

remains in “not current” status on Commerce’s website.

The proposed order applies to ExpatEdge’s representations about its membership in any privacy, security, or any other compliance program sponsored by the government or any other third party. It contains provisions designed to prevent ExpatEdge from engaging in the future in practices similar to those alleged in the complaint.

Part I of the proposed order prohibits ExpatEdge from making misrepresentations about its membership in any privacy, security, or any other compliance program sponsored by the government or any other third party.

Parts II through VI of the proposed order are reporting and compliance provisions. Part II requires ExpatEdge to retain documents relating to its compliance with the order for a five-year period. Part III requires dissemination of the order now and in the future to persons with responsibilities relating to the subject matter of the order. Part IV ensures notification to the FTC of changes in corporate status. Part V mandates that ExpatEdge submit an initial compliance report to the FTC, and make available to the FTC subsequent reports. Part VI is a provision “sunsetting” the order after twenty (20) years, with certain exceptions.

The purpose of the analysis is to facilitate public comment on the proposed order. It is not intended to constitute an official interpretation of the agreement and proposed order or to modify in any way their terms.

By direction of the Commission.

Donald S. Clark,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. E9–24997 Filed 10–15–09; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6750–01–S

FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION

[Docket No. 9338]

Carilion Clinic; Analysis of Agreement Containing Consent Orders To Aid Public Comment

AGENCY: Federal Trade Commission.

ACTION: Proposed consent agreement.

SUMMARY: The consent agreement in this matter settles alleged violations of federal law prohibiting unfair or deceptive acts or practices or unfair methods of competition. The attached Analysis to Aid Public Comment describes both the allegations in the complaint and the terms of the consent

order — embodied in the consent agreement — that would settle these allegations.

DATES: Comments must be received on or before November 6, 2009.

ADDRESSES: Interested parties are invited to submit written comments electronically or in paper form. Comments should refer to “Carilion Clinic, Docket No. 9338” to facilitate the organization of comments. Please note that your comment — including your name and your state — will be placed on the public record of this proceeding, including on the publicly accessible FTC website, at (<http://www.ftc.gov/os/publiccomments.shtml>).

Because comments will be made public, they should not include any sensitive personal information, such as an individual’s Social Security Number; date of birth; driver’s license number or other state identification number, or foreign country equivalent; passport number; financial account number; or credit or debit card number. Comments also should not include any sensitive health information, such as medical records or other individually identifiable health information. In addition, comments should not include any “[t]rade secret or any commercial or financial information which is obtained from any person and which is privileged or confidential” as provided in Section 6(f) of the FTC Act, 15 U.S.C. 46(f), and Commission Rule 4.10(a)(2), 16 CFR 4.10(a)(2). Comments containing material for which confidential treatment is requested must be filed in paper form, must be clearly labeled “Confidential,” and must comply with FTC Rule 4.9(c), 16 CFR 4.9(c).¹

Because paper mail addressed to the FTC is subject to delay due to heightened security screening, please consider submitting your comments in electronic form. Comments filed in electronic form should be submitted by using the following weblink: (<https://public.commentworks.com/ftc/carilionclinic/>) and following the instructions on the web-based form. To ensure that the Commission considers an electronic comment, you must file it on the web-based form at the (<https://public.commentworks.com/ftc/carilionclinic/>). If this Notice appears at (<http://www.regulations.gov/search/index.jsp>), you may also file an

electronic comment through that website. The Commission will consider all comments that [regulations.gov](http://www.ftc.gov) forwards to it. You may also visit the FTC website at (<http://www.ftc.gov/>) to read the Notice and the news release describing it.

A comment filed in paper form should include the “Carilion, Docket No. 9338” reference both in the text and on the envelope, and should be mailed or delivered to the following address: Federal Trade Commission, Office of the Secretary, Room H-135 (Annex D), 600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20580. The FTC is requesting that any comment filed in paper form be sent by courier or overnight service, if possible, because U.S. postal mail in the Washington area and at the Commission is subject to delay due to heightened security precautions.

