



UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
Federal Trade Commission
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20580

Office of Commissioner
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Opening Statement of Commissioner Alvaro M. Bedoya, Federal Trade Commission
before the U.S. House of Representatives Energy & Commerce Committee
Subcommittee on Innovation, Data, and Commerce
“The Fiscal Year 2025 Federal Trade Commission Budget”

July 9, 2024

Thank you, Mr. Chairman, Ranking Member Schakowsky, members of the Subcommittee. Before I start, I want to note I’m speaking just for myself, and when I talk about corporate conduct, I’m talking about allegations from FTC charging documents.

Third, in MCF, the people who brought that case, I believe, were two of the people who were developing new treatments, it tried to lock down those treatments through an license. On December 1, FTC sued.

1 Two days later, they stopped that.

Three days after that, we stopped a anticompetitive hospital merger in the I-680 corridor in California. Three hospitals competed there. Two were more expensive; those two were owned by one entity. Those two more expensive hospitals tried to buy the third less expensive hospital. FTC sued. And the merger was dropped.

That same day, December 15, we had a big decision on cancer tests. Cancer unfortunately is usually discovered after symptoms occur. And unfortunately that’s often too late. So right now, lots of companies are racing to develop tests that will detect cancer in the asymptomatic before symptoms show up. But one company has the ability to actually run those tests on its platform. That platform company went out and bought one of those test companies in what FTC staff alleged was an effort to corner the whole market. FTC sued. And on that day, December 15, a court agreed with the FTC. And soon thereafter the company announced plans to unwind that purchase.

Three days after that, we announced new merger guidelines. It’s been clear since 1890, that competition law should make sure that companies compete in a fair labor, they should compete on the pay and benefits they offer workers. Yet in well over a century only one merger

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