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"Rummaging in the government's attic"

Description of document: Complaints filed with the Federal Communications

Commission (FCC) against game shows for cheating

and contestant drug use

Requested date: 19-October-2007

Released date: 16-November-2007

Posted date: 20-February-2008

Date/date range of document: 22-January-2003 – 17-September-2007

Source of document: Federal Communications Commission

445 12th Street, S.W., Room 1-A836

Washington, D.C. 20554

Phone: 202-418-0440 or 202-418-0212 Fax: 202-418-2826 or 202-418-0521

E-mail: FOIA@fcc.gov

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Federal Communications Commission Consumer & Governmental Affairs Bureau Washington, D.C. 20554



November 16, 2007

FOIA No. 2008-035

This letter responds to your recent Freedom of Information Act ("FOIA") request received by the Federal Communications Commission (the "FCC" or "Commission") and assigned to the Consumer & Governmental Affairs Bureau ("CGB") and the Enforcement Bureau ("Enforcement") by the Commission's FOIA Office on October 19, 2007. Your request sought copies of complaints filed against a game show for cheating and complaints filed regarding game show contestants using drugs. In addition, you wanted to know whether the FCC can mandate drug testing for shows that use television airwaves. You asked for a response by October 22, 2007.

Subsequently, you were contacted by Arthur Scrutchins of CGB's Policy Division to clarify the scope of your request and inform you that we would be unable to respond by October 22, 2007. Mr. Scrutchins also referred you to the FCC's web site concerning your question about mandatory drug testing. In response, you stated that you still wanted to pursue your request for complaint information.

CGB and Enforcement have coordinated to provide a response to your request. CGB conducted a search of the database in which we maintain the records of informal complaints filed by, or on behalf of, consumers. We are enclosing eleven (11) complaints from that database that are responsive to your request. All personal identifying information relating to the individuals who have submitted, or are named in, the complaints has been redacted pursuant to FOIA Exemption 6 and Section 0.457(f) of the Commission's rules, 47 C.F.R. § 0.457(f). A release of this information would constitute "a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy" under the Privacy Act. See 5 U.S.C. § 552a (b)(6); 47 C.F.R. § 0.457(f). In addition, certain FCC employee names have been redacted pursuant to FOIA Exemption 2 and Section 0.457(b) of the Commission's rules, 47 C.F.R. § 0.457(b). Enforcement has informed CGB that a search of its records identified no records responsive to your request.

Please be advised that the Commission receives many complaints and comments that do not involve violations of the Communications Act or any FCC rule or order. Thus, the existence of a complaint filed against a particular company does not necessarily indicate wrongdoing by the company.

We are required by the FOIA, 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(4)(A), and Section 0.470 of the Commission's rules, 47 C.F.R. § 0.470, to charge FOIA requesters certain fees, depending on the classification of requesters into one of three categories defined in Section 0.466 of the Commission's rules, 47 C.F.R. § 0.466. The categories are: (1) commercial use requesters; (2) educational and noncommercial scientific institution requesters and requesters who are representatives of the news media; and (3) all other requesters.

you have been classified as a representative of the news media by the FOIA office. Under the FOIA, 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(4)(A), and Section 0.470(a)(2) of the Commission's rules, 47 C.F.R. § 0.470(a)(2), representatives of the news media are responsible for the payment of duplication costs beyond the first 100 pages. There is no duplication cost associated with processing your request.

If you consider this to be a denial of your FOIA request, you may file an application for review of this decision with the Commission's Office of the General Counsel within 30 days in accordance with Section 0.461(j) of the Commission's rules, 47 C.F.R. § 0.461(j).

XICA

Sincerek

Nicole M. McGinnis Deputy Bureau Chief

Consumer & Governmental Affairs Bureau

Enclosure

Control ID: CIMS00000103596 Consumer's Name: UNKNOWN UNKNOWN

IC Number: 06-R103596 Phone Number:

Status: Closed Email:

Submission Method: Email Address 1:

Owner: Address 2:

Submitted Time: 7/13/2006 4:27:29PM P. O. Box:

Response End Time: 8/4/2006 2:21:13PM City/State/Zip:

Problem Description

wrote on 7/13/2006 4:27:29 PM:

To Whom It May Concern:

My name is a large and I was a recent contestant on the NBC game show ?The Biggest Loser?. The final episode aired Nov. 29, 2005.

I am writing to you now because the contestants were told that if we talked to anyone about the show we could be sued for a million dollars. I believe it is time to tell the truth.

I believe the producers; NBC, Go Faster Productions and Three Ball Entertainment knowingly cheated the rules of the game.

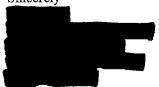
I was told at the beginning of the game that one of the rules was once a contestant chose what clothing to wear for their first weigh-in he or she would have to wear that exact same outfit for each consecutive weigh-in ensuring that the clothing would not be a factor in their actual weight loss or gain. The reason being that the contestant?s weights would be rounded up or down depending on where the actual weight ended up. For example 5.8 pounds would be 6 pounds and 5.7 pounds would be would be 5 pounds. Therefore the difference of a gram could mean the difference of a whole pound. On the third weigh-in I noticed that some of the other contestants were wearing different clothes than they did on their previous weigh-in?s. I complained to the producers that this was a violation of there own rules. I was told, ?What?s the difference?. They dismissed my complaint and allowed the weights of the contestants in question to be recorded and used as their official weight. Later that nigh the producers had a meeting with the contestants and announced that they were changing the rule and that from now on the contestants could wear whatever they wanted to. I again complained that this was not fair but was told by the producers that the weights had already been locked in.

Being able to wear heavier or lighter clothes changes the strategy of the game which in-turn changes the outcome of the game.

I believe NBC, Go Faster Productions and Three Ball Entertainment are perpetrating a fraud on the American viewing puublic.

I would like a response.

