UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT WESTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA, By JOSH SHAPIRO, ATTORNEY GENERAL, CIVIL DIVISION

2:22-cv-1551

Plaintiff,

v.

FLUENT, LLC d/b/a CAC; AMERICAN PRIZE CENTER, LLC; DELIVER TECHNOLOGY, LLC; REWARDZONE USA, LLC; and SAMPLES & SAVINGS USA, LLC,

COMPLAINT FOR PERMANENT INJUNCTION, CIVIL PENALTIES, AND OTHER EQUITABLE RELIEF

Defendants.

Filed on Behalf of Plaintiff:

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA, JOSH SHAPIRO ATTORNEY GENERAL

Counsel of Record for this Party:

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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT WESTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA, By JOSH SHAPIRO, ATTORNEY GENERAL,

CIVIL DIVISION

Plaintiff,

v.

FLUENT, LLC d/b/a CAC; AMERICAN PRIZE CENTER, LLC; DELIVER TECHNOLOGY, LLC; REWARDZONE USA, LLC; and SAMPLES & SAVINGS USA, LLC.

Defendants.

COMPLAINT FOR PERMANENT INJUNCTION, CIVIL PENALTIES, AND OTHER EQUITABLE RELIEF

AND NOW, comes the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, by Josh Shapiro, Attorney General ("Commonwealth"), and brings this action against Fluent LLC d/b/a CAC, American Prize Center, LLC, Deliver Technology, LLC, RewardZone USA, LLC and Samples & Savings USA, LLC (collectively "Defendants" or "Fluent") and alleges the following:

INTRODUCTION

1. The Commonwealth brings this action pursuant to the *Telemarketing and Consumer Fraud and Abuse Prevention Act* ("Telemarketing Act"), 15 U.S.C. §§ 6101-6108, and Pennsylvania's *Unfair Trade Practices and Consumer Protection Law*, 73 P.S. § 201-1, *et seq.* (Consumer Protection Law), to obtain permanent injunctive relief, civil penalties and other equitable relief for Defendants' acts and practices in violation of Pennsylvania's *Telemarketer Registration Act*, 73 P.S. § 2241, *et seq.* ("TRA"), the Federal Trade Commission's Trade

Regulation Rule entitled "*Telemarketing Sales Rule*" ("TSR"), 16 C.F.R. Part 310, as well as the Consumer Protection Law.

- 2. Section 201-4 of the Consumer Protection Law authorizes the Attorney General to bring an action in the name of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania to restrain by temporary and/or permanent injunction unfair methods of competition or unfair or deceptive acts or practices in the conduct of any trade or commerce declared unlawful by Section 201-3 of the Consumer Protection Law. 73 P.S. §§ 201-3 and 201-4.
- 3. Further, whenever an attorney general of any State has reason to believe that the interests of the residents of that State have been or are being threatened or adversely affected because any person has engaged or is engaging in a pattern or practice of telemarketing which violates any rule under Section 6102 of Telemarketing Act, the State, as parens patriae, may bring a civil action on behalf of its residents in an appropriate district court of the United States to enjoin such telemarketing, to enforce compliance with such rule of the Commission, to obtain damages, restitution, or other compensation on behalf of residents of such State, or to obtain such further and other relief as the court may deem appropriate. 15 U.S.C. § 6103(a).
- 4. At all times relevant hereto, and as alleged in more fully herein, Defendants engaged in trade and commerce by advertising and marketing promotional offers and opportunities to Pennsylvania consumers, such as gift cards and free samples, in order to acquire consumer data for purposes of lead generation.
- 5. In connection with these business operations, the Commonwealth has reason to believe that Defendants have used methods, acts or practices declared unlawful by the TSR, the TRA and the Consumer Protection Law.

- 6. The unfair methods, acts and practices complained of herein have been willfully used by Defendants.
- 7. The Commonwealth believes that citizens of the Commonwealth are suffering and will continue to suffer harm unless the acts and practices complained of herein are permanently enjoined.

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

- 8. This Court has subject-matter jurisdiction pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1331, 1337(a), and 1355, as well as 15 U.S.C. §§ 6103(a).
- 9. This Court has supplemental jurisdiction over the remaining claims under 28 U.S.C. § 1367.
- 10. Venue is proper in this district because pursuant to 15 U.S.C. § 6103(e) and 28 U.S.C. §§ 1391(b)(2) and 1395(a).

PARTIES

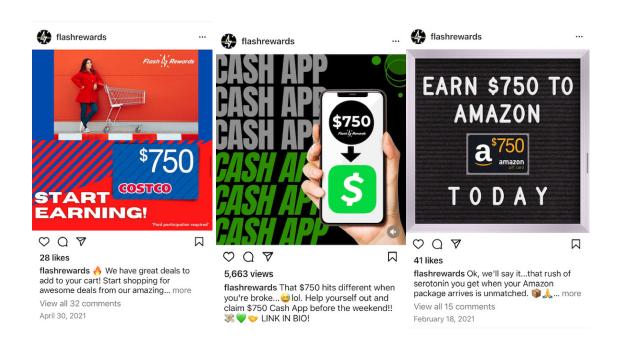
- 11. Plaintiff is the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Office of Attorney General, with offices located at 1251 Waterfront Place, Mezzanine Level, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15222; and 15th Floor, Strawberry Square, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17120.
- 12. Defendant Fluent, LLC is a Delaware limited liability company with a principal place of business located at 300 Vesey Street, 9th Floor New York, New York 10282.
- 13. Defendant Fluent, LLC does business as CAC, an Assumed Name, registered with the New York State Department of State, Division of Corporations.
- 14. Defendant American Prize Center, LLC is a New York limited liability company with a principal place of business located at 300 Vesey Street, 9th Floor New York, New York 10282 and is a subsidiary of Fluent, LLC.

