



July 17, 2006

Dear Sir or Madam:

I am writing this letter because I am concerned about the proposed Business Opportunity Rule R511993. I believe that in its present form, it could prevent me from continuing as owner of Spirit of Success, Inc., where I provide training to Direct Sales companies. I understand that part of the FTC's responsibilities is to protect the public from "unfair and deceptive acts or practices," yet some of the sections in the proposed rule will make it very difficult, if not impossible, for the Direct Sales Industry to grow and therefore negatively impact my business.

I have been in Direct Selling for more than 24 years. Originally, I became a consultant because I felt the products were exceptional and I wanted to earn some additional income. Now, I help support my family through my business. The future of my family is dependent on the stability of the Direct Selling Industry.

One of the most confusing and burdensome sections of the proposed rule is the seven-day waiting period to enroll new consultants. People buy TVs, cars, and other items that cost much more and they do not have to wait seven days. This waiting period gives the impression that there might be something wrong with the company or the compensation plan. Under this waiting period requirement, Consultants will need to keep very detailed records and will then need to send in many reports to company headquarters.

The proposed rule also calls for the release of **any** information regarding lawsuits involving misrepresentation, or unfair or deceptive practices. It does not matter if the company was found innocent. Today, anyone or any company can be sued for almost anything. It does not make sense to me that Consultants would have to disclose these lawsuits unless their company is found guilty. Otherwise, they are put at an unfair advantage even though their company has done **nothing** wrong.

Finally, the proposed rule requires the disclosure of a minimum of 10 prior purchasers nearest to the prospective purchaser. I am glad to provide references, but in this day of identity theft, people are very uncomfortable giving out the personal information of individuals (without their approval) to strangers. Also, giving away this information could damage the business relationship of the references who may be involved in other companies or businesses including those of competitors. I also think the following sentence required by the proposed rule will prevent many people from wanting to sign up as a salesperson - "If you buy a business opportunity from the seller, your contact information can be disclosed in

Spirit of Success, Inc.

the future to other buyers.” People are very concerned about their privacy and identity theft. They will be reluctant to share their personal information with individuals they may have never met.

I appreciate the work that the FTC does to protect consumers, yet I believe this proposed new rule has many unintended consequences and there are less burdensome alternatives available to achieving your goals.

Thank you for your time in considering my comments.

Respectfully,

Beth Jones-Schall
Founder & President