Sincerely



Email:

Address 1:

Address 2:

ARCHIVED

Problem ID: PROBLEM01062665

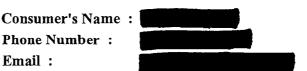
Status: Closed Phone Number:

Submission Method: Email

Owner:

Submitted Time: 1/27/2005 7:50:57PM

Response End Time: 2/4/2005 4:28:12PM City/State/Zip:



Problem Description

wrote on 2/4/2005 4:28:12 PM:

- * Advise you that FCC Rule 73.1216 ("Licensee-conducted contests") states, "A licensee that broadcasts or advertises information about a contest it conducts shall fully and accurately disclose the material terms of the contest, and shall conduct the contest substantially as announced or advertised. No contest description shall be false, misleading or deceptive with respect to any material term."
- * Advise you that this rule does not apply to licensee-conducted contests not broadcast or advertised to the general public or to a substantial segment thereof, to contests in which the general public is not requested or permitted to participate, to the commercial advertisement of non-licensee-conducted contests, or to a contest conducted by a non-broadcast division of the licensee or by a non-broadcast company related to the licensee.

If you believe a station violated contest rules, you may file a Complaint:

The complaint muust include:

- 1 Information regarding the details of the contest;
- 2 The date and time of the broadcast; and
- 3 The call sign of the station involved.

Mail complaints to:

Federal Communications Commission Enforcement Bureau Investigations and Hearings Division 445 12th St., SW Room 3-B443 Washington, DC 20554

Note: Any documentation submitted becomes part of the Commission's records and may not be returned.

- A complaint will be dismissed if it does not contain information sufficient to determine that a violation may have occurred.

In addition to filing with the FCC, you may want to seek guidance from the California State Attorney General's Office. Thank you.

wrote on 1/27/2005 7:50:57 PM:

Hello FCC Investor,

Please help me with the following question and please keep this email highly confidential.

I am a manager
7/1/1998.

In past three years, I have received a lot of complains regarding a local sales manager she is also an part-time on-air DJ for several years. She was not only passed out false information or false advertisement on the air or during the promotional events in order to brings more audiences to our events. She also cheated during some of the on air give away prizes game shows. She played tricks and arranged to give out some prizes to her friends when she answered the audiences incoming calls.

At another Plaza grand opening event. She played tricks during drawing and arranged top 4 prizes to our 4

employees(including herself)during this event. Event was live broadcasted by one of our radio station - approx. 3 years ago. They were afraid to report to upper managers because they were afraid of Ruby or company's retaliation. Two of them already either been terminated or left our company. One of them still workedd with as a house AE, under supervision.

I received this complains at the end of last year.

I don't know what should I do in order to protect myself, because many employees has been fired, terminated or retaliated by either per companyin past several years. I also have been retaliated since 9/2003 after I documented better bad conducts in to Station owner's wife in New York. At beginning of this year, I was told that Arthur has decided to demoted me from Assistant Vice President to an AE on 1/10/2005.

You can tell why people were afraid to report, because it's useless. There were rumors on the street regarding that as a special or close relationship with stationowner. Please advise me what

should I do, and please help us under such a dangous company. Description when the such a stations nationwide at this time. He is a person with big power in broadcasting business. Please keep me highly confidential, I don't want to losse my job.

Thank you very much.

Best Regards,



====

Regards,

Do you Yahoo!? Meet the all-new My Yahoo! - Try it today! http://my.yahoo.com

Control ID:

CIMS00000074469

Consumer's Name:

IC Number:

06-R74469

Phone Number:

Status:

Closed

Email:

Address 1:

Owner:

Address 2:

Submitted Time:

Submission Method: Phone

6/12/2006 11:48:50AM

P. O. Box:

Response End Time: 6/12/2006 11:55:06AM

City/State/Zip:

Problem Description

Saw game show - price is right - looked like they were cheating - advised contact DOJ. Info from "A "game show" in which selected contestants participate is governed by the United States Code (USC) Title 47, regulated by the Department of Justice"

11/2/2007

Page 7 of 7

Control ID:

CIMS00000130561

IC Number:

06-R130561

Status:

Closed

Submission Method: Email

Owner:

Submitted Time:

8/11/2006 7:53:04AM

0/00/0006 10 01 00 13

Response End Time: 9/20/2006 10:01:20AM

Consumer's Name :

Phone Number:

Email:

Address 1:

Address 2:

P. O. Box:

City/State/Zip:

BURBANK CA 91506

Problem Description



rote on 8/11/2006 7:53:00 AM:

Hello,

Thank you for contacting the FCC.

Your complaint has been forwarded to the FCC Enforcement Bureau.

Any documentation submitted becomes part of the Commission's records and may not be returned.

A complaint will be dismissed if it does not contain information sufficient to determine that a violation may have occurred.

Best Regards.

wrote on 8/9/2006 9:46:17 PM:

To Whom It May Concern:

My name is a second and I was a recent contestant on the NBC game show ?The Biggest Loser?. The final episode aired Nov. 29, 2005.

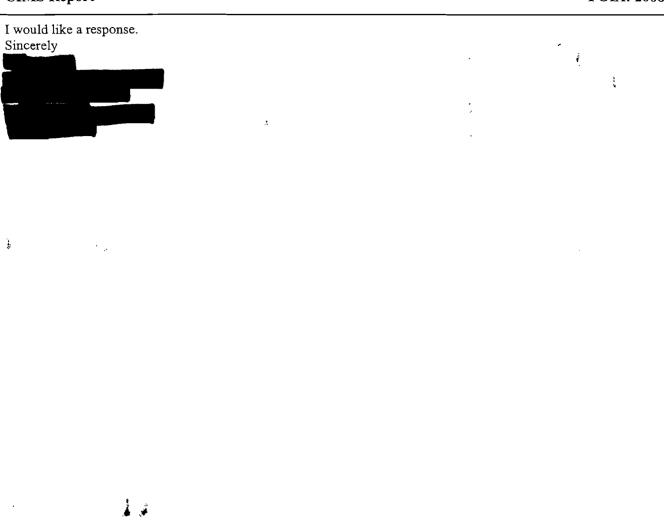
I am writing to you now because the contestants were told that if we talked to anyone about the show we could be sued for a million dollars. I believe it is time to tell the truth.