- 15. Defendant Deliver Technology, LLC is a Delaware limited liability company with a principal place of business located at 300 Vesey Street, 9th Floor New York, New York 10282.
- 16. Defendant RewardZone USA, LLC is a New York limited liability company with a principal place of business located at 300 Vesey Street, 9th Floor New York, New York 10282 and is a subsidiary of Fluent, LLC.
- 17. Defendant Samples & Savings USA, LLC is a Delaware limited liability company with a principal place of business located at 300 Vesey Street, 9th Floor New York, New York 10282 and is a subsidiary of Fluent, LLC.
- 18. Defendants have operated as a common enterprise while engaging in the deceptive, unfair, and unlawful acts and practices and other violations of law alleged below. Defendants have conducted the business practices described below through an interrelated network of companies that have common ownership, common officers, common office locations and use common services. Because Defendants have operated as a common enterprise, each of them is liable for the acts and practices alleged below.

DEFENDANTS' BUSINESS PRACTICES

- 19. Defendants advertise, offer for sale and sell lead generating services to third party businesses and organizations, which Defendants refer to as their "Marketing Partners."
- 20. Lead generation involves collecting personal information, including telephone numbers, from consumers and then selling that information to third parties who want to use the leads to generate business.
- 21. Many of Defendants' Marketing Partners are companies that advertise and sell subscription services, streaming services, insurance, utility services and on-line education programs.

- 22. Defendants operate dozens of websites designed for lead generating, including but not limited to:
 - a. www.consumersrvycnter.com;
 - b. www.surveysandpromotions.com;
 - c. http://restaurantpromotionsusa.com;
 - d. www.electronicproductzone.com;
 - e. www.webpromotionsusa.com;
 - f. www.consumerproductsusa.com;
 - g. https://signup.sweepstakesgroup.com;
 - h. http://www.mymonthlysweeps.com; and
 - i. https://www.sweepstakesamonth.com.
- 23. In order to drive consumer traffic to their websites, Defendants used the internet and social media to advertise promotional offerings, such as gift cards to popular retailers and digital payments through mobile apps, as depicted below and as attached as "Exhibit 1."



- 24. Defendants advertise these promotional offerings to consumers through social media, internet advertising on third party websites, email solicitations and search engine optimization.
- 25. Once consumers are directed to Defendants' websites, images of the promotional offerings are prominently featured to entice consumers to continue to engage with Defendants on their websites.
- 26. Defendants' websites use various methods to ask consumers to enter their personal contact information in a registration form, including name, address and primary phone number, as shown below and as attached as "Exhibit 2."

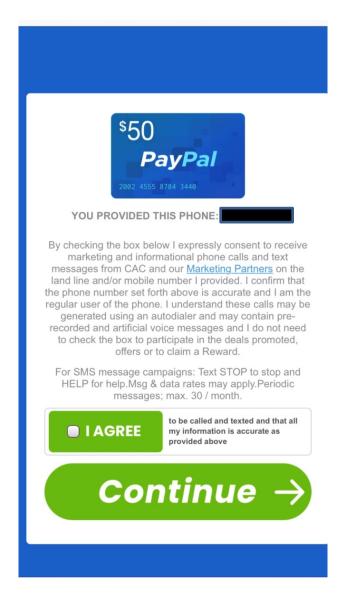
	30 A	- B	YOUR REWARD
EA	RN ANOTHER 20 POINTS! Take th	e short survey below.	
CONFIRM YO	OUR INFORMATION TO	FINISH YOUR REGISTRA	ATION
FIRST NAME	LAST NAME	EMAIL	
ZIP CODE	DATE OF BIRTH	PRIMARY PHONE	
	(You must be 18 years o	or older)	_
CAC and our <u>Marketing Partne</u> understand these calls may be to participate in the offers prome For SMS message campaigns:	Text STOP to stop and HELP for help, Msg & d	ed even if I am on a federal or State do no pre-recorded messages and that consenting sata rates may apply. Periodic messages; man	ot call registry. I g is not required
-		nation is accurate and consent ted as provided above.	
—			

27. Located below the registration form is a fine print disclosure that states:

By checking the box below I consent to receive phone sales calls and text messages – Msg and data rates apply – from Verde Energy, CAC and our Marketing Partners on the landline or mobile number I provided even if I am on a federal or State do not call registry. I understand these calls may be generated using an autodialer and may contain prerecorded messages and that consenting is not required to participate in the offers promoted.

For SMS message campaigns: Text STOP to stop and HELP for help. Msg & data rates may apply. Periodic messages; max. 30/month.

- 28. The term "Marketing Partners" is hyperlinked and upon clicking this hyperlink a pop up screen appears and identifies the companies and organizations that the consumer is purportedly consenting to be contacted by, as described in the fine print disclosure.
- 29. Consumers are not required to click on or view the hyperlinked list of Marketing Partners in order to provide purported consent to be contacted for purposes of telemarketing.
- 30. At times, the hyperlinked list of Marketing Partners identified hundreds of companies and organizations for whom Defendants sought consumers' purported consent to be contacted for purposes of telemarketing, as shown below and as attached as "Exhibit 3."



