

April 16, 2004

Federal Trade Commission
CAN-SPAM Act
Post Office Box 1030
Merrifield, VA 22116-1030

Re: CAN-SPAM Act Rulemaking, Project No. R411008

To the Commissioners:

Your efforts to curb the problem of unsolicited bulk email is to be applauded. However, my concern is about the proposed requirement for merchants to maintain suppression lists.

There are so many problems and costs associated with this idea, and so much damage done to consumers and businesses alike, that I feel I must urge you to consider this matter most carefully.

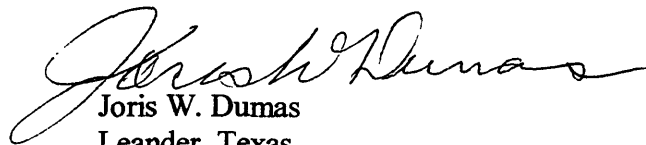
The requirement of the use of suppression lists will seriously damage many of the legitimate publications available on the net. My specific concern is for harm to publishers who require permission from the consumer prior to adding them to any list.

CAN-SPAM was not designed to put legitiment publishers out of business, but this requirement will very likely have such a consequence.

There is also the potential for significant harm to consumers, because of the problem of properly knowing their intent when they unsubscribe from a list. In addition to that, these suppression lists could easily aacquired by spammers, leading to more spam instead of less.

I am highly concerned about the potential problems this ruling could involve, and urge you in the strongest possible terms to reconsider its implementation in light of these problems,

Respectfully,


Joris W. Dumas
Leander, Texas
USA