UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION,

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA,

AND THE DISTRICT OF

COLUMBIA,

Plaintiffs,

Plaintiffs,

STAPLES, INC. and
OFFICE DEPOT, INC.

Defendants.

Defendants.

ORDER

This matter comes before the Court on the Federal Trade

Commission, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and the District

of Columbia's (collectively "Plaintiffs") motion to enjoin the

proposed merger of Defendant Staples, Inc. ("Staples") with

Defendant Office Depot, Inc. ("Office Depot") (collectively

"Defendants"), under Section 13(b) of the Federal Trade

Commission Act, 15 U.S.C. § 53(b). After considering the

extensive record and the parties' legal arguments, the Court

finds that Plaintiffs have met their burden of showing that

there is a reasonable probability that the proposed merger will

substantially impair competition in the sale and distribution of

consumable office supplies to large Business-to-Business

- 4. Defendants are directed to maintain the status quo until (1) the completion of all legal proceedings by the FTC challenging the transaction, including all appeals, or (2) further order of the COURT, including upon the request of the FTC, before completion of such legal proceedings;
- 5. This Court shall retain jurisdiction of this matter for all purposes and for the full duration of this Order, as provided in the previous paragraph.

SO ORDERED.

Signed: Emmet G. Sullivan

United States District Judge

May 10, 2016