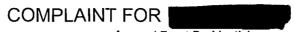
I believe the producers; NBC, Go Faster Productions and Three Ball Entertainment knowingly cheated the rules of the game.

I was told at the beginning of the game that one of the rules was once a contestant chose what clothing to wear for their first weigh-in he or she would have to wear that exact same outfit for each consecutive weigh-in ensuring that the clothing would not be a factor in their actual weight loss or gain. The reason being that the contestant?s weights would be rounded up or down depending on where the actual weight ended up. For example 5.8 pounds would be 6 pounds and 5.7 pounds would be would be 5 pounds. Therefore the difference of a gram could mean the difference of a whole pound. On the third weigh-in I noticed that some of the other contestants were wearing different clothes than they did on their previous weigh-in?s. I complained to the producers that this was a violation of there own rules. I was told, ?What?s the difference?. They dismissed my complaint and allowed the weights of the contestants in question to be recorded and used as their official weight. Later that nigh the producers had a meeting with the contestants and announced that they were changing the rule and that from now on the contestants could wear whatever they wanted to. I again complained that this was not fair but was told by the producers that the weights had already been locked in.

Being able to wear heavier or lighter clothes changes the strategy of the game which in-turn changes the outcome of the game.

I believe NBC, Go Faster Productions and Three Ball Entertainment are perpetrating a fraud on the American viewing public.





Complaint Type:Broadcast

Account Type: Residential

☐ Congressional Complaint ☐

IC Number:	07-WB13374883	Case Type:	Complaint
Date Received:	09/17/2007	Complainant:	
Date Entered:	ó9/17/2007	Date Assigned:	09/17/2007
Entered By:	OSCARServer	Date Reassigned:	
Assigned To:	FCCIN	Service Date:	Referral
Dàte Closed:	09/20/2007	Response Date:	
Closed By:		Original Analyst:	
Close Letter Needed?	◯ Yes ● No	Purged By:	Purged Date:
		Removed By:	Removed Date:
Supervisor Check:	◯ Yes ● No	Indecency Referral Code:	Denial - Broadcast outside of subject matter definition

Current Status: Closed

Associated Case:

Complaint Summary:

Game Show Fraud-A Contestant name Edward Donato openly admitted on TV that he cheated on the program Big Brother 8 by receiving outside help from his son. In addition, Mr. Donato has been frequently shown on Primetime TV from CBS abusing by using edited words against female contestants, a homosexual contestant and other male contestants relating to sexual matters. Allison Grober (spelling) Productions is responsible for allowing such material to be aired through CBS on public television during evening hours in the presence of children. The behavior shown by Mr. Donato with the approval by CBS and Mr. Donato's confession on live TV that he had been receiving coded messages and was taped with the suspicion of cheating on live TV has been condoned by CBS and Allision Grober Productions. The entire Big Brother Season 8 has ruined the integrity of the show and airing of the language even though edited both of a profane and sexual nature in the presence of children is unacceptable.

Apparent Carrier(s			
Yes<< Check	here if you wish to serve bo	ntina Wiralingani Wiralas earritar 👑 🗀	
Problem Number:			
Title: None	First Name:	Middle Initial:	Last Name:
Contact Name:		Best Time to Call:	
Contact Number:	Ext.	Consumer's Telephone Number:	Ext.
Fax Number:		TTY Number:	
Email Address:		Internet Address:	
PO Box:		Address:	
City:	Lake Saint Louis	State: MO	Zip: 63367

On Behalf Of:	_
Company Name:	
Party's Name:	Relationship with the Party:
Party's Contact Number: Ext.	PO Box: Address:
	City:State:Zip:
Other Party that can be contacted?	
Name:	Relationship:
Contact Number: Ext.	Address:
	City:, State: Zip:

**Amount of credit FCC effort ge		Duplicate Credit Checked: Yes	¹ No
Have you paid any of the disputed Did the company billing for these clif yes, what was the amount of the a. Name of carrier(s) or company(is	narges adjust or refund some o adjustment or refund?	r all of the disputed charges? AT&T (formerly SBC) and ILD Tele:	services
b. Telephone number for the carrier with your complaint, including area c. Which type of service is involved	r(s) or company(ies) involved code:	Phone: Ext:	
1. the telephone number of the indi			Ext:
2. your telephone number(s) on wh	• •	•	Ext:
 a description of the telemarketing identification of the company with phone numbers that were incluied. the "opt-out" number(s) provided (List number(s) given in the call (additional calls or faxes.) Have you: (a) purchased anything (b) made an inquiry or application. 	g call, pre-recorded message, or whose products or services were ded in the call or fax: I in the call(s) or on the fax(es): s) or fax(es) for you to contact and from the company being advento that company; or (c) given	or unsolicited fax, including an e being advertised, and any if you do not want to receive any vertised in the call or fax; consent to the company to send and such contact with the company.	Ext:
(1) Date of Program:	Numerous		
(2) Time of Program:	7pm		
(3) Network: (4) Call Sign, Channel OR Frequer (5) City and State Where Program (6) Name of Program or DJ/Persor Updated? Yes No	Was Viewed:	viewed/heard the material:	Channel 4 Saint Louis, MO Big Brother 8
ANALYSIS SECTION			
Correspondence Type:	● Complaint ○ Inquiry	Source Code:	Internet
Apparent Carrier(s):		Re-Serve Carrier(s):	
Responding Carrier(s):	1	Assigned Subject Code:	Programming Issues
		Program Type:	TV
Activity Code:	Direct	Assigned Code Acronym:	PROG
Final Responsible Party:		Sub-Category:	Content Criticism (PCCR)
*	•	Additional Sub-Category:	<u>\$</u>
Copy of Response Sent to Consumer by Carrier?:	○ Yes ○ No	-	
Mediation with Carrier/Complainant?:	◯ Yes ◯ No	Response Type:	



