

On August 14, 2026, OALJ emailed the parties, stating that I would construe Appellant’s request as a Motion for Continuance (“Motion”) and directing the Authority to indicate whether it had any objection to the Motion. The Authority replied that it had no objection.

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Pursuant to FTC Rule 4.3(b)(2), for good cause shown, the Administrative Law Judge may “extend any time limit prescribed by the rules in this chapter” 16 C.F.R.

§ 4.3(b)(2); *see* 16 C.F.R. § 1.146(c)(1)(i)(G). For good cause shown, Appellant’s Motion is **GRANTED**. To allow Appellant sufficient time to secure new counsel and submit the required filings, Appellant shall file with the FTC’s Office of the Secretary, by **October 16, 2026**, proposed findings of fact, conclusions of law, a proposed order, and a supporting legal brief providing the party’s reasoning. Such filings are limited to 7,500 words, must be served on the other party, and must contain references to the record and authorities on which they rely.

The Authority is directed to serve Appellant with a copy of its August 10, 2026 filings if it has not yet done so.

Reply findings of fact, conclusions of law and briefs, limited to 2,500 words, may be filed by the Authority and Appellant by **October 28, 2026**. 16 C.F.R. § 1.146(c)(3).

The parties are to provide the Office of Administrative Law Judges with a courtesy copy of all filings in both hard-copy and electronic formats. Hardcopies should be sent to:

FTC OALJ
Mail Stop HQ-144
c/o Brightkey Inc.
9050 Junction Drive
Annapolis Junction, MD 20701

ORDERED:

Dania L. Ayoubi

Dania L. Ayoubi
Acting Chief Administrative Law Judge

Date: August 14, 2026

EXHIBIT A**PUBLIC**

From: [Christy Heath](#)
To: [Gross, Dana](#); [Erin Thompson](#)
Cc: [Bryan Beaman](#); [Rebecca C. Price](#); [Janelle Winston](#); [Geneva Gnam](#); [Leigh Reed](#); [johnmachayeslaw@aol.com](#); [Tabor, April](#); [Zylberglait, Pablo](#); [Winker, Erik](#); [OALJ](#)
Subject: RE: Docket 9453, In the Matter of Erin Thompson
Date: Friday, August 14, 2026 9:25:19 AM

Ms. Gross,

The Authority has no objection to Judge Ayoubi granting Ms. Thompson additional time given the circumstances.

We send our condolences to Ms. Thompson, as well.

V/r,

Christy Heath, Esquire | Litigation Counsel
Horseracing Integrity & Welfare Unit
Drug Free Sport International
C: (816) 814-4713
E: cheath@hiwu.org

From: Gross, Dana <DGROSS@ftc.gov>
Sent: Friday, August 14, 2026 8:58 AM
To: Erin Thompson <erint.74@hotmail.com>
Cc: Bryan Beaman <bbeaman@sturgillturner.com>; Rebecca C. Price <rprice@sturgillturner.com>; Janelle Winston <jwinston@hiwu.org>; Christy Heath <cheath@hiwu.org>; Geneva Gnam <ggnam@hiwu.org>; Leigh Reed <lreed@sturgillturner.com>; johnmachayeslaw@aol.com; Tabor, April <atabor@ftc.gov>; Zylberglait, Pablo <PZYLBERGLAIT@ftc.gov>; Winker, Erik <ewinker@ftc.gov>; OALJ <OALJ@ftc.gov>
Subject: RE: Docket 9453, In the Matter of Erin Thompson

Good morning,

Thank you for your prompt reply. Sorry to hear of your loss, Ms. Thompson. Judge Ayoubi will construe your request as a Motion for Continuance (Motion).

The Authority is requested to respond **by 5 pm (Eastern) today, August 14, 2026**, with any objection to Appellant's Motion.

Dana Gross

Legal Administrative Specialist
Federal Trade Commission
Office of Administrative Law Judges
dgross@ftc.gov

From: Erin Thompson <erint.74@hotmail.com>

PUBLIC**Sent:** Thursday, August 13, 2026 4:59 PM**To:** johnmachayeslaw@aol.com**Cc:** Asberry-Beach, LaShaon <lasberrybeach@ftc.gov>; Bryan Beauman <bbeauman@sturgillturner.com>; Rebecca C. Price <rprice@sturgillturner.com>; jwinston@hiwu.org; cheath@hiwu.org; Geneva Gnam <ggnam@hiwu.org>; Leigh Reed <lreed@sturgillturner.com>; Tabor, April <atabor@ftc.gov>; Zylberglait, Pablo <PZYLBERGLAIT@ftc.gov>; Winker, Erik <ewinker@ftc.gov>; DocumentProcessing <DocumentProcessing@ftc.gov>; OALJ <OALJ@ftc.gov>**Subject:** Re: Docket 9453, In the Matter of Erin Thompson

I am asking for an extension to attempt to obtain counsel for my appeal. I was not aware of the due dates regarding the appeal. The past week my Dad had a massive heart attack, was in the hospital and then passed. I have had to relocate to the farm in Ohio to assist my Mom in the maintenance of the farm. Thank you for your consideration.

Erin Thompson

Sent from my iPhone

On Aug 13, 2026, at 3:19 PM, johnmachayeslaw@aol.com wrote:

Thank you for sending this. My office is unable to continue representation. Please allow Ms. Thompson additional time to secure new counsel. She has contacted other lawyers and expects to retain a lawyer. The delay is regretted, given the circumstance I urge Ms. Thompson's right to counsel and the very limited availability of lawyers practicing in this area warrants additional time.

/s/ John Mac Hayes 918 888 0630

On Wednesday, August 12, 2026 at 04:30:26 PM EDT, Asberry-Beach, LaShaon <lasberrybeach@ftc.gov> wrote:

Dear parties,

FTC's Office of Administrative Law Judges (OALJ) is in receipt of the Authority's electronic filings timely received on August 10, 2026, as well as the courtesy hardcopies.

To date, OALJ has not received Appellant's proposed findings of fact, conclusions of law, proposed order, or supporting legal brief. Per Judge Ayoubi's July 27, 2026 Order on Application for Review and Motion for Stay, the parties were required to

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file these documents by August 10, 2026.

Further, the FTC's Office of the Secretary has advised that Mr. Hayes never filed a notice of appearance in this matter.

Absent these required filings, please advise **by 5:00pm (Eastern) tomorrow, August 13, 2026**, whether Appellant has abandoned her Application for Review. If Appellant intends to pursue her previously filed Application for review, however, please provide a justification for why any late filings should be considered.

Thank you,

LaShaon Asberry-Beach

Legal Administrative Specialist

Office of Administrative Law Judges, Federal Trade Commission

202-326-2105 lasberrybeach@ftc.gov

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