

November 14, 2005

Federal Trade Commission Office of the Secretary Room 135-H (Annex F) 600 Pennsylvania Ave. Washington, D.C. 20580

Re: "Competition and the Real Estate Workshop" - Comment, Project NO. V050015

Dear Sir or Madam -

I am baffled how anyone could think that the real estate industry is anything but competitive. There are 1.2 million realtors, all of whom are independent contractors, associated with over 75,000 brokerage firms, all of which are free to follow any business model they choose as long as they obey the law. The notion that there could be a conspiracy or cartel among a group this large is absurd.

Just about anyone can become a realtor. The barriers to entry are very low. It takes almost no money, just a willingness to study enough to pass an exam, then the will to go out and find business.

I suggest the people conducting this investigation open up their Sunday paper to the real estate classifieds, listen to the commercials on the radio instead of switching stations and start opening their "junk mail." It shouldn't take them long to learn how fiercely competitive the real estate industry is.

Sincerely,

Bill Guider