

**UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION**

**COMMISSIONERS:**      **Jon Leibowitz, Chairman**  
                                 **Pamela Jones Harbour**  
                                 **William E. Kovacic**  
                                 **J. Thomas Rosch**

**In the Matter of**

**AMERICAN TELECOM SERVICES,  
INC.,  
a corporation**

**DOCKET NO. C-4256**

**DECISION AND ORDER**

The Federal Trade Commission having initiated an investigation of certain acts and practices of the respondent named in the caption hereof, and the respondent having been furnished thereafter with a copy of a draft of the complaint which the Western Region proposed to present to the Commission for its consideration and which, if issued by the Commission,

The respondent and counsel for the Commission having thereafter executed an agreement containing a consent order, an admission by the respondent of all the jurisdictional facts set forth in the aforesaid draft of complaint, a statement that the signing of said agreement is for settlement purposes only and does not constitute an admission by respondent that the law has been violated as alleged in such complaint, or that the facts as alleged in such complaint, other than jurisdictional facts, are true, and waivers and other provisions as required by the Commission's Rules; and

The Commission having thereafter considered the matter and having determined that it had reason to believe that the respondent has violated the said Act, and that complaint should issue stating its charges in that respect, and having thereupon accepted the executed consent agreement and placed such agreement on the public record for a period of thirty (30) days, now in further conformity with the procedure prescribed in § 2.34 of its Rules, the Commission hereby issues its complaint, makes the following jurisdictional findings and enters the following order:

1. Respondent American Telecom Services, Inc., is a Delaware corporation with its principal office or place of business at 6 Concourse Parkway NE, Suite 1525, Atlanta, GA 30328-6117.

2. The Federal Trade Commission has jurisdiction of the subject matter of this proceeding and of the respondent, and the proceeding is in the public interest.

## **ORDER**

### **DEFINITIONS**

For purposes of this order, the following definitions shall apply:

1. Unless otherwise specified, “respondent” shall mean American Telecom Services, Inc., a corporation, its successors and assigns and its officers, agents, representatives, and employees.

2. “Rebate” shall mean a check, cash, credit towards future purchases, or any other consideration offered to consumers who purchase products or services, and which is to be provided, subsequent to the purchase, to consumers who submit a request for redemption after satisfying the terms and conditions of the offer.

3. “Properly completed request” shall mean a rebate request made in compliance with the express terms of the rebate offer, including the submission of all documentation, information, and other materials required by such terms.

4. “Commerce” shall mean as defined in Section 4 of the Federal Trade Commission Act, 15 U.S.C. § 44.

### **I.**

**IT IS ORDERED** that respondent, directly or through any corporation, subsidiary, division, or other device, in connection with the manufacturing, labeling, advertising, promotion, offering for sale, sale, or distribution of any product or service sold to consumers, in or affecting commerce, shall not:

A. misrepresent, in any manner, expressly or by implication, the time in which any rebate will be mailed, or otherwise provided to consumers;

**II.**

**IT IS FURTHER ORDE**

**V.**

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that respondent ATS, and its successors and assigns, shall, within sixty (60) days after the date of service of this order, and at such other times as the Federal Trade Commission may require, file with the Commission a report, in writing, setting forth in detail the manner and form in which it has complied with this order.

**VI.**

This order will terminate on April 15, 2029, or twenty (20) years from the most recent date that the United States or the Federal Trade Commission files a complaint (with or without an accompanying consent decree) in federal court alleging any violation of the order, whichever comes later; provided, however, that the filing of such a complaint will not affect the duration of:

- A. Any Part in this order that terminates in less than twenty (20) years;
- B. This order's application to any respondent that is not named as a defendant in such complaint; and
- C. This order if such complaint is filed after the order has terminated pursuant to this Part.

Provided, further, that if such complaint is dismissed or a federal court rules that the respondent did not violate any provision of the order, and the dismissal or ruling is either not appealed or upheld on appeal, then the order will terminate according to this Part as though the complaint had never been filed, except that the order will not terminate between the date such complaint is filed and the later of the deadline for appealing such dismissal or ruling and the date such dismissal or ruling is upheld on appeal.

By the Commission.

Donald S. Clark  
Secretary

ISSUED: April 15, 2009