

The Commission has obtained an order against the promoter of an addiction treatment network who is charged with deceiving consumers about the quality and characteristics of the treatment centers offered in their network. To address these charges and to deter other bad actors² the agency secured a \$3.8 million civil penalty judgment against not only the company but also its owner, Steven Doumar. These defendants are also barred from continuing to prey on struggling families³ and are prohibited from breaking the law that they cannot evade accountability by hiding behind a corporate shield⁴

ORUH EURDGO\ WRGD\¶V HQIRUFHPHQW DFWLRQ XQG H U the legal authorities that Congress has granted us. better since lawmakers created the FTC, Congress has charged us with enforcement or administrative responsibilities under more than 70 laws. Faithfully discharging our statutory duties requires that we deploy the full tools. Accordingly, we are assertively harnessing our slate of authorities and should continue

¹ Meryl Kornfield, U.S. Surpasses Record 100,000 Overdose Deaths in 2021, H. POST (May 11, 2022), <https://www.washingtonpost.com/health/2022/05/11/overdosedeadthscdcnumbers/>

² Id.

³ Jan Hoffman, *U.S. Sackles Victims of Opioid Crisis*, N.Y. TIMES (Mar. 10, 2022), <https://www.nytimes.com/2022/03/10/health/sackles-opioid-victims.html>

⁴ While investigating individual liability may require additional time and resources, it is critical that as egregious as this one that the appropriate individuals are held accountable confident that this is the case here.

⁵ Last year, for example, we finalized a rule regarding deceptive Made in America labels⁵ authority that Congress granted the agency in 1994 but had been left dormant and just last month we brought our first action under the rule, requiring a violator to pay a civil penalty triple its profits. Last summer the Commission issued a notice to computer firms on notice that we will prioritize enforcement targeting unlawful repair restrictions, including through reviving enforcement of the Magnuson-Moss Warranty Act, and in September we activated the Health Breach Notification Rule, noting that it also covers data breaches involving health apps and connected devices. The Commission has also made quick use of the COVID-19 Consumer Protection Act, filing several major actions against companies making false

doing so⁶ The Opioid Addiction Recovery Fraud Prevention Act is one of these key tools, and we will deploy it aggressively to protect families and communities suffering from the pain and toll of addiction.
