# UNITED STATES OF AMERICA FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION

**COMMISSIONERS:** Edith Ramirez, Chairwoman

**Julie Brill** 

Maureen K. Ohlhausen Joshua D. Wright

In the Matter of

Timonium Chrysler, Inc., a corporation d/b/a Don White's Timonium Chrysler Jeep Dodge

**DOCKET NO. C-4429** 

#### **DECISION AND ORDER**

The Federal Trade Commission having initiated an investigation of certain acts and practices of Respondent named in the caption hereof, and Respondent having been furnished thereafter with a copy of a draft complaint which the Bureau of Consumer Protection proposed to present to the Commission for its consideration and which, if issued by the Commission, would charge Respondent with violation of the Federal Trade Commission Act ("FTC Act"); and

Respondent, Respondent's attorney, and counsel for the Commission having thereafter executed an agreement containing a consent order ("consent agreement"), an admission by Respondent of all the jurisdictional facts set forth in the aforesaid draft complaint, a statement that the signing of the 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 Respondent has violated the FTC Act and that a complaint should issue stating its charges in that respect, and having thereupon accepted the executed consent agreement and placed such consent agreement on the public record for a period of thirty (30) days for the receipt and consideration of public comments, and having duly considered the comment received from an interested person pursuant to section 2.34 of its Rules, 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 is a Maryland corporation with its principal office or place of business at 10300 York Road, Cockeysville, MD.
- 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 Timonium Chrysler, Inc., and its successors and assigns.
- 2. "Advertisement" shall mean a commercial message in any medium that directly or indirectly promotes a consumer transaction.
  - 3. "Clearly and conspicuously" shall mean as follows:

- 5. "Motor vehicle" shall mean:
  - a. Any self-propelled vehicle designed for transporting persons or property on a street, highway, or other road;
  - b. Recreational boats and marine equipment;
  - c. Motorcycles;
  - d. Motor homes, recreational vehicle trailers, and slide-in campers; and
  - e. Other vehicles that are titled and sold through dealers.

I.

**IT IS HEREBY ORDERED** that respondent and its officers, agents, representatives, and employees, directly or indirectly, in connection with the advertising, marketing, or offering for sale, financing, or leasing of motor vehicles shall not, in any manner, expressly or by implication:

A. Represent that a discount, rebate, bonus, incentive or price is available unless the representation clearly and conspicuously discloses any material qualifications or restrictions, including but not limited to qualifications or restrictions on: (a) a consumer's ability to obtain the discount, rebate, bonus, incentive, or price and (b) the vehicles available at the discount, rebate, bonus, incentive, or price.

## B. Misrepresent the following:

- 1. The existence or amount of any discount, rebate, bonus, incentive, or price;
- 2. The existence, price, value, coverage, or features of any product or service associated with the motor vehicle purchase;
- 3. The number of vehicles available at particular prices; or
- 4. Any other material fact about the price, sale, financing, or leasing of motor vehicles.

II.

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that respondent shall, for five (5) years after the last date of dissemination of any representation covered by this order, maintain and upon request make available to the Commission for inspection and copying:

- A. All advertisements and promotional materials containing the representation;
- B. All materials that were relied upon in disseminating the representation;
- C. All evidence in its possession or control that contradicts, qualifies, or calls into question the representation, or the basis relied upon for the representation, including complaints and other communications with consumers or with governmental or consumer protection organizations; and
- D. Any documents reasonably necessary to demonstrate full compliance with each provision of this order, including but not limited to all documents obtained, created, generated, or that in any way relate to the requirements, provisions, or terms of this order, and all reports submitted to the Commission pursuant to this order.

#### III.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that respondent shall deliver a copy of this order to all current and future principals, officers, directors, and managers, and to all current and future employees, agents, and representatives having responsibilities with respect to the subject matter of this order, and shall secure from each such person a signed and dated statement acknowledging receipt of the order, with any electronic signatures complying with the requirements of the E-Sign Act, 15 U.S.C. § 7001 et seq.Respondent shall deliver this order to current personnel within thirty (30) days after the date of service of this order, and to future personnel within thirty (30) days after the person assumes such position or responsibilities.

## IV.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that respondent shall notify the Commission at least thirty (30) days prior to any change in the corporation(s) that may affect compliance obligations arising under this order, including but not limited to a dissolution, assignment, sale, merger, or other action that would result in the emergence of a successor corporation; the creation or

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that respondent, within sixty (60) days after the date of service of this order, shall file with the Commission a true and accurate report, in writing, setting forth in detail the manner and form of its own compliance with this order. Within ten (10) days of receipt of written notice from a representative of the Commission, it shall submit additional true and accurate written reports.

## VI.

This order will terminate on January 28, 2034, 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, howeverthat 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 a e)d, f2(a)-4(t te)-4(t te-0.002