The Federal Trade Commission Act (“FTC Act”) and other laws the Commission administers permit the collection of public comments to consider and use in this proceeding as appropriate. The Commission will consider all timely and responsive public comments that it receives, whether filed in paper or electronic form. Comments received will be available to the public on the FTC website, to the extent practicable, at (<http://www.ftc.gov/os/publiccomments.shtml>). As a matter of discretion, the Commission makes every effort to remove home contact information for individuals from the public comments it receives before placing those comments on the FTC website. More information, including routine uses permitted by the Privacy Act, may be found in the FTC’s privacy policy, at (<http://www.ftc.gov/ftc/privacy.shtml>).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Jeffrey Perry, Bureau of Competition, 600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, D.C. 20580, (202) 326-2331.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Pursuant to section 6(f) of the Federal Trade Commission Act, 38 Stat. 721, 15 U.S.C. 46(f), and § 3.25(f) the Commission Rules of Practice, 16 CFR 3.25(f), notice is hereby given that the above-captioned consent agreement containing a consent order to cease and desist, having been filed with and accepted, subject to final approval, by the Commission, has been placed on the public record for a period of thirty (30) days. The following Analysis to Aid Public Comment describes the terms of the consent agreement, and the allegations in the complaint. An electronic copy of the full text of the consent agreement

¹ The comment must be accompanied by an explicit request for confidential treatment, including the factual and legal basis for the request, and must identify the specific portions of the comment to be withheld from the public record. The request will be granted or denied by the Commission’s General Counsel, consistent with applicable law and the public interest. See FTC Rule 4.9(c), 16 CFR 4.9(c).

package can be obtained from the FTC Home Page (for October 7, 2009), on the World Wide Web, at (<http://www.ftc.gov/os/actions.shtm>). A paper copy can be obtained from the FTC Public Reference Room, Room 130-H, 600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, D.C. 20580, either in person or by calling (202) 326-2222.

Public comments are invited, and may be filed with the Commission in either paper or electronic form. All comments should be filed as prescribed in the **ADDRESSES** section above, and must be received on or before the date specified in the **DATES** section.

Analysis of Agreement Containing Consent Order To Aid Public Comment

I. Introduction

The Federal Trade Commission (“Commission”) has accepted for public comment, subject to final approval, an Agreement Containing Consent Orders (“Consent Agreement”) from Carilion Clinic (“Carilion”). The purpose of the proposed Consent Agreement is to remedy the competitive harm resulting from Carilion’s acquisition of two independent outpatient centers, Odyssey IV, L.L.C. d/b/a The Center for Advanced Imaging (“CAI”), and The Center for Surgical Excellence, L.L.C. (“CSE”). Under the terms of the proposed Consent Agreement, Carilion is required to divest both acquired centers, together with related assets sufficient to ensure that the buyer(s) of the divested centers will replace fully the competition eliminated by the acquisition.

The proposed Consent Agreement has been placed on the public record for thirty (30) days to solicit comments from interested persons. Comments received during this period will become part of the public record. After thirty (30) days, the Commission again will review the proposed Consent Agreement and comments received, and decide whether it should withdraw the Consent Agreement or make it final.

The sole purpose of this analysis is to facilitate public comment on the Consent Agreement; it is not intended to constitute an official interpretation of the Consent Agreement or modify its terms in any way.

Background

Carilion is the largest provider of healthcare services in the Roanoke, Virginia area, controlling nearly 80 percent of the hospital beds in the Roanoke area. On August 28, 2008, Carilion acquired CAI and CSE, the only two independent (non-hospital-owned) providers of advanced outpatient

imaging and outpatient surgical services in the Roanoke area. Advanced outpatient imaging services are a cluster of imaging services, including Magnetic Resonance Imaging (“MRI”) and Computerized Tomographic Imaging (“CT”) scanning, used to obtain images of the internal anatomy. Outpatient surgical services are surgical procedures, such as interventional spine surgeries or vascular access surgeries, that do not require an overnight stay at a hospital.

Prior to the acquisition, CAI and CSE were direct competitors to Carilion for these services in the Roanoke area, competing on price as well as non-price terms. Notably, the freestanding centers’ charges were significantly lower than Carilion’s charges for the same services. In many cases, CAI’s procedures were also more convenient and accessible than those performed at a hospital. In response to this competition, Carilion took steps to compete and maintain market share, including improving the accessibility of its services and reducing wait times for scheduling services. This competition provided real benefits, financial and otherwise, for patients in the Roanoke area.