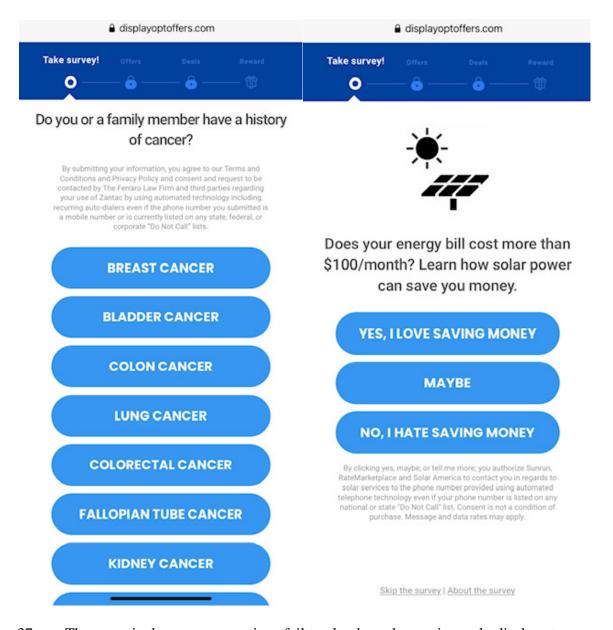
Entities Disclosed Behind the Marketing Partner Hyperlink







- 31. Below the fine print disclosure, Defendants ask consumers to check a box, which states "I Confirm" followed by another fine print disclosure stating "that all of my information is accurate and consent to be called and texted as provided above."
 - 32. At the bottom of the page is a large green button that states "Continue."
- 33. The fine print disclosure seeking purported consumer consent to be contacted, described above, is notably obscured by the image of the promotional offer and the larger and more prominent text used to encourage the consumers to check the box and hit "Continue."
- 34. After consumers submit their contact information, consumers are prompted through several sequential webpages to answer survey questions and view marketing offers.
- 35. These survey questions are designed to gather more information about the consumers for purposes of lead generation.
- 36. In connection with some of the survey questions, Defendants seek consumers' purported consent to receive telemarketing calls from certain Marketing Partners, as shown below and as attached as "Exhibit 4."



- 37. These particular survey questions fail to clearly and conspicuously disclose to consumers that if they select a certain answer to the survey question, they are in turn purportedly consenting to be contacted for purposes of telemarketing by one of Defendants' Marketing Partners.
- 38. From 2018 through 2021, more than 4.2 million Pennsylvania consumers registered their personal contact information with Defendants' websites.

- 39. Defendants' websites mislead or have the tendency and/or capacity to mislead consumers to provide their purported consent to be contacted by Defendants' Marketing Partners for purposes of telemarketing.
- 40. Defendants' websites mislead or have the tendency and/or capacity to mislead consumers into believing they are confirming their contact information in order to register to receive a promotional offering, when in fact they are entering their contact information for purposes of lead generation and the consumer's purported consent to be contacted for purposes of telemarketing.
- 41. These promotional offerings fail to include clear and conspicuous disclosures advising consumers that by registering their contact information with Defendants they are purportedly consenting to be contacted by multiple third party sellers, whose products and services are wholly unrelated to the promotional offerings.
- 42. These promotional offerings are only available to consumers if they participate in a certain number of advertised deals that Defendants promote on their websites, such as accepting trial offers to certain products and services.
- 43. Defendants' lack of transparency and deceptive marketing practices have denied consumers the opportunity to make informed decisions about sharing their personal contact information for purposes of telemarketing.
- 44. Defendants' acts and practices, as described herein, have resulted in millions of telemarketing calls being placed to Pennsylvania consumers by or on behalf of Defendants' Marketing Partners.

45. As a result of Defendants' substantial assistance or support, many of these telemarketing calls were illegally trafficked by or on behalf of Defendants' Marketing Partners, as alleged in more detail below.

THE TELEMARKETING SALES RULE

- 46. Congress directed the Federal Trade Commission ("FTC") to adopt the original TSR in 1995, extensively amended it in 2003, and amended certain provisions thereafter. 16 C.F.R. Part 310.
- 47. Among other things, the 2003 amendments to the TSR established a do-not-call registry ("Registry"), maintained by the Commission, of consumers who do not wish to receive certain types of telemarketing calls. Consumers can register their telephone numbers on the Registry without charge either through a toll-free telephone call or over the Internet at donotcall.gov.
- 48. Under the TSR, "telemarketing" means, "a plan, program, or campaign which is conducted to induce the purchase of goods or services or a charitable contribution, by use of one or more telephones and which involves more than one interstate telephone call." 16 C.F.R. § 310.2(gg).
- 49. Under the TSR, an "outbound telephone call" means a telephone call initiated by a telemarketer to induce the purchase of goods or services or to solicit a charitable contribution. 16 C.F.R. § 310.2(x).
- 50. The TSR prohibits sellers and telemarketers from engaging in abusive telemarketing acts or practices by initiating an outbound telephone call to numbers on the Registry unless the seller or telemarketer can demonstrate that the seller (1) has obtained the

consumer's express agreement, in writing, to place such calls, or (2) has an established business relationship with that consumer. 16 C.F.R. § 310.4(b)(l)(iii)(B).

