

Statement of Commissioner Terrell McSweeney

September 27, 2016

Senate Commerce Committee

Chairman Thune, Senator Blumenthal thank you for inviting us here today.

I am Terrell McSweeney, like my colleagues I look forward to speaking with the Committee about our work, our priorities, and how we protect American consumers from scams and ensure a competitive marketplace.

The Federal Trade Commission safeguards consumers from unfair or deceptive acts and practices. Since its founding, the FTC has been wherever the American consumer is- from the corner store of 1914 to the Internet connected wearable of today.

Much of today's discussion will focus on the Internet of Things, privacy, and cybersecurity -- but our enforcement actions in those areas are a seamless part of our overall enforcement agenda, an agenda that is rooted in the principles that consumers should be treated fairly and honestly.

In addition to our Every Community initiative, last year we relaunched Identitytheft.gov, creating an easy to use, one-stop shop of information and personalized recovery plans for consumers experiencing identity theft – or concerned about it. Our team is working on streamlining identity theft remediation – an often time-consuming and difficult process. Unfortunately, identity theft remains a top consumer complaint year after year.

Educating businesses and entrepreneurs is a major part of our effort to improve data security. This year we launched our “Start with Security” program to help .