Complaint Type:Broadcast

Account Type: Residential

Congressional Complaint

IC Number:	07-WB13309795	Case Type:	Complaint
Date Received:	08/22/2007	Complainant:	
Date Entered:	08/22/2007	Date Assigned:	08/22/2007
Entered By:	OSCARServer	Date Reassigned:	
Assigned To:	FCCIN	Service Date:	Referral
Date Closed:	08/24/2007	Response Date:	
Closed By:		Original Analyst:	
Close Letter Needed?	○ Yes ● No	Purged By:	Purged Date:
		Removed By:	Removed Date:
Supervisor Check:	◯ Yes ● No	Indecency Referral Code:	Denial - Broadcast outside of subject matter definition

Current Status: Closed

Α	SS	oci:	ate	d C	as	e

Complaint Summary:

CBS is committing a modern form of fraud in the way the old game shows did in order to get a specific result. They are using meetings on the set of the show and one of the players in order to influence the outcome. The show is then...NOT FAIR....and therefore a fraud. Perhaps even worse, CBS is allowing one of the contestants to abuse others in a way that makes this and many other viewers uncomfortable...the player is known as "Dick". Evidence of this discomfort can be found on the CBS website message boards for the show and a website for TV Grapevine that discusses events on TV reality shows. I have been a regular watcher of the show for several seasons and consider this season a desperate attempt by CBS to prop up the show. Rule changes are one thing but attempting to influence the outcome of your own show is another....

initiaence the outc	ume di your own show is ai		
Apparent Carrier(s		The state of the s	
Yes<<< Check	here if you wish to serve bol	th a Wireline and Wiroless carrier.	
Problem Number:			
Title: None	First Name:	Middle Initial:	Last Name:
Contact Name:		Best Time to Call:	
Contact Number:	Ext.	Consumer's Telephone Number:	Ext.
Fax Number:		TTY Number:	
Email Address:		Internet Address:	
PO Box:		Address:	
City:	Ocala	State: FL	Zip: 34472

On Behalf Of:	
Company Name:	
Party's Name:	Relationship with the Party:
Party's Contact Number: Ext.	PO Box: Address:
	City:State:Zip:
Other Party that can be contacted?	
Name:	Relationship:
Contact Number: Ext.	Address:
	City:, State: Zip:

**Amount of credit FCC effort gener	ated:	y i	
		Duplicate Credit Checked: Yes	No
Have you paid any of the disputed cha	arges?		
Did the company billing for these charge	=	or all of the disputed charges?	
If yes, what was the amount of the adj			
a. Name of carrier(s) or company(ies)	involved in your complaint:	Sprint	•
b. Telephone number for the carrier(s)	or company(ies) involved		
with your complaint, including area co-		Phone: Ext:	
c. Which type of service is involved wi	*		
₹	TCPA Informa		E.4.
1. the telephone number of the individ			Ext:
2. your telephone number(s) on which			Ext:
a description of the telemarketing cidentification of the company who			
phone numbers that were included		= ==g dator.acoa, and any	
4. the "opt-out" number(s) provided in	the call(s) or on the fax(es)		
(List number(s) given in the call(s) of additional calls or faxes.)	or fax(es) for you to contact	if you do not want to receive any	Evt.
5. Have you: (a) purchased anything f	rom the company being adv	vertised in the call or fax:	Ext:
(b) made an inquiry or application to			
you the call or fax? If so, please de			
(4) Data of Drograms	Broadcast Inforn	nation from 475B	
(1) Date of Program:(2) Time of Program:	8/21/07 9 pm		
(3) Network:	CBS		
(4) Call Sign, Channel OR Frequency		viewed/heard the material:	wesh
(5) City and State Where Program Wa			Ocala, Florida
(6) Name of Program or DJ/Personali	ty/Song/Film:		Big Brother
Updated? O Yes O No			
ANALYSIS SECTION			ACCOMMUNICATION OF THE CONTRACT OF THE CONTRAC
Correspondence Type:	● Complaint ○ Inquiry	Source Code:	Internet
Apparent Carrier(s):		Re-Serve Carrier(s):	
·			
Responding Carrier(s):		Assigned Subject Code:	Programming Issues
			Connectional
		Program Type:	⊉ TV
		•	
			ž.
Activity Code:	Direct	Assigned Code Acronym:	PROG
Final Responsible Party:		Sub-Category:	Content Criticism
4			(PCCR)
		Additional Sub-Category:	<u>\$</u>
Comunication of Postage Country	○ Yes ○ No		
Copy of Response Sent to Consumer by Carrier?:	○ Tes ○ No		
Mediation with Carrier/Complainant?:	○ Yes ○ No	Response Type:	

Complaint Type:Unk	nown Media Type	Account Type: Residential	Congressional Complai
IC Number:	07-WB13305757	Case Type:	Complaint
Date Received:	08/21/2007	Complainant:	
Date Entered:	08/21/2007	Date Assigned:	08/22/2007
Entered By:	OSCARServer	Date Reassigned:	
Assigned To:	FCCIN	Service Date:	Referral
Date Closed:	08/27/2007	Response Date:	
Closed By:		Original Analyst:	
Close Letter Needed?	Yes No	Purged By:	Purged Date:
		Removed By:	Removed Date:
Supervisor Check:	◯ Ye s ● No	Indecency Referral Code:	Denial - Cable or Satellite/Indecent-Profane

Complaint Summary:

I'm not sure this is the proper form, but please let me know if there is a different form for potentially fraudulent "contests" on television.; I'm hoping that the FCC will look into how valid the "competition" is on CBS's "reality" show "Big Brother 8". It has become clear this year that the "rules" of the game are not being followed. One contestant has had drinks dumped on her head even though there's a no-violent-acts rule. One rulebook-reading contestant is currently having her actions undone even though she had confirmed the rules in advance. (Destroying cigarettes which were immediately replaced.) It really seems as if this is a "game" in which the producers have picked their winner long ago. There is also talk about pressure in the "Diary Room" (where contestants are isolated for private conversation) to keep certain players.; I hope this is taken serious. I've held back this form for almost a month but it is very, very clear by now that there are no true rules being enforced. Like the game shows of the 1950s, this one is rigged for ratings. It may even be possible that the producers are not aware that they are rigging the game if they're blind to the line between ratings and rigging. If nothing more, the show should be forced to disclaim it's status as a contest. Please help make sure future contestants enter a safe house with a valid competition, and that viewers are aware of what they are "not" seeing: a fair, unbiased contest.