- 51. Valid written consent to receive a live telemarketing call to a number on the Registry requires: (i) a writing signed by the consumer, (ii) clearly evidencing authorization to receive calls placed by or on behalf of a specific party, and (iii) stating the telephone number to which such calls may be placed. 16 C.F.R. § 310.4(b)(l)(iii)(B)(l).
- 52. The TSR also prohibits sellers and telemarketers from engaging in abusive telemarketing acts or practices by initiating an outbound telephone call that delivers a prerecorded message, unless the seller has obtained the consumer's express agreement in writing to receive such calls. 16 C.F.R. § 310.4(b)(1)(v).
 - 53. Calls delivering prerecorded messages are commonly called "robocalls."
- 54. An express agreement in writing to receive telephone calls delivering a prerecorded message must include: (1) a clear and conspicuous disclosure that the purpose of the agreement is to authorize the seller to place prerecorded calls to such person; (2) language that the seller did not require the agreement to be executed as a condition of purchasing a good or service; (3) language that the specific seller is authorizing to make such calls; and (4) the consumer's telephone number and signature. 16 C.F.R. § 310.4(b)(1)(v)(A)(i)-(iv).
- 55. The Statement Basis and Purpose of the 2008 Amendments to the TSR ("Statement Basis and Purpose"), emphasized that request for consumer consent to receive calls delivering prerecorded messages shall not be hidden or buried in fine print:

Some consumers express concern that sellers' requests for their agreement to receive prerecorded calls might be hidden in contest entry or other forms or on the back of credit card receipts. The Commission recognizes that these concerns are legitimate, based on its enforcement experience, and accordingly has incorporated in the amendment a requirement that a seller's request for a

consumer's agreement to receive prerecorded calls be "clearly and conspicuously" disclosed, as two industry comments also recommend. Legal precedent established by the Commission's long use of this term of art will ensure that consumers are not deceived or confused by hidden "agreements" buried in fine print. [citations omitted].

See Federal Register, Vol. 73, No. 169, Pg. 51182 (Aug. 2008). 1

- 56. The Statement Basis and Purpose goes on to state that a consumer's consent to receive calls delivering pre-recorded messages is non-transferable.
 - ...the Commission emphasizes that a consumer's agreement with a seller to receive calls delivering prerecorded messages is nontransferable. Any party other than that particular seller must negotiate its own agreement with the consumer to accept calls delivering prerecorded messages. Prerecorded calls placed to a consumer on the National Do Not Call Registry by some third party that does not have its own agreement with the consumer would violate the TSR. Thus, because information sharing cannot be a shortcut for the required written agreement to receive prerecorded calls, the Commission sees no need to impose a disclosure about information sharing. *Id.* at 51182.²
- 57. Accordingly, under the TSR, a consumer's express agreement to accept calls delivering a prerecorded message may not be obtained by a lead generator, who is not a seller or a telemarketer. The express agreement must be obtained directly by the seller or telemarketer from the consumer.
- 58. The TSR further declares that "[i]t is a deceptive telemarketing act or practice and a violation of this Rule for a person to provide substantial assistance or support to any seller or telemarketer when that person knows or consciously avoids knowing that the seller or

¹ See, https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2008-08-29/pdf/FR-2008-08-29.pdf

² See also, the FTC Guide "Complying with the Telemarketing Sales Rule," which states, "the TSR requires that the written agreement identify the single 'specific seller' authorized to deliver prerecorded messages. The authorization does not extend to other sellers, such as affiliates, marketing partners or others." https://www.ftc.gov/business-guidance/resources/complying-telemarketing-sales-rule#writtenagreement.

telemarketer is engaged in any act or practice that violates §§ 310.3(a), (c) or (d), or § 310.4 of this Rule." 16 C.F.R. § 310.3(b).

THE TELEMARKETER REGISTRATION ACT

- 59. Section 2245(a)(9) of the TRA prohibits engaging in any deceptive or abusive telemarketing acts or practices in violation of the TSR. 73 P.S. § 2245(a)(9).
- 60. A violation of the TRA is a violation of the Consumer Protection Law. 73 P.S. § 2246(a).

<u>COUNT I - VIOLATIONS OF THE TSR, TRA</u> AND THE CONSUMER PROTECTION LAW

ASSISTING AND FACILITATING THE DELIVERY OF TELEMARKETING CALLS TO CONSUMERS REGISTERED ON A DNC LIST WITHOUT THEIR VALID CONSENT

- 61. The preceding paragraphs are incorporated herein as though fully set forth below.
- 62. By obtaining and selling telemarketing leads to their Marketing Partners, as described herein, Defendants provided substantial assistance or support to sellers and telemarketers, engaged in telemarketing, as defined by TSR, 16 C.F.R.§ 310.2.
- 63. As a result of Defendants' substantial assistance or support, Defendants' Marketing Partners initiated or caused the initiation of outbound telephone calls to Pennsylvania telephone numbers to induce the purchase of goods or services, even though said telephone numbers are on the National DNC Registry without the consumer's valid consent, in violation of Section 310.4(b(1)(iii)(B) of the TSR.
- 64. These illegal telemarking calls would not have been made by sellers and telemarketers to Pennsylvania consumers, but for Defendants' substantial assistance and support.

