



**American Teleservices Association**

**For Immediate Release**

October 23, 2007

**Contact:**

Jessi Mark

317.816.9336

[Jessi@ATAConnect.org](mailto:Jessi@ATAConnect.org)

**ATA supports FTC Director's Testimony on DNC**

Indianapolis, IN- The Federal Trade Commission's ("FTC") Bureau of Consumer Protection Director Lydia Parnes testified this morning in front of the U.S. House of Representatives' Subcommittee on Commerce, Trade, and Consumer Protection of the Energy and Commerce Committee. Her testimony touched on three pieces of pending legislation, one of which is the Do Not Call ("DNC") Re-Authorization Act. If passed, this bill would make the DNC Registry permanent.

According to the American Teleservices Association ("ATA"), a non-profit trade association representing the contact center industry, Ms. Parnes testified the FTC will not remove any telephone numbers from the DNC Registry until Congress passes a bill to make the DNC Registry permanent or the FTC passes a rulemaking on the topic.

Tim Searcy, the chief executive officer of the ATA, said, "We would be in support of a permanent Registry if we had the assurance that it is being appropriately updated. We would encourage the FTC or Congress to require phone companies to provide a record of all disconnected numbers so they can be removed from the DNC - making the list more accurate." Searcy continued, "Until that happens, we support the extension of the current list."

The ATA has a positive relationship with the FTC by striving to ensure the interests of businesses and consumers are well-balanced.

Currently, the DNC Registry is set on a 5-year cycle, expiring after 5 years to allow the FTC to properly cleanse the registry and to provide consumers the opportunity to reconsider their registration. Consumers' telephone numbers change at a high frequency every year, and phone numbers are only removed when they are reassigned to someone not on the DNC Registry. If the phone numbers are disconnected, they remain on the Registry.

###

The American Teleservices Association (ATA) is the only association dedicated exclusively to Teleservices. ATA ([www.ATAconnect.org](http://www.ATAconnect.org)) represents both inbound and outbound contact centers, users, trainers, consultants, and equipment suppliers that initiate, facilitate, and generate telephone, internet, and email sales, service, and support. Founded in 1983, ATA currently represents more than 4,000 contact centers employing over 1.8 million professionals in the United States and numerous foreign countries.

Through advanced, professional education events, legislative representation, timely industry updates and analyses, and vital business networking opportunities, ATA is committed to providing leadership in the professional and ethical use of the telephone for conducting business. ATA is committed to serving the needs of its members, recommending the highest standards of quality and protecting the rights of consumers.