#### UNITED STATES OF AMERICA BEFORE THE FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION

COMMISSIONERS:	Joseph J. Simons, Chairman Noah Joshua Phillips Rohit Chopra Rebecca Kelly Slaughter Christine S. Wilson
In the Matter of	)
US Foods Holding Corp., a corporation,	) ) )
Services Group of Americ a corporation, and	a, Inc., ) ) ) Docket No. C-4688
Food Services of America a corporation.	) Inc., )
	) ) )

#### **COMPLAINT**

Pursuant to the provisions of the Clayton Act and the Federal Trade Commission Act ("FTC Act"), and by the virtue of the authority vested in it by said Acts, the Federal Trade Commission ("FTC" or "Commission"), having reason to believe that Respondent US Foods Holding Corp. and US Foods, Inc. (together "USF"), corporations subject to the jurisdiction of the Commission, and Respondent Services Group of America, Inc., Respondent Food Services of America, Inc., and Amerifresh, Inc., Ameristar Meats, Inc., GAMPAC Express, Inc., and Systems Services of America, Inc. (collectively "SGA"), corporations subject to the jurisdiction of the Commission, have reached an agreement (the "Proposed Acquisition") in violation of Section 5 of the FTC Act, as amended, 15 U.S.C. § 45, pursuant to which US Foods, Inc. will acquire 100% of outstanding common stock for each of SGA's Food Group of Companies, which, if consummated, would violate Section 7 of the Clayton Act, as amended, 15 U.S.C. § 18, and Section 5 of the FTC Act, as amended, 15 U.S.C. § 45, and, it appearing to the Commission that a proceeding by it in respect thereof would be in the public interest, hereby issues its Complaint, stating its charges as follows:

#### I. <u>RESPONDENTS</u>

- US Foods Holding Corp. is a publicly traded corporation organized under the laws of Delaware with headquarters in Rosemont, Illinois. US Foods, Inc. is a wholly owned subsidiary of US Foods Holding Corp. USF is the second-largest distributor of food and food-related products in the United States. USF operates 64 distribution centers from which it provides broadline foodservice distribution throughout the United States. In its fiscal year
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  - Respondent SGA is a holding company made up of six operating companies. SGA's Food Group of Companies—the five companies at issue in the Proposed Acquisition—include Food Services of America, Inc. ("FSA"), a broadline foodservice distributor; Systems Services of America, Inc. ("SSA"), a systems distributor; Amerifresh, Inc., . mr2 (EEc(er)-1aler)-1 (s)6 a she

t)-2 (or)3 (of)3 (A)2 (s)-5 ()-1 (f)3 (i)-2d Staoodsraia, a(I)13 0 Td [(3 (e)4 (s)-5(I)13(i)-2 (di)-I)-10 (ie)4 (I)-20 (y)210 (y)20 (ie)4 (I)-20 (y)210 (y)20 (ie)4 (I)-20 (y)210 (y)20 (ie)4 (I)-20 (Ie)4 (I

# VI. EFFECTS OF THE PROPOSED ACQUISITION

- 13. The Proposed Acquisitiowould eliminate direct and substantial price and poice competition between USF and FSA in the relevant markets. The elimination of this vigorous competition would allow USF to unilaterally exercise market power following consummation of the Proposed Acquisition.
- 14. The ultimate effect of the Proposed Acquisition would be to increase the likelihood that prices for the provision of broadline foodservice distribution will increase and that the quality associated with such services will decrease in the acquisited acquisition markets.

# VII. ENTRY CONDITIONS

15. New entry or expansion by existing market participants is unlikely to occur in a timely or sufficient manner to deter or counteract the likely anticompetitive effects of the Proposed Acquisition in the relevant harkets

# VIII. THE VIOLATION CHARGED

16. The Proposed Acquisition constitutes an unfair method of competition in violation of Section 5 of the FTC Act, as amended, 15 U.S.C. § 45, and if consummated, may substantially lessen competition in the relevant markets in violation of Section 5 of the Act Cas amended, 15 U.S.C. § 45, and Section 7 of the Clayton Act, as amended, 15 U.S.C. § 18.

WHEREFORE, THE PREMISES CONSIDERED, Federal Trade Commission on this tenth day of September 2019, issues its complaint against said Respondents.

By the Commission.

April J. Tabor Acting Secretary

SEAL