STATEMENT OF ACTING CHAIRWOMAN JESSICA ROSENWORCEL

Re: In the Matter of Tele Circuit Network Corporation, Forfeiture Order, File No. EB-TCD-17-00023953

This is an ugly scam. It involves a company—Tele Circuit—that hired telemarketers to call consumers with a deceptive sales pitch. The company suggested they were reaching out on behalf of a consumer's existing communications carrier and then use that lie to switch the consumer's phone service and saddle them with unauthorized charges on their bills. They targeted senior citizens and people with health conditions. Then, when their victims did not pay up and compensate Tele Circuit for these unauthorized charges, the company would even go so far as to disconnect the consumer's phone service.

This is not right. It violates the Communications Act. So today we hold this company accountable for its mistreatment of consumers. To anyone else using our nation's phone systems to perpetuate this kind of scam, take note because our efforts won't stop here.

Thank you to those who worked on this, including Michael Epshteyn, Rosemary Harold, Shannon Lipp, David Marks, Latashia Middleton, Phil Rosario, Kristi Thompson, and Shana Yates from the Enforcement Bureau; Michael Carlson, Terry Cavanaugh, Richard Mallen, and Bill Richardson from the Office of General Counsel; and Alex Hernandez, Erica McMahon, and Mika Savir from the Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau.