

Statement of Commissioner Joshua D. Wright
August 17, 2015

Today I announce my resignation from my position as Commissioner of the Federal Trade Commission, effective close of business August 24, 2015. I will be returning to my position at George Mason University School of Law as a Professor and as Director of the Global Antitrust Institute at the Law and Economics Center.

I am honored and grateful to have had the opportunity to serve at an agency dedicated to protecting American consumers. The Commission's accomplishments during my tenure – especially our bipartisan effort to provide guidance on the boundaries and meaning of its Section 5 unfair methods of competition authority – have been some of the most fulfilling experiences of my career. I also hope the agency will benefit from my efforts to foster the continued integration of economic analysis into all facets of our competition and consumer protection missions.

I especially want to thank my colleagues: Chairwoman Ramirez and Commissioners Brill, Ohlhausen, and McSweeney. It has been a privilege to serve with a group of such accomplished and knowledgeable lawyers. While we agreed upon the right course of action for the Commission more often than not, when we did disagree, our discussions were always productive and respectful of the diverse perspectives within the agency.

Having served the Commission three times in various roles prior to my appointment as Commissioner, and having studied the agency as an academic for more than a decade, I came into this job knowing well the excellence of the FTC staff lawyers, economists, and administrators. Each, nonetheless, consistently surpassed expectations. I want to acknowledge and thank FTC staff for their stellar work and commitment.

Most of all, I want to thank my team. They are quite simply the most talented, hardest working, and most dedicated staff in the business. I was the beneficiary of a remarkable collection of talent and truly excellent people: my attorney advisors Beth Delaney, Angela Diveley, Derek Moore, Jan Rybnicek, and Koren Wong-Ervin; my economic advisors Joanna Tsai and John Yun; my paralegals Kelsey Goodman, Andrew Barna, and Andrew Ellingsen; and Kim Thompson, my administrative assistant extraordinaire. I also had the great pleasure and fortune of having fantastic interns contributing to our work; their dedication, hard work, and enthusiasm were deeply appreciated.