- 65. Defendants knew or consciously avoided knowing that these sellers or telemarketers were engaged in acts and practices in violation of Section 310.4 of the TSR.
- 66. Defendants' acts and practices constitute deceptive telemarketing acts or practices and violate the TSR. 16 C.F.R. § 310.3(b).
- 67. A violation of the TSR constitutes a violation of the TRA and by extension a violation of the Consumer Protection Law. 73 P.S. § 2245(a)(9) and 73 P.S. § 2246(a).
- 68. The aforesaid acts and practices further constitute unfair methods of competition and/or unfair or deceptive acts or practices as prohibited by Section 201-3 of the Consumer Protection Law, as defined by Section 201-2(4)(xxi) of said Law, by engaging in any other fraudulent or deceptive conduct which creates a likelihood of confusion or of misunderstanding, in violation of Section 201-2(4)(xxi). 73 P.S. § 201-3 and § 201-2(4) (xxi).
- 69. The Commonwealth believes that the citizens of the Commonwealth are suffering and will continue to suffer harm unless the acts and practices complained of herein are permanently enjoined.

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, the Commonwealth respectfully requests this Honorable Court to issue an Order:

- A. Declaring Defendants' conduct, as set forth in this Complaint, to be in violation of the Consumer Protection Law, the TRA and the TSR;
- B. Permanently enjoining Defendants and all other persons acting on their behalf, directly or indirectly, from violating the Consumer Protection Law, the TRA and the TSR and any amendments thereto;
- C. Directing Defendants, pursuant to Section 201-8(b) of the Consumer Protection Law, to pay civil penalties in the amount of one thousand and 00/100 dollars (\$1,000.00) for each and every violation of the Consumer

- Protection Law, which will increase to three thousand and 00/100 dollars (\$3,000.00) for each violation involving a victim age sixty (60) or older;
- D. Requiring Defendants to pay the Commonwealth for the costs of its investigation and prosecution of this action;
- E. Directing Defendants to disgorge and forfeit all profits they have derived as a result of their unfair and deceptive acts and practices set forth in this Complaint;
- F. Permanently enjoining Defendants from selling, sharing or transferring consumer data, including a consumer's name and telephone number, for purposes of telemarketing, unless that the consumer data was obtained in full compliance with the TSR and TRA; and
- G. Granting such other relief as the Court deems necessary and appropriate.

COUNT II – VIOLATIONS OF THE TSR, TRA AND THE CONSUMER PROTECTION LAW

ASSISTING AND FACILITATING THE MAKING OF TELEMARKETING CALLS DELIVERING PRERECORDED MESSAGES/ROBOCALLS TO CONSUMERS WITHOUT THEIR VALID CONSENT

- 70. The preceding paragraphs are incorporated herein as though fully set forth below.
- 71. By obtaining and selling telemarketing leads to their Marketing Partners, as described herein, Defendants provided substantial assistance or support to sellers and telemarketers engaged in telemarketing, as defined by TSR, 16 C.F.R.§ 310.2, including the delivery of robocalls to Pennsylvania consumers.
- 72. As a result of Defendants' substantial assistance or support, Defendants' Marketing Partners initiated or caused the initiation of outbound telephone calls that delivered pre-recorded messages to Pennsylvania telephone numbers to induce the purchase of goods or

services, without the consumers' valid consent or agreement, in violation of Section 310.4(b(1)(v)) of the TSR.

- 73. These illegal robocalls would not have been made by sellers and telemarketers to Pennsylvania consumers, but for Defendants' substantial assistance or support.
- 74. Defendants knew or consciously avoided knowing that these sellers or telemarketers were engaged in acts and practices in violation of Section 310.4 of the TSR.
- 75. Defendants' acts and practices constitute deceptive telemarketing acts or practices and violate the TSR. 16 C.F.R. § 310.3(b).
- 76. A violation of the TSR constitutes a violation of the TRA and by extension a violation of the Consumer Protection Law. 73 P.S. § 2245(a)(9) and 73 P.S. § 2246(a).
- 77. The aforesaid acts and practices further constitute unfair methods of competition and/or unfair or deceptive acts or practices as prohibited by Section 201-3 of the Consumer Protection Law, as defined by Section 201-2(4)(xxi) of said Law, by engaging in any other fraudulent or deceptive conduct which creates a likelihood of confusion or of misunderstanding, in violation of Section 201-2(4)(xxi). 73 P.S. § 201-3 and § 201-2(4) (xxi).
- 78. The Commonwealth believes that the citizens of the Commonwealth are suffering and will continue to suffer harm unless the acts and practices complained of herein are permanently enjoined.

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, the Commonwealth respectfully requests this Honorable Court to issue an Order:

A. Declaring Defendants' conduct, as set forth in this Complaint, to be in violation of the Consumer Protection Law, the TRA and the TSR;

- B. Permanently enjoining Defendants and all other persons acting on their behalf, directly or indirectly, from violating the Consumer Protection Law, the TRA and the TSR and any amendments thereto;
- C. Directing Defendants, pursuant to Section 201-8(b) of the Consumer Protection Law, to pay civil penalties in the amount of one thousand and 00/100 dollars (\$1,000.00) for each and every violation of the Consumer Protection Law, which will increase to three thousand and 00/100 dollars (\$3,000.00) for each violation involving a victim age sixty (60) or older;
- D. Requiring Defendants to pay the Commonwealth for the costs of its investigation and prosecution of this action;
- E. Directing Defendants to disgorge and forfeit all profits they have derived as a result of their unfair and deceptive acts and practices set forth in this Complaint;
- F. Permanently enjoining Defendants from selling, sharing or transferring consumer data, including a consumer's name and telephone number, for purposes of telemarketing, unless that the consumer data was obtained in full compliance with the TSR and TRA; and
- G. Granting such other relief as the Court deems necessary and appropriate.