Associated Case:

aware or wriat the	y are not seekiy, a iaii, uti	viaseu vuitest.	
Apparent Carrier(s).		A STATE OF THE STA
Yes<≲ Check	here if you wish to serve both	at Wheline and Wheless carder	
Problem Number:			
Title: None	First Name:	Middle Initial:	Last Name:
Contact Name:		Best Time to Call:	
Contact Number:	Ext.	Consumer's Telephone Number:	Ext.
Fax Number:		TTY Number:	
Email Address:		Internet Address:	
PO Box:		Address:	
City:	Kenmore	State: NY	Zip: 14217

On Behalf Of:		
Company Name:		_
Party's Name:	Relationship with the Party:	
Party's Contact Number: Ext.	PO Box: Address:	
	City:State:Zip:	
Other Party that can be contacted?		

Name:		Relationship:	
Contact Number: Ext.		Address:	
***		City:, State: Zip:	
**Amount of credit FCC effort ge		Duplicate Credit Checked: Yes	No
Have you paid any of the disputed	charges?		
Did the company billing for these of	charges adjust or refund some o	r all of the disputed charges?	}
If yes, what was the amount of the	adjustment or refund?		
a. Name of carrier(s) or company(i	ies) involved in your complaint:	T-Mobile	
b. Telephone number for the carrie	er(s) or company(ies) involved		
with your complaint, including area	• • • • •	Phone: Ext:	
c. Which type of service is involve	d with your complaint:		
è	TCPA Informa	tion from 475	
 the telephone number of the ind 	dividual or company who called	or faxed you:	Ext:
your telephone number(s) on w	hich the call or fax was received	:	Ext:
phone numbers that were include, the "opt-out" number(s) provide	whose products or services wer uded in the call or fax: d in the call(s) or on the fax(es):	e being advertised, and any	
, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	l(s) or fax(es) for you to contact	if you do not want to receive any	Ext:
	on to that company; or (c) given	consent to the company to send and such contact with the company.	EXI.
(1) Date of Program:	Continuous: Summer07		
(2) Time of Program:	24/7		
(3) Network:	CBS	So as the solution and state	MID ID IOL - William Of
(4) Call Sign, Channel OR Freque(5) City and State Where Program		viewed/neard the material:	WIVB/Showtime2/www Buffalo, NY
(6) Name of Program or DJ/Perso			Big Brother 8
Updated? ○ Yes ● No	, ,		·
ANALYSIS SECTION	is the Wildows and help the construction of th		
Correspondence Type:	● Complaint ○ Inquiry	Source Code:	Internet
Apparent Carrier(s):		Re-Serve Carrier(s):	
Responding Carrier(s):		Assigned Subject Code:	Programming Issues
		Program Type:	Cable/Satellite
Activity Code:	Direct	Assigned Code Acronym:	PROG
Final Responsible Party:		Sub-Category:	Content Criticism (PCCR)
		Additional Sub-Category:	
Copy of Response Sent to Consumer by Carrier?:	○ Yes ○ No		
Mediation with Carrier/Complainant?:	○ Yes ○ No	Response Type:	



Complaint Type:Wireline

Account Type: Residential

☐ Congressional Complaint ☐

IC Number:	07-W13271938	Case Type:	Inquiry
Date Received:	08/10/2007	Complainant:	
Date Entered:	08/10/2007	Date Assigned:	08/10/2007
Entered By:	Internet User_	Date Reassigned:	
Assigned To:	FCCIN	Service Date:	
Date Closed:	08/21/2007	Response Date:	
Closed By:		Original Analyst:	
Close Letter Needed?	◯ Yes ● No	Purged By:	Purged Date:
The state of the s		Removed By:	Removed Date:
Supervisor Check: Tom Shirley	● Yes ○ No	Indecency Referral Code:	

Current Status: Closed

Associated Case:

Complaint Summary:

CBS has chosen to sell and air live feed of the reality show Big Brother. Those who watch those feeds know that CBS is rigging the game. The houseguests have stated it on the live feeds. I believe this to be a violation of Title 47, Chapter 5, Subchapter 5, 509. Prohibited practices in contests

There are also allegations that the reason CBS is rigging the outcome of the game in order to profit through increased advertising sales and increased revenue from the text messages they charge viewers to use in order to vote on the game.

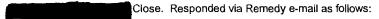
CBS has billed this as a game show and reality TV. There are LEGAL standards to which they must adhere. I, and many viewers, believe CBS has crossed the line and violated the FCC regulations.

I humbly request that you investigate these allegations and prosecute CBS to the fullest extant of the law Sincerely,

Apparent Carrier(s			
Yes<<< Check	here if you wish to serve b	oth a Wireline and Wireless carrier	
Problem Number:			
Title: None	First Name:	Middle Initial:	Last Name:
Contact Name:		Best Time to Call:	
Contact Number:	Ext.	Consumer's Telephone Number:	t.
Fax Number:		TTY Number:	
Email Address:		Internet Address:	
PO Box:		Address:	
City:	Glen Ellyn	State: IL	Zip: 60137

On Behalf Of:	
Company Name:	
Party's Name:	Relationship with the Party:

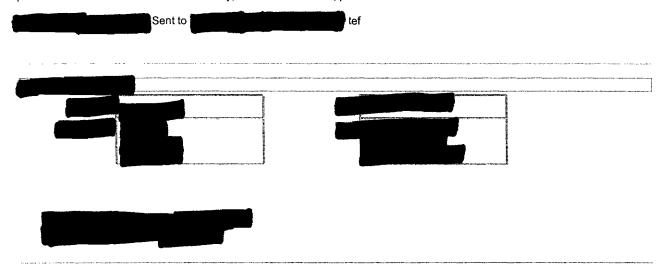
Party's Contact Number: E	ext.	PO Box:	
-		Address:	
Other Barty that can be cont		City:State:Zip:	
Other Party that can be cont Name:		Palatianahin:	
Contact Number: Ext.		Relationship: Address:	
Contact Number. Ext.		City:, State: Zip:	
**Amount of credit FCC effort go	enerated:	Duplicate Credit Checked: Yes	● No
Have you paid any of the disputed Did the company billing for these of	-	r all of the disputed charges? No	
If yes, what was the amount of the a. Name of carrier(s) or company(CBS	
b. Telephone number for the carrie with your complaint, including area c. Which type of service is involve	a code:	Phone: Ext: Home Telephone Service tion from 475	
1. the telephone number of the inc	dividual or company who called	or faxed you:	Ext:
phone numbers that were incle 4. the "opt-out" number(s) provide (List number(s) given in the call additional calls or faxes.) 5. Have you: (a) purchased anythi (b) made an inquiry or applicati	ing call, pre-recorded message, of whose products or services were uded in the call or fax: and in the call(s) or on the fax(es): all(s) or fax(es) for you to contact the company being advoor to that company; or (c) given the describe and state when you have of the station on which your was Viewed:	or unsolicited fax, including an e being advertised, and any if you do not want to receive any rertised in the call or fax; consent to the company to send and such contact with the company	Ext: Ext:
ANALYSIS SECTION			
Correspondence Type:	Complaint Inquiry	Source Code:	Internet
Apparent Carrier(s):		Re-Serve Carrier(s):	
Responding Carrier(s):		Assigned Subject Code:	OTHER
į		Other Code Description	Comments regarding CBS, programming and 'rigging'.
Activity Code:	Direct	Assigned Code Acronym:	OTHE
Final Responsible Party:		Sub-Category:	Other (OTHE)
		Additional Sub-Category:) <u>•</u>
Copy of Response Sent to Consumer by Carrier?:	○ Yes ● No		



Thanks for contacting the FCC via the online inquiry form, with your inquiry (designated IC Number: 07-W13271938), regarding the 'reality' show 'Big Brother.' We will close your inquiry IC Number: 07-W13271938 with this response:

Section 73.1216 of the Commission's rules governs the broadcast of licensee-conducted contests, i.e., a contest conducted by an FCC-licensed station in which a prize is offered 'to members of the public.' Since the show 'Big Brother' is conducted by a network programmer (vs. an FCC-licensed station) and does not offer a prize to members of the public, it is not regulated by the FCC.

A "game show" in which 'selected contestants' (vs. 'members of the public') participate is governed by Section 509 of Title 47 of the United States Code (USC), and regulated by the Department of Justice. However 'Big Brother' does not appear to meet the definition of a "game show." Rather, it is a 'for entertainment only' program, somewhat similar to professional wrestling in that it is a pseudo-contest in which the outcome is fully, or in some measure, predetermined.



COMPLAINT FO	AP .	à
COMPLAINT		ı

Complaint Type:Broadcast

Account T	vpe: F	₹eside	ntial
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Congressi	

IC Number:	06-10253193	Case Type:	Complaint
Date Received:	10/23/2006	Complainant:	
Date Entered:	10/31/2006	Date Assigned:	10/31/2006
Entered By:	PORTALSV1	Date Reassigned:	
Assigned To:	CCIN	Service Date:	Referral
Date Closed:	11/01/2006	Response Date:	
Closed By:		Original Analyst:	
Close Letter Needed?	○ Yes ● No	Purged By:	Purged Date:
The state of the s		Removed By:	Removed Date:
Supervisor Check:	◯ Yes ● No	Indecency Referral Code:	

Current Status: Closed

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Associated Case:

Complaint Summary:

Apparent Garrier(s) i e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e		
☐ Yés<< <check< th=""><th>here if you wish to serve</th><th>both a Wireline and Wireless carrier</th><th></th></check<>	here if you wish to serve	both a Wireline and Wireless carrier	
Problem Number:			
Title: None	First Name:	Middle Initial:	Last Name:
Contact Name:	1	Best Time to Call:	
Contact Number:	Ext.	Consumer's Telephone Number:	Ext.
Fax Number:		TTY Number:	
Email Address:		Internet Address:	
PO Box:		Address:	
City:	Danbury	State: CT	Zip: 06811

On Behalf Of:	
Company Name:	
Party's Name:	Relationship with the Party:
Party's Contact Number: Ext.	PO Box:
•	Address:
	City:State:Zip:
Other Party that can be contacted?	
Name:	Relationship:
Contact Number: Ext.	Address:
	City:, State: Zip:
**Amount of credit FCC effort generated:	
	Duplicate Credit Checked: ○ Yes ● No

Have you paid any of the disputed charges?

Did the company billing for these charges adjust or refund some or all of the disputed charges?

If yes, what was the amount of the adjustment or refund?

b. Telephone number for the carrier(s) or company(ies) involved

with your complaint, including area code:

c. Which type of service is involved with your complaint:

Phone: Ext:

	TCPA Informa	tion from 475	
1. the telephone number of the in	ndividual or company who called o	or faxed you:	Ext:
 a description of the telemarke identification of the compan phone numbers that were in: the "opt-out" number(s) provic (List number(s) given in the cadditional calls or faxes.) Have you: (a) purchased anyt (b) made an inquiry or application you the call or fax; If so, pleation (1) Date of Program: Time of Program: Network: 	led in the call(s) or on the fax(es): all(s) or fax(es) for you to contact thing from the company being advition to that company; or (c) given se describe and state when you h lency of the station on which you im Was Viewed:	or unsolicited fax, including an e being advertised, and any if you do not want to receive any ertised in the call or fax; consent to the company to send ad such contact with the company.	Ext:
ANALYSIS SECTION			
Correspondence Type:	● Complaint ○ Inquiry	Source Code:	Postal Mail
Apparent Carrier(s):		Re-Serve Carrier(s):	©
Responding Carrier(s):		Assigned Subject Code:	OTHER
Activity Code:	Direct	Other Code Description Assigned Code Acronym:	TV Game Show contest OTHE
Final Responsible Party:		Sub-Category:	Other
		Additional Sub-Category:	
Copy of Response Sent to Consumer by Carrier?:	○ Yes ● No		
Mediation with Carrier/Complainant?:	◯ Yes ● No	Response Type:	:
	DPO I	_etters	
		Letters A792 DROCHAC DROCTES	
Referral Information Date Referred:			Consumer Referral Letter Agency Refe
Referred To:	Agency Name(s):	Company Name(s):	findscenes v

