



United States of America  
FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20580

Ruth Simon  
Wall Street Journal  
1211 Avenue of the Americas  
New York, NY 10036

FEB 11 2016

Re: FOIA-2016-00434  
Kickstarter et al.

Dear Ms. Simon:

This is in response to your request dated January 28, 2016, under the Freedom of Information Act seeking access to copies of consumer complaints filed with the FTC from 2014 to the present. In accordance with the FOIA and agency policy, we have searched our records, as of January 28, 2016, the date we received your request in our FOIA office.

We have located 225 responsive complaints. I am granting partial access to, and am enclosing copies of, the accessible portions of those complaints, including portions of other complaints, are subject to two of the nine exemptions to the FOIA's disclosure requirements, as explained below.

We are withholding 3 complaints under FOIA Exemption 5, 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(5), because they are exempt from disclosure by another statute, specifically, Section 2101 of the FTC Act provides that the FTC may not disclose any material reflecting a consumer complaint obtained from a foreign source if that foreign source has requested confidential treatment. 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(7)(C).

Enclosed are 322 responsive complaints that consumers have sent to the Federal Trade Commission ("FTC"). You should know that the enclosed complaints have not necessarily been verified by the FTC. Therefore, you should make your own judgment about the reliability of the information provided. I am denying access to consumers' names and addresses, and any other identifying information found in the complaints. This information is exempt from release under FOIA Exemption 6, 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(6), because individuals' right to privacy outweighs the general public's interest in seeing personal identifying information. See *The Lakin Law Firm v. FTC*, 352 F.3d 1122 (7th Cir. 2003).

If you are not satisfied with this response to your request, you may appeal by writing to the Freedom of Information Act Appeal Office, Office of the General Counsel, Federal Trade Commission, 600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20580, within 30 days of the date of this letter. Please enclose a copy of your original request and a copy of this response. If you believe that we should release additional materials beyond what the FOIA requires, please explain why this would be in the public interest.

If you have any questions regarding regulations or procedures, please contact me.

Sincerely,  


Dionne  
Assistant General Counsel

Enc: 1 CD