COUNT III – VIOLATIONS OF THE CONSUMER PROTECTION LAW DECEPTIVE BUSINESS PRACTICES

- 79. The preceding paragraphs are incorporated herein as though fully set forth below.
- 80. As described herein, Defendants use a broad range of deceptive tactics and methods, including but not limited to promises of free offers, gift cards to popular retailers, and elusive rewards, to lure consumers to provide their contact information for purposes of telemarketing.
- 81. Defendants orchestrated pattern of deception and subterfuge constitutes unfair methods of competition and/or unfair or deceptive acts or practices as prohibited by Section 201-

3 of the Consumer Protection Law, as defined by Section 201-2 of said Law, including without limitation:

- a. Causing likelihood of confusion or of misunderstanding as to the source, sponsorship, approval or certification of goods or services, 73 P.S. § 201-2(4)(ii);
- b. Causing likelihood of confusion or of misunderstanding as to affiliation, connection or association with, or certification by, another, 73 P.S. § 201-2(4)(iii); and
- c. Engaging in any other fraudulent or deceptive conduct which creates a likelihood of confusion or of misunderstanding, 73 P.S. § 201-2(4)(xxi).
- 82. The Commonwealth believes that the citizens of the Commonwealth are suffering and will continue to suffer harm unless the acts and practices complained of herein are permanently enjoined.

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, the Commonwealth respectfully requests this Honorable Court to issue an Order:

- A. Declaring Defendants' conduct, as set forth in this Complaint, to be in violation of the Consumer Protection Law.
- B. Permanently enjoining Defendants and all other persons acting on their behalf, directly or indirectly, from violating the Consumer Protection Law.
- C. Directing Defendants, pursuant to Section 201-8(b) of the Consumer Protection Law, to pay civil penalties in the amount of one thousand and 00/100 dollars (\$1,000.00) for each and every violation of the Consumer Protection Law, which will increase to three thousand and 00/100 dollars (\$3,000.00) for each violation involving a victim age sixty (60) or older;
- D. Requiring Defendants to pay the Commonwealth for the costs of its investigation and prosecution of this action;

- E. Directing Defendants to disgorge and forfeit all profits they have derived as a result of their unfair and deceptive acts and practices set forth in this Complaint;
- F. Permanently enjoining Defendants from selling, sharing or transferring consumer data, including a consumer's name and telephone number, for purposes of telemarketing, which was obtained in connection with Defendants' deceptive conduct; and
- G. Granting such other relief as the Court deems necessary and appropriate.

Respectfully submitted,

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA OFFICE OF ATTORNEY GENERAL

JOSH SHAPIRO ATTORNEY GENERAL

Date: November 2, 2022 By: /s/ Amy L. Schulman

Amy L. Schulman

Senior Deputy Attorney General

PA ID No. 88088

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The JS 44 civil cover sheet and the information contained herein neither replace nor supplement the filing and service of pleadings or other papers as required by law, except as provided by local rules of court. This form, approved by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required for the use of the Clerk of Court for the purpose of initiating the civil docket sheet. (SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON NEXT PAGE OF THIS FORM.)

I. (a												
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By J	JO	SH	SHA	APIF	RO.	ΑT	TO	RNI	ΕY	GΕ	NEF	RAL

(b) County of Residence of First Listed Plaintiff Allegheny County, PA

(EXCEPT IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES)

(c) Attorneys (Firm Name, Address, and Telephone Number)
Amy L. Schulman, Kevin R. Green, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania,
Office of Attorney General, 1251 Waterfront Place, Mezzanine Level,
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15222, 412-565-3523

DEFENDANTS

FLUENT, LLC d/b/a CAC; AMERICAN PRIZE CENTER, LLC; DELIVER TECHNOLOGY, LLC; REWARDZONE USA, LLC; and SAMPLES & SAVINGS USA, LLC

County of Residence of First Listed Defendant New York County, NY
(IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES ONLY)

NOTE: IN LAND CONDEMNATION CASES, USE THE LOCATION OF THE TRACT OF LAND INVOLVED.

Attorneys (If Known)