RECEIVED & INSPECTED

OCT 23 2006

FCC - MAILROOM

Dear FCC Enforcement Bureau,

10/18/06

For the past 2 nights I have been trying to play the hour-long interactive TV game "Play To Win" which airs at 2AM on WPIX-TV Channel 11 New York. It says "No purchase necessary" for a chance to win up to at least \$500. You can submit 10 entries per contest, 50 an hour through 3 ways: 1) Call a 900 # paying \$1.50/call 2) Text message \$1.50/text 3) FREE online web entry at www.playtowin.tv. Both nights the FREE web entry has been either down or when you submit your name they say they will e-mail you back a link that you need to go click on to confirm_l_ never receive the link until AFTER the contest is over. This morning I received emails at 7:07AM & 10:27AM from entries I did at around 2:15am! I have these and all e-mails with the times saved. You are supposed to get instant confirmations because each contest is about 10 minutes in length. It is illegal to say "No purchase necessary" but require people to pay possibly up to \$150 a night to enter. This is a deceptive practice. I tried contacting the station several times and left messages but no one calls me back. I called "Play to Win" customer service only to get answering machine messages. Can you please investigate this? Enclosed please find copies of e-mail validations with the times on it. Thank you for your help in this matter.



Date: From:

Play2win validation 10/17/2006 3:04:43 A.M. Eastern Standard Time

To:

noreply@playtowinwebentry.com

Hello.

Thank you for participating!
Click here to validate your request:
http://www.playtowinwebentry.com/validate/cw11/1899af0d0e816373070421cdcc61b6dd

Play2win

DO NOT REPLY ON THIS EMAIL, IT WILL NOT BE READ

Wadnacdor Ost-b-- 10 oose .

Play2win validation 10/17/2006 3:05:17 A.M. Eastern Standard Time Daté: From:

noreply@playtowinwebentry.com To:

Hello,

Thank you for participating! Click here to validate your request: http://www.playtowinwebentry.com/validate/cw11/eefc5ac9763c8f38951282529e7c4ba1

Play2win

DO NOT REPLY ON THIS EMAIL, IT WILL NOT BE READ

Play2win validation

Date:

10/18/2006 7:07:06 A.M. Eastern Standard Time

From: To:

noreply@playtowinwebentry.com

Hello,

Thank you for participating! Click here to validate your request: http://www.playtowinwebentry.com/validate/cw11/e64a542a6dd8c7635b2b608d1532fd76

Play2win

DO NOT REPLY ON THIS EMAIL, IT WILL NOT BE READ

Date:

Play2win validation 10/18/2006 10:27:13 A.M. Eastern Standard Time noreply@playtowinwebentry.com

From: To:

Hello,

Thank you for participating! Click here to validate your request: http://www.playtowinwebentry.com/validate/cw11/6ae551c5d1d05f845ae79d79ddafec4e

Play2win

DO NOT REPLY ON THIS EMAIL, IT WILL NOT BE READ

Wednesday October 19 2006 A---- 0 "

Complaint Type:Bro	adcast	Account Type: Residential	Congressional Complain
IC Number:	06-WB12088650	Case Type:	Complaint
Date Received:	08/08/2006	Complainant:	
Date Entered:	08/08/2006	Date Assigned:	08/14/2006
Entered By:	FCC_NOTES01	Date Reassigned:	
Assigned To:	CCIN	Service Date:	Referral
Date Closed:	08/17/2006	Response Date:	
Closed By:		Original Analyst:	
Close Letter Needed?	◯ Yes ● No	Purged By:	Purged Date:
		Removed By:	Removed Date:
Supervisor Check:	○ Yes ● No	Indecency Referral Code:	Denial - Broadcast outside of subject matter definition
Current Status:		ssociated Case:	
	/: <u>a "promotio</u> nal" program calle	d "Text to Win." I believe that this ed to send text messages with ar 40 minutes that people who send	

establishment. "Pick to Win" is nothing more than a numbers racket and in no way serves the public interest.

Apparent Carrier(s): Yes<<< Check here if you wish to serve both a Wireline and Wireless parrier. Problem Number: Title: None First Name: Middle Initial: Last Name: Contact Name: Best Time to Call: **Contact Number:** Ext. Consumer's Telephone Number: Ext. TTY Number: Fax Number: Email Address: Internet Address: PO Box: Address: City: Suffern **Zip:** 10901 State: NY

On Behalf Of:		
Company Name:		
Party's Name:	Relationship with the Party:	
Party's Contact Number: Ext.	PO Box: Address: City:State:Zip:	
Other Party that can be contacted?		

Name:		Relationship:	
Contact Number: Ext.		Address:	
***		City:, State: Zip:	
**Amount of credit FCC effort ge		Duplicate Credit Checked: Yes	No
Have you paid any of the disputed			;
Did the company billing for these of	=	or all of the disputed charges?	
If yes, what was the amount of the		an of the disputed charges:	
a. Name of carrier(s) or company(i	•	Sprint/Nextel	
b. Telephone number for the carrie	er(s) or company(ies) involved		
with your complaint, including area		Phone: Ext:	
c. Which type of service is involved	· ·	Aller France 475	
4 the telephone sumber of the telephone	TCPA Informa		E.A.
1. the telephone number of the ind	• •	•	Ext:
phone numbers that were inclu 4. the "opt-out" number(s) provide (List number(s) given in the call	ng call, pre-recorded message, whose products or services wer uded in the call or fax: d in the call(s) or on the fax(es)	or unsolicited fax, including an re being advertised, and any	Ext:
	on to that compan y ; or (c) given	consent to the company to send nad such contact with the company.	Ext:
(1) Date of Program: (2) Time of Program:	8/8/2006 2:00am		
(3) Network: (4) Call Sign, Channel OR Freque (5) City and State Where Program (6) Name of Program or DJ/Perso Updated? ○ Yes. ● No	WB ncy of the station on which you was Viewed:	viewed/heard the material:	WPIX New York, NY "Text to Win"
ANALYSIS SECTION			
Correspondence Type:	● Complaint ○ Inquiry	Source Code:	Internet
Apparent Carrier(s):		Re-Serve Carrier(s):	区
Responding Carrier(s):		Assigned Subject Code:	Programming Issues
		Program Type:	₩
Activity Code:	Direct	Assigned Code Acronym:	PROG
Final Responsible Party:		Sub-Category:	Content Criticism (PCCR)
		Additional Sub-Category:	
Copy of Response Sent to Consumer by Carrier?:	○ Yes ○ No		
Mediation with Carrier/Complainant?:	○ Yes ○ No	Response Type:	

