

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
Federal Trade Commission
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20580

STATEMENT OF THE FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION
In the Matter of Bytedance/Musical.ly

June 18, 2024

The Federal Trade Commission has referred to the Department of Justice a complaint against TikTok, the successor to Musical.ly, and its parent company ByteDance Ltd. The FTC's investigation of these companies began in connection with our order compliance review of Musical.ly following a 2019 settlement with the company for violations of the Children's Online Privacy Protection Act ("COPPA"). The Commission also investigated additional potential violations of COPPA and the FTC Act. The investigation uncovered a reason to believe named defendants are violating or are about to violate the law and that a proceeding is in the public interest, so the Commission has voted to refer a complaint to the DOJ, according to the procedures outlined in the FTC Act. Although the Commission does not typically make public the fact that it has referred a complaint, we have determined that doing so here is in the public interest. We look forward to our continued partnership with the Department of Justice in this and other matters as we advance our shared interest in protecting the American people and in enforcing the law without fear or favor.