

**Notice Regarding Request Relating to the Informal Hearing in  
Project No. R207011, the Trade Regulation Rule on Unfair or Deceptive Fees**

The Commission received a request seeking an extension of time in connection with the informal hearing scheduled for April 24, 2024, in the above-referenced matter. This request asks that the Commission extend the time period to submit documentary submissions because “the short turnaround time is insufficient.”<sup>1</sup> This request is denied for the reasons stated below.

Pursuant to Section 18 of the FTC Act, 15 U.S.C. § 57a, the Commission published the notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM) concerning the Trade Regulation Rule on Unfair or Deceptive Fees in the Federal Register on November 9, 2023, with a sixty-day comment period that ended on January 8, 2024.<sup>2</sup> On January 2, 2024, the Commission extended the NPRM’s comment period another thirty days to February 7, 2024.<sup>3</sup>

In the NPRM, the Commission did not identify any disputed issues of material fact that need to be resolved at an informal hearing and solicited the public’s views on whether there are any such issues.<sup>4</sup> The NPRM informed interested persons that they must submit any requests to present views orally by the conclusion of the notice and comment period, no later than January 8, 2024.<sup>5</sup> The Commission received eight requests to present orally or participate at an informal hearing and nine additional requests to participate in a hearing if one were held (without requesting a hearing themselves).<sup>6</sup> Additionally, a number of commenters proposed potential disputed issues of material fact for the Commission’s consideration.<sup>7</sup>

On March 27, 2024, the Commission published in the Federal Register an initial and final notice of informal hearing, which scheduled the informal hearing for April 24, 2024.<sup>8</sup> In that notice, the Commission explained its finding that there are no disputed issues of material fact necessary to be resolved.<sup>9</sup> Hearing participants weh-133(e)-14.5lt3-13.t9 14.2 ( w3.9 0 w)13. (ng pa)-12 0

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periods afforded the public a meaningful opportunity to provide the Commission with written comments regarding its rulemaking proposal. Generally, agencies must provide 15 days' advance notice of a hearing. *See* 44 U.S.C. § 1508.

Here, interested parties had three months to consider wheth th ttn-14.5 (t)-14.4 (s)14.3 ( d(o c)-14.4 (p)-1