date. In the past, FTC has underestimated and subsequently corrected the estimated burden on physicians for complying with the Contact Lens Rules. I am concerned that the FTC is again underestimating the potential impact of these changes.

Sincerely,



Jerry B. Park, O.D.