

**STATEMENT OF
COMMISSIONER GEOFFREY STARKS**

Re: *In the Matter of Gregory Robbins, Interstate Brokers of America LLC, and National Health Agents LLC*, Notice of Apparent Liability for Forfeiture, File No. EB-TCD-18-00030995

There are numerous and ongoing efforts to stem the tide of unwanted and illegal robocalls, yet Americans continue to receive billions of unsolicited robocalls each year. Many of them come from telemarketers or lead generators like Mr. Robbins who place robocalls to phone numbers they purchase or to phone numbers secured from unsuspecting consumers, in this case those seeking information about health care insurance. Here, Mr. Robbins allegedly placed more than half a million robocalls in one month to consumers without getting their express consent, including almost 250,000 calls to numbers on the National Do Not Call Registry, thereby ignoring the rights of consumers not to be bothered by unwanted prerecorded calls under the Telephone Consumer Protection Act. Given the large number of verified calls found to have been placed without express consent, I support the significant forfeiture penalty proposed herein.

Thanks to the Industry Traceback Group for alerting us to this illegal robocalling campaign, and I appreciate the hard work of the Enforcement Bureau staff in investigating and uncovering the extent of the harms caused to consumers by these alleged violations. I approve.