



NETWORK NEWS

NETWORK NEWS IS A PUBLICATION OF CONSUMER SENTINEL, LAW ENFORCEMENT'S SOURCE FOR CONSUMER COMPLAINTS

LOST OPPORTUNITY

The FTC has announced a major federal and state crackdown on deceptive business opportunity schemes that claimed to offer people help starting businesses as mystery shoppers, credit card processors, website operators, and government insurance refund processors, to name a few. Operation Lost Opportunity involved more than 70 actions brought by the FTC and partners: Six of the FTC actions were brought under the recently updated Business Opportunity Rule, which requires business opportunity sellers to disclose specific information to potential buyers in a simple, one-page document.

DEBT RELIEF SERVICES

At the FTC's request, a U.S. district court has temporarily stopped a debt

CONSUMER.GOV

Everyone can benefit from concise and practical consumer information. So the next time you're reaching out to consumers, use the FTC's new resources at [consumer.gov](https://www.consumer.gov) ([consumer.gov](https://www.consumer.gov/espanol) in Spanish). Consumer.gov features videos and audio read-alongs to support people with different learning styles, as well as multi-taskers, with information about credit, debt, identity theft, avoiding scams, budgeting, opening a bank account, shopping for prepaid cards, and managing money in general. The information focuses on the basics, written in an easy-to-use, direct style. Order free copies of materials at [consumer.gov/order](https://www.consumer.gov/order).

DECEPTIVE MORTGAGE ADS

The FTC and the CFPB have issued warning letters to more than 30 companies about deceptive mortgage ads. Both agencies have opened nonpublic law enforcement investigations of advertisers that may have violated the Mortgage Acts and Practices Advertising Rule. The rule prohibits material misrepresentations in advertising or any other commercial communication about consumer mortgages. The FTC and the CFPB share enforcement authority over non-bank mortgage advertisers like mortgage lenders, brokers, servicers, and advertising agencies.

For more information see *Your Home* and *Deceptive Mortgage Ads: What They Say; What They Leave Out*.

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