L\ITED ST4TES OF 4L1ERICA

FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION U ASWIUGT01, D C 20580

Robert J, Wilensw, M,D, President-Elect
National Capital Society of Plastic and
Reconstructive Surgeons
5530 Wisconsin Avenue
Suite 855

Chey Chase, Md. 20815

Dear Brl WiBensaRy:

This letter-responds to your reFest for a staff a*isoq
spinion coneeralng a proposal by the National Capital Area Society of Plastic and Reesnstsuetive Surgeons ("the Society") to

establish a physician panel to render advisory opinions regarding westions or disputes involving fees charged by pledere?,of the Society, Yau ask whether the proposed progrm, described below, would violate Seetion 5 of the Federal Trade Comission Act,
According to your letter, the Society is a regional branch

of the meriean Society of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgeons, which is a major national professional association of plastic

surgeons, The Society proposes to set up a panel composed sf sevesal of its mebers that would be available to mePrabers, to

esnswers, and to third party payors to give advisory opinions concerning dispules.sr pestions involving specific fees charged

by individual plastic surgeons, Participation in the evaluation
process would wvcr$untaq, and fee deteminations made by the
panel would h pwely advissq, Each case would be evaluated
based on AGs particular eircmstances, with no effort made to

est&$isb7%fee~cale,floss, or ceiling for any specific proceduw,' Meisions cod: the panel would not be disclosed except

to the parties iTf�0.0588~4~p9182. 0 0 13.25 88170.1606 Tt4cc-2 Tc 12.375 0 panel does not intend to
collect,or compile Infomation on the fees charged by me&ers,
and does not intend to disseminate to the me&ership infomation
on fees or appropriate levels sf charges for any semiees,