Carilion’s acquisition of CAI and CSE eliminated this price and non-price competition, and threatened substantial competitive harm in the markets for advanced outpatient imaging and outpatient surgical services in the Roanoke area. First, the acquisition reduced from three to two the number of competitors for both outpatient services, and reduced the incentives to compete for the remaining firms, Carilion and HCA Lewis-Gale (“HCA”), a similarly-situated hospital provider. Second, the acquisition eliminated health plans’ and patients’ only independent alternative to Carilion and HCA, and thus substantially reduced competition and enhanced Carilion’s power to impose a unilateral price increase. Staff’s investigation confirmed that repositioning by existing healthcare providers or new entry would be insufficient to deter or counteract this harm to competition.

Having reason to believe the proposed transaction would result in competitive harm, the Commission authorized staff to commence an administrative trial under Part 3 of the Commission’s Rules of Practice. The administrative complaint alleged that the combined entity would increase prices and decrease non-price competition in the markets for advanced outpatient imaging and outpatient surgical services in the Roanoke area.

Litigation History

On July 23, 2009, the Commission issued an administrative complaint pursuant to Part 3 of the Commission’s Rules of Practice challenging Carilion’s acquisition of CAI and CSE. On August 7, 2009, the parties filed an amended joint motion to withdraw the matter from administrative litigation, together with a proposed settlement agreement that the parties asserted would “completely restore the competition that was alleged to have been eliminated by the acquisition.” The Commission granted the amended joint motion on August 11, 2009, and temporarily withdrew the matter from adjudication for 30 days. The withdrawal was subsequently extended until October 14, 2009, as Carilion and Commission staff continued to negotiate a remedy in settlement of the ongoing litigation.

The Proposed Consent Agreement

The proposed Consent Agreement remedies the anticompetitive effects of the acquisition by requiring the divestiture of all of the acquired assets to a Commission-approved buyer (or buyers) within three months. The assets to be divested include not only the two acquired centers, but also the associated assets – such as patient and physician records, government permits, medical equipment, and payor and supplier contracts – necessary for a Commission-approved buyer to independently and effectively operate each center. The Commission may appoint a divestiture trustee if Carilion has not completed the required divestitures within three months.

In addition to requiring the divestiture of both centers and all related assets, the Consent Agreement includes several provisions designed to accelerate the Commission-approved buyer(s)’ ability to replicate the competition that was eliminated by the acquisition. For example, the Consent Agreement prohibits Carilion from soliciting for employment any physician or physician practice that has referred patients to CAI since the acquisition. The prohibition is effective for six months as of the date Carilion signs the Agreement Containing Consent Orders, and will allow the Commission-approved buyer sufficient time to develop CAI’s referral base by preventing Carilion from seeking out and acquiring referring physicians and physician practices. The Consent Agreement also prohibits Carilion from restricting its employed physicians who have referred patients to CAI since the acquisition from continuing to refer patients to CAI. The prohibition is in

effect for one year, and is designed to ensure that any Carilion-employed physician who previously referred patients to CAI will continue to be able to do so.

Finally, incorporated into the Consent Agreement is an Order to Maintain Assets (“OMA”). The OMA preserves the viability, marketability, and competitiveness of the assets to be divested, and prohibits Carilion from using or disclosing competitively sensitive information. The OMA also allows the Commission to appoint a Monitor to ensure Carilion’s compliance with the Consent Agreement. In addition, the OMA requires Carilion to offer financial incentives to CAI and CSE personnel to remain with each business before the sale, during the transition period, and at the option of the buyer(s), after the transition. Under the Consent Agreement, Carilion also must remove any contractual impediments that may deter CAI or CSE staff from accepting a Commission-approved buyer’s offer of employment.

The proposed Consent Agreement will resolve fully the competitive issues raised by the acquisition by reestablishing price, quality, and service competition in the markets for advanced outpatient imaging and outpatient surgical services in the Roanoke area. Moreover, acceptance of the proposed Consent Agreement will bring immediate and certain relief to Roanoke-area consumers by avoiding the expense and uncertainty inherent in continuing litigation.

By direction of the Commission.