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania	15222, 412-565-3523				
II. BASIS OF JURISDI	CTION (Place an "X" in O	ne Box Only)		RINCIPAL PARTIES	(Place an "X" in One Box for Plainti <u>j</u>
☐ 1 U.S. Government Plaintiff	3 Federal Question (U.S. Government Not a Party)			TF DEF I 1	
☐ 2 U.S. Government Defendant	☐ 4 Diversity (Indicate Citizenshi	ip of Parties in Item III)	Citizen of Another State	1 2	
			Citizen or Subject of a Foreign Country	1 3 ☐ 3 Foreign Nation	□ 6 □ 6
IV. NATURE OF SUIT (Place an "X" in One Box Only)			_		
CONTRACT		RTS	FORFEITURE/PENALTY	BANKRUPTCY	OTHER STATUTES
□ 110 Insurance □ 120 Marine □ 130 Miller Act □ 140 Negotiable Instrument □ 150 Recovery of Overpayment & Enforcement of Judgment □ 151 Medicare Act □ 152 Recovery of Defaulted Student Loans (Excludes Veterans) □ 153 Recovery of Overpayment of Veteran's Benefits □ 160 Stockholders' Suits □ 190 Other Contract □ 195 Contract Product Liability □ 196 Franchise REAL PROPERTY □ 210 Land Condemnation □ 220 Foreclosure □ 230 Rent Lease & Ejectment □ 240 Torts to Land □ 245 Tort Product Liability □ 290 All Other Real Property	PERSONAL INJURY 310 Airplane 315 Airplane Product Liability 320 Assault, Libel & Slander 330 Federal Employers' Liability 340 Marine 345 Marine Product Liability 350 Motor Vehicle Product Liability 360 Other Personal Injury 362 Personal Injury Medical Malpractice CIVIL RIGHTS 440 Other Civil Rights 441 Voting 442 Employment 443 Housing/ Accommodations 445 Amer. w/Disabilities - Other 448 Education	PERSONAL INJURY □ 365 Personal Injury - Product Liability □ 367 Health Care/ Pharmaceutical Personal Injury Product Liability □ 368 Asbestos Personal Injury Product Liability PERSONAL PROPERT □ 370 Other Fraud □ 371 Truth in Lending □ 380 Other Personal Property Damage □ 385 Property Damage Product Liability PRISONER PETITIONS Habeas Corpus: □ 463 Alien Detainee □ 510 Motions to Vacate Sentence □ 530 General □ 535 Death Penalty Other: □ 540 Mandamus & Other □ 550 Civil Rights □ 555 Prison Condition □ 560 Civil Detainee - Conditions of Confinement	Act 720 Labor/Management Relations 740 Railway Labor Act 751 Family and Medical Leave Act 790 Other Labor Litigation 791 Employee Retirement Income Security Act IMMIGRATION 462 Naturalization Application	□ 422 Appeal 28 USC 158 □ 423 Withdrawal 28 USC 157 PROPERTY RIGHTS □ 820 Copyrights □ 830 Patent □ 840 Trademark SOCIAL SECURITY □ 861 HIA (1395ff) □ 862 Black Lung (923) □ 863 DIWC/DIWW (405(g)) □ 864 SSID Title XVI □ 865 RSI (405(g)) FEDERAL TAX SUITS □ 870 Taxes (U.S. Plaintiff or Defendant) □ 871 IRS—Third Party 26 USC 7609	□ 375 False Claims Act □ 400 State Reapportionment □ 410 Antitrust □ 430 Banks and Banking □ 450 Commerce □ 460 Deportation □ 470 Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations □ 480 Consumer Credit □ 490 Cable/Sat TV □ 850 Securities/Commodities/Exchange ■ 890 Other Statutory Actions □ 891 Agricultural Acts □ 893 Environmental Matters □ 895 Freedom of Information Act □ 896 Arbitration □ 899 Administrative Procedure Act/Review or Appeal of Agency Decision □ 950 Constitutionality of State Statutes
V. ORIGIN (Place an "X" is	n One Roy Only	Commentent	<u> </u>	1	<u> </u>
▼ 1 Original □ 2 Rea	moved from	Appellate Court	(specify	er District Litigation	ict
VI. CAUSE OF ACTION	15 U.S.C. §§ 610	1-6108 and 16 C.F.F	filing <i>(Do not cite jurisdictional sta</i> R. Part 310	tutes unless diversity):	_
	Public enforceme	nt action for violation	s of federal telemarketing		
VII. REQUESTED IN COMPLAINT:	☐ CHECK IF THIS UNDER RULE 2.	IS A CLASS ACTION 3, F.R.Cv.P.	DEMAND \$	CHECK YES only JURY DEMAND:	if demanded in complaint: ☐ Yes ※ No
VIII. RELATED CASI IF ANY	E(S) (See instructions):	JUDGE		DOCKET NUMBER	
DATE 11/02/2022		signature of atto /s/ Amy L. Schul			
FOR OFFICE USE ONLY RECEIPT # AM	MOUNT	APPLYING IFP	JUDGE	MAG. JUI	DGE

JS 44AREVISED June, 2009

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA
THIS CASE DESIGNATION SHEET MUST BE COMPLETED

PART A	
This	case belongs on the (O Erie O Johnstown O Pittsburgh) calendar.
Fore	CALENDAR - If cause of action arose in the counties of Crawford, Elk, Erie, st, McKean. Venang or Warren, OR any plaintiff or defendant resides in one of said ties.
Camb	TOWN CALENDAR - If cause of action arose in the counties of Bedford, Blair, ria, Clearfield or Somerset OR any plaintiff or defendant resides in one of counties.
	ete if on ERIE CALENDAR: I certify that the cause of action arose in ty and that theresides inCounty.
	ete if on JOHNSTOWN CALENDAR: I certify that the cause of action arose inCounty and that theresides inCounty.
PART B	(You are to check ONE of the following)
1 О Т	his case is related to Number Short Caption
_	nis case is not related to a pending or terminated case.
DEFINIT:	IONS OF RELATED CASES:
as anoth suit EMI groups w HABEAS (shall be	suit or involves the same issues of fact or it grows out of the same transactions her suit or involves the validity or infringement of a patent involved in another INENT DOMAIN: Cases in contiguous closely located groups and in common ownership which will lend themselves to consolidation for trial shall be deemed related. CORPUS & CIVIL RIGHTS: All habeas corpus petitions filed by the same individual edeemed related. All pro se Civil Rights actions by the same individual shall be related.
PARTC	
	CATEGORY (Select the applicable category).
1. O	
2. Q	-
3. Q	
4. 0	
5. Q	
6. O 7. O	
8.0	All personal and property damage tort cases, including maritime, FELA, Jones Act, Motor vehicle, products liability, assault, defamation, malicious
_	prosecution, and false arrest
9. O 10. O	<pre>Insurance indemnity, contract and other diversity cases. Government Collection Cases (shall include HEW Student Loans (Education), V A Overpayment, Overpayment of Social Security, Enlistment Overpayment (Army, Navy, etc.), HUD Loans, GAO Loans (Misc. Types), Mortgage Foreclosures, SBA Loans, Civil Penalties and Coal Mine Penalty and Reclamation Fees.)</pre>
	tify that to the best of my knowledge the entries on this Case Designation are true and correct
	/s/ Amy L. Schulman
Date:	11/2/2022
	ATTORNEY AT LAW

NOTE: ALL SECTIONS OF BOTH FORMS MUST BE COMPLETED BEFORE CASE CAN BE PROCESSED.

