

Prepared Oral Statement of
Commissioner Noah Joshua Phillips
Before the
Committee on Energy and Commerce
Subcommittee on Digital Commerce and Consumer Protection
July 18, 2018

Chairman Latta, Ranking Member Schakowsky, distinguished members of the Subcommittee, thank you for the opportunity to appear before you today. I'm honored to be here with my fellow commissioners and, from our testimony, I hope you've seen the important work that the FTC and its talented staff do on behalf of American consumers.

Our economy is increasingly globalized, digitized, and connected. These changes generate incredible opportunity, but also pose new problems for American consumers, such as traditional scams that now thrive online and new, Internet-enabled, frauds. They also raise law enforcement

In total , the FTC has responded to more than 125 SAFE WEB information -sharing requests from 30 foreign e nforcement agencies. We have issued more than 110 civil investigative demands in more than 50 investigations on behalf of foreign agencies, civil and crimina l. The FTC has collected millions of dollars in restitution for injured consumers, both foreign and domestic.

SAFE WEB helps protect Americans by policing and instilling confidence in the digital economy , but it sunsets in 2020. T he Commission respectfully requests that Congress reauthorize this authority and eliminate the sunset provision.

Our international efforts support American business leadership in the global , digital economy by enabling transatlantic data flows and protecting privacy. The FTC works with the Department of Commerce on three key cross-border data transfer programs , including the EU - U.S. Privacy Shield .² Privacy Shield provide s a legal mechanism for companies to transfer personal data from the EU to the U .S., with

² The other two are the Swiss-U.S. Privacy Shield, and the Asia- Pacific Economic Cooperation Cross - Border Privacy Rules (CPBR) System. Before Privacy Shield came into effect, the Commission enforced the predecessor EU -U.S. "Safe Harbor" agreement.