Donald S. Clark,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. E9–24949 Filed 10–15–09; 9:29 am]

BILLING CODE 6750–01–S

FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION

[File No. 092 3142]

Collectify, Inc.; Analysis of Proposed Consent Orders To Aid Public Comment

AGENCY: Federal Trade Commission.

ACTION: Proposed consent agreement.

SUMMARY: The consent agreement in this matter settles alleged violations of federal law prohibiting unfair or deceptive acts or practices or unfair methods of competition. The attached Analysis to Aid Public Comment describes both the allegations in the draft complaint and the terms of the consent order — embodied in the consent agreement — that would settle these allegations.

DATES: Comments must be received on or before November 5, 2009.

ADDRESSES: Interested parties are invited to submit written comments electronically or in paper form. Comments should refer to “Collectify, File No. 092 3142” to facilitate the organization of comments. Please note that your comment — including your name and your state — will be placed on the public record of this proceeding, including on the publicly accessible FTC website, at (<http://www.ftc.gov/os/publiccomments.shtml>).

Because comments will be made public, they should not include any sensitive personal information, such as an individual’s Social Security Number; date of birth; driver’s license number or other state identification number, or foreign country equivalent; passport number; financial account number; or credit or debit card number. Comments also should not include any sensitive health information, such as medical records or other individually identifiable health information. In addition, comments should not include any “[t]rade secret or any commercial or financial information which is obtained from any person and which is privileged or confidential . . . ,” as provided in Section 6(f) of the FTC Act, 15 U.S.C. 46(f), and Commission Rule 4.10(a)(2), 16 CFR 4.10(a)(2). Comments containing material for which confidential treatment is requested must be filed in paper form, must be clearly labeled “Confidential,” and must comply with FTC Rule 4.9(c), 16 CFR 4.9(c).¹

Because paper mail addressed to the FTC is subject to delay due to heightened security screening, please consider submitting your comments in electronic form. Comments filed in electronic form should be submitted by using the following weblink: (<https://public.commentworks.com/ftc/collectify>) and following the instructions on the web-based form. To ensure that the Commission considers an electronic comment, you must file it on the web-based form at the weblink: (<https://public.commentworks.com/ftc/collectify>). If this Notice appears at (<http://www.regulations.gov/search/index.jsp>), you may also file an electronic comment through that website. The Commission will consider all comments that regulations.gov

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forwards to it. You may also visit the FTC website at (<http://www.ftc.gov/>) to read the Notice and the news release describing it.

A comment filed in paper form should include the “Collectify, File No. 092 3142” reference both in the text and on the envelope, and should be mailed or delivered to the following address: Federal Trade Commission, Office of the Secretary, Room H-135 (Annex D), 600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20580. The FTC is requesting that any comment filed in paper form be sent by courier or overnight service, if possible, because U.S. postal mail in the Washington area and at the Commission is subject to delay due to heightened security precautions.

The Federal Trade Commission Act (“FTC Act”) and other laws the Commission administers permit the collection of public comments to consider and use in this proceeding as appropriate. The Commission will consider all timely and responsive public comments that it receives, whether filed in paper or electronic form. Comments received will be available to the public on the FTC website, to the extent practicable, at (<http://www.ftc.gov/os/publiccomments.shtml>). As a matter of discretion, the Commission makes every effort to remove home contact information for individuals from the public comments it receives before placing those comments on the FTC website. More information, including routine uses permitted by the Privacy Act, may be found in the FTC’s privacy policy, at (<http://www.ftc.gov/ftc/privacy.shtml>).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Molly Crawford (202-326-3076) or Katie Ratté (202-326-3514), Bureau of Consumer Protection, 600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, D.C. 20580.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Pursuant to section 6(f) of the Federal Trade Commission Act, 38 Stat. 721, 15 U.S.C. 46(f), and § 2.34 the Commission Rules of Practice, 16 CFR 2.34, notice is hereby given that the above-captioned consent agreement containing a consent order to cease and desist, having been filed with and accepted, subject to final approval, by the Commission, has been placed on the public record for a period of thirty (30) days. The following Analysis to Aid Public Comment describes the terms of the consent agreement, and the allegations in the complaint. An electronic copy of the full text of the consent agreement package can be obtained from the FTC Home Page (for October 6, 2009), on the World Wide Web, at (<http://>