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT WESTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA, By JOSH SHAPIRO, ATTORNEY GENERAL,

CIVIL DIVISION

Plaintiff,

v.

FLUENT, LLC d/b/a CAC; AMERICAN PRIZE CENTER, LLC; DELIVER TECHNOLOGY, LLC; REWARDZONE USA, LLC; and SAMPLES & SAVINGS USA, LLC,

EXHIBITS TO PLAINTIFF'S COMPLAINT FOR PERMANENT INJUNCTION, CIVIL PENALTIES, AND OTHER EQUITABLE RELIEF

Defendants.

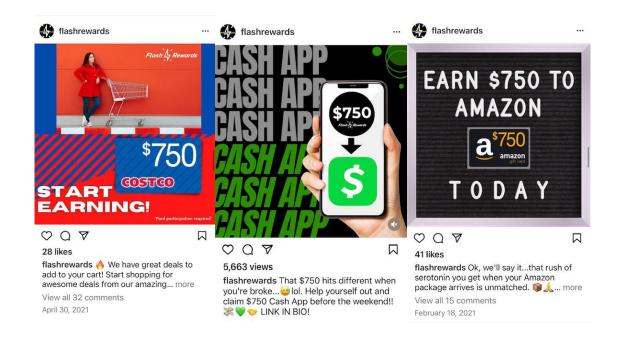


EXHIBIT 1

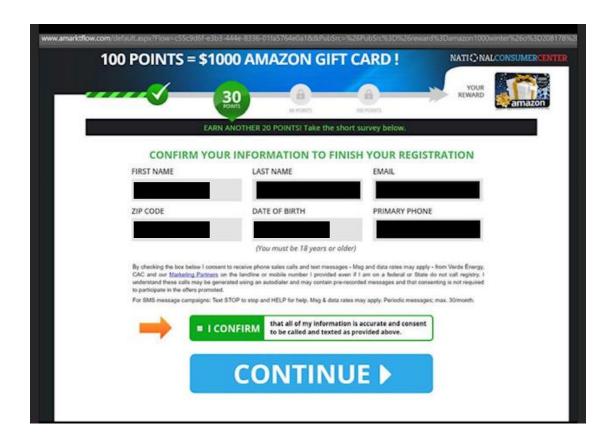


EXHIBIT 2

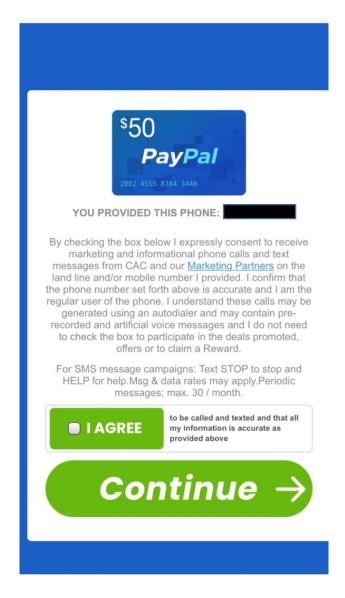


EXHIBIT 3

⊗ CLOSE

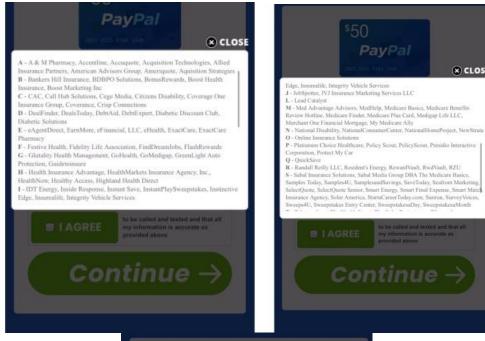




EXHIBIT 3 CONTINUED

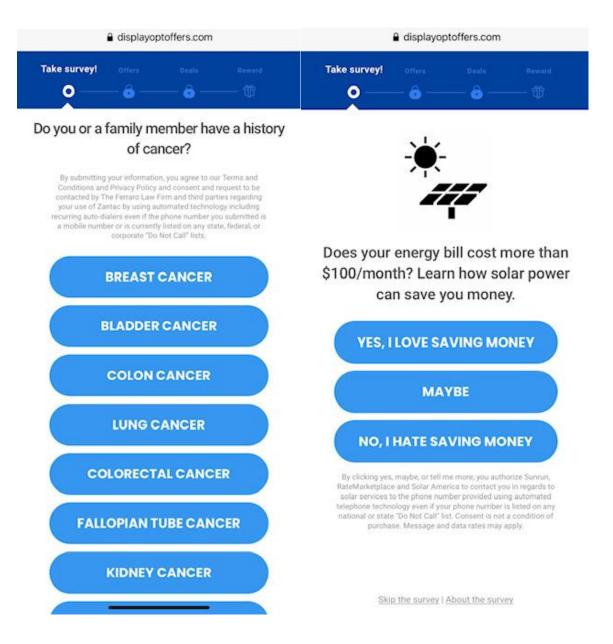


EXHIBIT 4