COMPLAINT FOR	
Accou	nt Tyne' Residential

☐ Congressional Complaint ☐

Complaint Type:Wireline	Account Type
Complaint Type.wirenite	Account Type

IC Number:	03-10026115	Case Type:	Complaint
Date Received:	02/05/2003	Complainant:	
Date Entered:	02/19/2003	Date Assigned:	02/21/2003
Entered By:	PORTALSV1	Date Reassigned:	02/24/2003
Assigned To:	FCCIN	Service Date:	
Date Closed:	02/25/2003	Response Date:	
Closed By:		Original Analyst:	Judy Williams/FCCIN
Close Letter Needed?	O Yes ● No	Purged By:	Purged Date:
		Removed By:	Removed Date:
Supervisor Check:	○ Yes ● No	Indecency Referral Code:	

Current Status: Closed

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Associated Case:

Complaint Summary:

Apparent Carrier(s ☐ Yes≪ Check		oth a Wireline and Wireless carrier.	
Problem Number:			general and the second and the secon
Title: None	First Name:	Middle Initial:	Last Name:
Contact Name:		Best Time to Call:	
Contact Number:	Ext.	Consumer's Telephone Number:	Ext.
Fax Number:		TTY Number:	
Email Address:		Internet Address:	
PO Box:		Address:	
City:	Hendersonville	State: NC	Zip: 28791

On Behalf Of:	
Company Name:	
Party's Name:	Relationship with the Party:
Party's Contact Number: Ext.	PO Box:
	Address:
	City:State:Zip:
Other Party that can be contacted?	
Name:	Relationship:
Contact Number: Ext.	Address:
	City:, State: Zip:
**Amount of credit FCC effort generated:	
	Duplicate Credit Checked: ○ Yes ● No

Have you paid any of the disputed charges?

Did the company billing for these charges adjust or refund some or all of the disputed charges?

If yes, what was the amount of the adjustment or refund?

b. Telephone number for the carrier(s) or company(ies) involved

with your complaint, including area code:

c. Which type of service is involved with your complaint:

Phone: Ext:

	TCPA Informa	tion from 475		
·	ne individual or company who called o	or faxed you:	Ext:	
 your telephone number(s) a description of the telema identification of the comphone numbers that were the "opt-out" number(s) pr (List number(s) given in the additional calls or faxes.) 	Ext:			
5. Have you: (a) purchased a (b) made an inquiry or app	anything from the company being adv olication to that company; or (c) given olease describe and state when you h	consent to the company to send		
(3) Network:				
(4) Call Sign, Channel OR Fi (5) City and State Where Pro	requency of the station on which you param Was Viewed	viewed/heard the material:		
(6) Name of Program or DJ/I				
Updated? ○ Yes ● No.				
ANALYSIS SECTION				
Correspondence Type:	● Complaint ○ Inquiry	Source Code:	Postal Mail	
Apparent Carrier(s):		Re-Serve Carrier(s):		
Responding Carrier(s):		Assigned Subject Code:	OTHER	
		Other Code Description	legalities of game	
Activity Code:	Direct	Assigned Code Acronym:	OTHE	
Final Responsible Party:		Sub-Category:	Other (OTHE)	
		Additional Sub-Category:		
Copy of Response Sent to Consumer by Carrier?:	○ Yes ○ No			
Mediation with Carrier/Complainant?:	○ Yes ○ No	Response Type:		
	DRO I	Letters		
	DRO 255 DRO 79.1 DRO)-792 DROSHAC DROSTRS		
Referral Information Date Referred:			Consumer Referral Letter Agenc	. 622
Date Neicifeu.				y Keja Enij- R
Referred To:	Agency Name(s):	Company Name(s):	exameumed	
1.0101104 101	<u>*</u>	<u>D</u>		

January 22, 2003

Federal Communications Commission Enforcement Bureau Investigations and Hearing Division 445 12th Street, SW Washington, DC 20554 RECEIVED & INSPECTED

Confirmed JAN 3 0 2003

FEB 0 0 2003

FCC - MAILROOM

Distribution Center

Dear FCC,

I have for a long suspected that the Wheel of Fortune and Jeopardy are fixed in terms of managing who wins.

Recently on Wheel of Fortune there was added two "Mystery" spaces on the wheel. The incidence rate that these two spaces are landed upon defies all laws of probability, establishing in my mind that the show controls the wheel. And if it can control the wheel, it can control the game and have certain contestants win in order to increase their audiences and ratings.

Jeopardy tests its contestants so that it knows what the contestants know and do not know and they can manage, and I suspect they do, the questions in order to have a given contestant win so that they also can increase their audiences and their ratings.

It is my view that these shows must be impartial to their contestants. And I seriously believe that they are not impartial for purposes of pandering to certain audiences and for purposes of improving their ratings.

These shows are defrauding and cheating their contestants by not giving them an equal chance to win and are being less than honest with their audiences who are led to believe that the contestants have an equal chance to win based on their skill and knowledge.

I would encourage you, in the interest of fairness and justice, to check this out. And I would greatly appreciate your keeping me informed of your actions in this regard.

