



NO 069

TAIWAN FTC NEWSLETTER

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The Legality of Architects Associations' Collection and Transfer of Members' Architectural Fees

To apply for building licenses or permission for building changes, a member architect of the Taipei Architects Association is required to pay a "registration fee" according to a fixed ratio of the cost of the project of concern and to turn in the application documents to the association for the association to forward the application documents to the building authority to "register". Afterwards, the member architect has to apply to the association for a refund and the association will gradually return the amount in accordance with the progress of the project. The architects associations of New Taipei City, Taichung City, Chiayi City and Kaohsiung City also have regulations to allow them to collect architectural fees on behalf of their members and then transfer the amounts to the members. To find out whether this practice of the above-mentioned architect associations was in violation of the Fair Trade Act, the FTC initiated an ex officio investigation.

In both the Constitution and laws governing specialized professions, there are no stipulations restricting certified professionals from offering better prices, quantities, quality, service or other conditions to compete for business opportunities. There is no contradiction between the requirement that such professionals must pass certification according to law and that such professionals can offer more advantageous conditions to compete. Decisions regarding trading terms according to their own will not only guarantee the freedom of professionals to manage their business activities, but also complies with the overall benefits to society. For this reason, professionals meet the description of an "enterprise" as set forth

in Article 2 of the Fair Trade Act and are therefore subject to the Fair Trade Act.

In the current version of the Fair Trade Act, there is no specific regulation granting immunity to “specialized professions.” As set forth in Article 46 of the Fair Trade Act, “The Act has precedence over other laws with regard to the governance of any enterprise’s conduct in respect of competition. However, this stipulation shall not be applied to where other laws provide relevant provisions that do not conflict with the legislative purposes of this Act.” Thus, the applicability of the Fair Trade Act and other laws is defined. Hence, regarding the Fair Trade Act as a set of competition regulations applicable only to regular profit-seeking businesses and inapplicable to specialized professions would be like creating “immunity for specialized professions” outside Article 46 of the Fair Trade Act. It is against the law and also limits the range of applicability of the Fair Trade Act.

Professions may have different work environments or requirements and involve dissimilar subjective and objective qualifications, but this by no means suggests that different professions are rated differently in competition law. In a market economy, all participants in economic activities, whether they are specialized or not, use their knowledge, experience, skills and labor to offer products or services that have economic value to compete for business opportunities by offering better prices, quantities, quality, service or other conditions. This free competition mechanism is the foundation of a market economy and a principle that works for all occupations. It does not become different because certain professions involve public welfare or social responsibility or specific expectations.

It is set forth in Article 37 of the Architects Act: “Architects associations should define the standards and regulations governing the practices of architects. Such provisions should clearly define the scope of practices, compensation or fee standards, as well as

the obligations and responsibilities of the architects. The resolution of the general members’ meeting is necessary to establish the regulations governing the practices of architects stated in the preceding paragraph. Where the association is located in a special municipality, such regulations should be reported to the local government authority governing architectural affairs and thereafter submitted to the evaluation and approval of the Ministry of the Interior.” In other words, the standards and regulations governing the practices of architects are to define the relations between an architects association and its members.

Meanwhile, according the interpretation of the Ministry of the Interior of Paragraph 2 of Article 15 of the Regulations on the Practices of Architects, participation in architectural fee collection and transfer systems adopted by architects associations has to be voluntary; in other words, both the association and its members have to reach an agreement in advance. Architects associations cannot stipulate a centralized architectural fee collection regulation as mentioned above. If such a system is made compulsory, it is not only contradictory to the aforesaid interpretation from the Ministry of the Interior but also meets the description of trade associations adopting various measures to restrict the business activities of enterprises set forth in Paragraph 4 of Article 14 of the Fair Trade Act.

The architectural fee collection and transfer system implemented by an architects association is only a “transaction payment approach” limitation for the member architects and their clients. There is no direct restriction on the member architect’s decision with regard to price, quantity, trading terms, trading areas or trading counterparts. The “transaction payment approach” itself is not an important competitive means of an architect. An architect who does not entrust an association to collect architectural fees will not obtain

more business opportunities than architects who do. Therefore, restricting members to accept collection of architectural fees through the association will not obstruct members from offering advantageous prices, quantities, quality, service or other conditions to compete for business opportunities.

Architects associations have adopted architectural fee collection and transfer systems for over 40 years. The financial sources of architects associations, besides members' initiation fees and annual fees, also include a certain percentage of the architectural fees member architects receive from their clients. The certain percentage is called an "operating cost." When the interest rate is higher, the interest from the architectural fees collected by an association can be rather considerable. An architects association collects architectural fees for architects mainly to ensure that it can get the "operating cost" and the interest; therefore, it has to be compulsory. In other words, for architects associations, the collection of architectural fees on behalf of member architects is out of financial consideration, and not to restrict competition.

In Article 11 of the Regulations Governing the Practices of Members of Provincial (Municipal) Architects Associations approved by the Ministry of the Interior, the following is stipulated: "When an architect is delegated by a client to be responsible for a construction project, the architectural fees for the survey, planning, design and supervision work until project completion shall be calculated in accordance with percentages specified in the following articles. However, architectural fees for various building types and dimensions and work of different levels of difficulty shall be determined according to the percentages specified in the Architectural Fee Criteria Table". Architectural fee payment durations and ratios are also specified in Paragraph 1 of Article 15 of the same regulations. In other words, architectural fee standards and payment durations are already

specified in the Regulations Governing the Practices of Member Architects of Provincial (Municipal) Architects Associations. The fact that competition on price and transaction conditions among architects is restricted as a result of regulations (including the Architects Act, the Regulations Governing the Practices of Member Architects of Provincial (Municipal) Architects Associations, and the Architectural Fee Criteria Table) means that architectural fee collection and transfer systems adopted by architects associations do not have any significant restraint on competition on price and transaction conditions among architects. That is, architectural fee collection and transfer systems adopted by architects associations have not created extra restrictions on competition. Even if an architects association did not implement such a system, competition on price or transaction conditions among its members would not become any fiercer.


Architectural fees collected by architects associations are calculated in accordance with the statutory project costs but the amounts architects collect from their clients are based on the actual project costs after both sides negotiate by taking levels of difficulty of work and market rates into consideration. However actual project costs are significantly higher than statutory project costs; therefore, architects associations are unable to find out the amounts that their member architects actually receive by collecting architectural fees on behalf of their members. Neither are they able to supervise whether their members charge in accordance with the Architectural Fee Criteria Table.

There are no business relations or competition between any architects association and its members. Architects associations' collection and transfer of architectural fees can only have an effect on the transaction payment approaches between member architects and their clients. The practice does not obstruct members from "offering better prices, quantities, quality, service or other conditions to

compete for business opportunities and engage in performance competition. On the contrary, it has the legitimate purpose or positive effect of helping to protect the interests of architects and their clients, reduce transaction disputes and assure the independence of architects. For this reason, it is impossible to conclude that architects associations' architectural fee collection and transfer practice is "able to affect trading order."

A trade association is composed of members. Its decisions reflect the preferences and choices of most members. Such collective decision-making is a characteristic in the operation of trade associations. If most members consider that the association charter, systems, decisions or measures have jeopardized their interests and are obviously unfair, they can make proposals and vote on them to revise the association's decisions. There is no need to regulate the activities of such associations by applying the Fair Trade Act. Even if members opposing the architectural fee collection and transfer system are unable to express their opinions or resort to voting through the internal procedures of the association, such controversies still belong to the association's management


supervision issues by nature, and are not competition disputes. They ought to be dealt with according to the Architects Act or through the intervention of the competent authority of the Civil Associations Act. It is inappropriate for the FTC to apply the Fair Trade Act to usurp the jurisdiction of the competent authority of the industry in question or the competent authority of civil associations. The purpose of the Fair Trade Act is to promote market competition and maintain trading order. Direct intervention in disputes between a trade association and its members with no evidence showing that market competition or trading order is in jeopardy will be deemed to be inappropriate interference with the independence of the trade association. Moreover, it might make the members transform simple internal disputes (membership fee rates, member status, etc.) into competition issues and distort the objectives that the Fair Trade Act is intended to achieve.

In short, based on existing evidence, it is difficult to conclude that architects associations' centralized collection and transfer of architectural fees is in violation of the Fair Trade Act. 

Netwave and Power Full Violated the Fair Trade Act for failing to file a pre-merger notification

The FTC decided at the 1,262nd Commissioners' meeting on Jan. 13, 2016 that Netwave Cable Television Co., Ltd. (hereinafter referred to as Netwave) and Power Full Cable Television Co., Ltd. (hereinafter referred to as Power Full) should have filed a merger notification with the FTC because of their joint operations but had never done so; therefore they had violated Article 11(1) of the Fair Trade Act at the time of conduct. For this reason, the FTC imposed administrative fines of NT\$850,000 on Netwave and 250,000 on Power Full.

According to the FTC's investigation, Netwave and Power Full started to share machine rooms, make joint purchases and business promotions and use the same employees in May 2014. The joint management practices met the merger description in Subparagraph 4 of Article 6(1); in addition, Netwave also accounted for over one fourth of the cable TV service market of Wanhua District and Zhong Zheng District in the second quarter of 2014 and the condition met the merger filing threshold specified in Subparagraph

2 of Article 11(1) of the Fair Trade Act at the time. Meanwhile, the aggregate market share of the two companies also exceeded more than two thirds of the said market during the same period and the condition met the merger filing threshold set forth in Subparagraph 1 of Article 11(1) of the Fair Trade Act at the time, whereas none of the proviso regulations in Article 11-1 of the Fair Trade Act at the time were applicable. Hence, Netwave and Power Full were required to file a merger notification with the FTC in advance but did not do so. This was in violation of Article 11(1) of the Fair Trade Act at the time of conduct. After considering the two companies' market shares, sales, numbers of subscribers, business scales and extent of cooperation throughout the investigation and that it was their first violation, the FTC cited Articles 13(1) and 40(1) of the Fair Trade Act at the time of conduct, imposed administrative fines of 850,000 on Netwave and 250,000 on Power Full, and also ordered the two companies to file a merger notification or make necessary corrections within three months after receiving the dispositions. 


Xin An Enterprise Violated the Fair Trade Act for its Approach in Selling Gas Valves

The FTC decided at the 1,253rd Commissioners' Meeting on Nov. 11, 2015 that Xin An Enterprise Co., Ltd. (hereinafter referred to as Xin An Enterprise) had violated Article 25 of the Fair Trade Act. To sell its quake-proof gas valves, Xin An Enterprise held disaster prevention presentations and offered gifts to attract people with no intention of making purchases to attend. During each presentation, the company made inappropriate statements about the price of the product. Then its salespeople followed the people home and pushed them to buy the product. With their free will under suppression, some of the people had no choice but to make purchases. The overall marketing approach was deceptive and obviously unfair conduct able to affect trading order. Therefore, the FTC cited the first section of Article 42 of the Fair Trade Act, ordered the company to immediately cease the unlawful act and also imposed on it an administrative fine of NT\$800,000.

After interviewing concerned parties, the FTC concluded that the deceptive and obviously unfair marketing strategy was carried out in three stages. First, after finding a suitable venue to hold a presentation, the company's salespeople distributed disaster prevention flyers and raffle tickets to attract people to attend the presentation. People arriving at the venue were unaware that the activity was intended to sell quake-proof gas valves. Secondly, at the presentation, Xin An Enterprise would either announce that people purchasing the product could buy one and

get one free at a cost of NT\$7,990 or talk about things other than the price, such as free installation for a trial period. However, it is NT\$3,900~4,000 for a quake-proof gas valve, this meant that the company did not disclose rather important trading information or else made inappropriate statements about the price. In the end, after the presentation was over, regardless of whether people expressed interest in having the device installed, the company's salespeople followed them home and installed the quake-proof gas valve before revealing the price and demanding payment in cash. Some of these people even had to borrow money from their neighbors to pay for the device under the pressure of the salespeople.

Xin An Enterprise adopted the above-mentioned sales approach between July and December 2014 to push quake-proof gas valves all over Taiwan. It held 2 to 3 presentations each day, 25 days a month, with each presentation attended by 10 people on average. Hence, the company sold 30 to 40 quake-proof gas valves and brought in over NT\$200,000 each month. The conduct was able to affect trading order; therefore, the FTC made the aforesaid sanction.


The FTC would like to remind people to safeguard their interests and evaluate whether they really need the device when a business pushes its quake-proof gas valves on them. If a business adopts fraudulent means or installs such products without their consent, people can call the police right away to protect themselves and their property. 

Non-Prohibition of Merger between Yung Shin Pharmaceuticals and Zoetis Biotech

The FTC decided at the 1,271st Commissioners' Meeting on Mar. 16, 2016 that the overall economic benefits from the merger between Yung Shin Pharmaceutical Industrial Co. (hereinafter referred to as Yung Shin Pharmaceuticals) and Zoetis Biotech Manufacturing Ltd. (hereinafter referred to as Zoetis Biotech) would be greater than the disadvantages from the competition restraint thereof incurred and therefore did not prohibit the merger.

Yung Shin Pharmaceuticals intended to acquire 100% of the shares and control of Zoetis Biotech. The condition met the merger types described in Subparagraphs 2 and 5 of Article 10(1) of the Fair Trade Act. According to the applicant's assessment, Zoetis Biotech accounted for over one quarter of the feed supplement market in 2014 while the total market share of Zoetis Biotech and Yung Shin Pharmaceuticals also exceeded one third in the same year. The conditions met the merger filing thresholds specified in Subparagraphs 1 and 2 of Article 11(1) and none of the proviso regulations in Article 12 of the same act were applicable. Therefore, Yung Shin Pharmaceuticals filed a merger notification as required.

The main products of Yung Shin Pharmaceuticals were medicines for humans and animals, whereas Zoetis Biotech was primarily a manufacturer of animal drugs and feed supplements. Since both merging parties were engaged in the production of drugs for animals, it was a horizontal merger. After the merger, there would still be many domestic and foreign enterprises competing in the market. In addition, no restrictions were specified in any domestic regulations on entry to the said market and there were no obstacles to the acquisition of raw materials or tariff barriers. Any new business with the technical capacity would be able to enter the market. Meanwhile, as there were many competitors in the market, trading counterparts would still have enough bargaining power.


Since the merger would not lead to any significant competition restraint in the relevant market, it was reasonable to conclude that the overall benefits from the merger would be greater than the disadvantages from the competition restraint. Hence, the FTC cited Article 13(1) of the Fair Trade Act and did not prohibit the merger. 

Ya Pu Construction Violated the Fair Trade Act for Posting False Advertisements

The FTC decided at the 1,263rd Commissioners' Meeting on Jan. 20, 2016 that Ya Pu Construction Co., Ltd. (hereinafter referred to as Ya Pu Construction) had violated Article 21(1) of the Fair Trade Act by marking external areas on the floor plans for its "Waterfront Villas No. 19" housing project located in the South District of Tainan City as part of the interior space. The practice was a false, untrue and misleading representation with regard to use and content of product. Therefore, the FTC imposed an administrative fine of NT\$200,000 on the company.

On the floor plans for Blocks A1, A3, A7, A16, B1, B6 and B15 (hereinafter referred to as the advertisement) of the "Waterfront Villas No. 19" housing project, Ya Pu Construction marked the balconies with dotted lines and indicated that they were part of the bedrooms, living rooms or dining rooms. Overall, the advertisement gave consumers the impression that the said areas were indeed part of the interior and could be used as advertised. However, according to the Public Works Bureau of Tainan City Government, the use of the areas in the dotted lines were inconsistent with the purposes indicated in the plans presented to apply for the building permit and suspicions arose over the as-built drawings and illegal increase in floor area. If the company increased the floor area or rebuilding without applying for the corresponding building permits after obtaining the use permit, it could be punished according to the Building




Act. Ya Pu Construction admitted that it had not applied to the Tainan City Government for approval to change the balconies into part of the interior. Under such circumstances, buyers who used the balcony areas as part of the interior as advertised could face having these parts of their homes dismantled if the illegal use of space was discovered. In other words, the representation that the company provided in the advertisement was not only inconsistent with the facts but could also lead consumers to have wrong perceptions or make erroneous decisions. At the same time, such behavior could cause market competition and order to lose their original functions as well. Competitors could lose their customers as a result, and unfair competition be created. Therefore, the conduct was in violation of Article 21(1) of the Fair Trade Act. 

EasyCard Corp. Violated the Fair Trade Act for Marketing EasyCard

The FTC decided at the 1,268th Commissioners' Meeting that EasyCard Corporation (hereinafter referred to as EasyCard Corp.) had violated Article 21(1) of the Fair Trade Act by advertising advance order for Yui Hatano EasyCards placed via telephone. The practice was a false, untrue and misleading representation with regard to quantity of product in violation of Article 21(1) of the Fair Trade Act. The FTC imposed an administrative fine of NT\$500,000 on the company.

On Aug. 31, 2015, EasyCard Corp. announced on its website that 30,000 EasyCards, 15,000 sets, with pictures of Yui Hatano, would be sold only to consumers placing orders via telephone, starting at 00:00 on Sep. 1 of the same year. On that day, the company claimed the cards were sold out within 4 hours and 18 minutes yet in reality it only offered 12,000 sets to buyers placing orders on the phone and the final actual number of sets sold through this activity was 11,980. The remaining sets were

sold to company employees or to businesses and organizations purchasing them for public relations purposes and some were given away by the company to improve public relations. Since the said EasyCards were limited editions up for grabs, they definitely had a certain level of attraction. Consumers believed the company was actually offering 15,000 sets for people to buy, but EasyCard Corp. only provided 12,000 sets to be sold through the said activity. Consumers competing to place orders via telephone were unaware that the 15,000 sets the company had claimed to be offering in advertisements included the ones reserved for its employees or businesses or organizations intending to use the cards for public relations purposes. In other words, consumers could have wrong perceptions or make wrong decisions as a consequence and EasyCard Corp. had apparently failed to fulfill its obligation as an advertiser and tell consumers the exact number of the said EasyCards available. The conduct was in violation of Article 21(1) of the Fair Trade Act. 

Announcement of the Legal Interpretation for the “Standard for Determination of Concerted Actions Being Too Insignificant for Fine Imposition”

The FTC decided at the 1,266th Commissioners' Meeting on Feb. 3, 2016 that the standard for the determination of concerted actions being too insignificant for fine imposition was as follows: the enterprises participating in a concerted action together account for less than 10% of the relevant market and are assessed as being unable to affect the production, transactions or supply of and demand for service in the said market, but concerted actions intended mainly to restrict the price, quantity, trading counterparts or trading areas of goods or services are excluded.

Due to the considerable impacts of concerted actions on trading order, the FTC has always considered concerted actions to be illegal. However, if the enterprises participating in a concerted action have very insignificant market power and are therefore unable to exert any substantial effect on the market, the adoption of regulatory measures is unnecessary since the likelihood of such a concerted action leading to any restriction on competition is extremely small. In addition, collecting evidence of a concerted action is difficult while a suitable allocation of administrative resources is an important consideration. Hence, competition authorities generally find it more appropriate to concentrate their efforts on investigating concerted actions that can have serious effects on market competition and order. For this reason, the FTC has defined concerted actions with slight impacts on the supply-demand function in the market as “concerted actions too insignificant for fine imposition,” and participants in such concerted actions


may be granted immunity from administrative fines.

Currently, the threshold in the EU and Germany for granting immunity to businesses engaging in insignificant concerted actions is that the aggregate market share of such businesses is less than 10% of the relevant market. Since the principal part of the domestic industrial structure is consisted by small and medium enterprises (SMEs) in both Taiwan and Germany, the 10% threshold adopted in Germany is therefore deemed suitable in the country. Moreover, as for the concerted actions that the FTC has sanctioned over the years, the combined market share of participants has generally been larger than 10% of the relevant market in most cases. Therefore, concerted actions with participants accounting for less than 10% of the relevant market are defined as concerted actions too insignificant for fine imposition.

Meanwhile, concerted actions involving price, quantity, trading counterparts or trading area restrictions are considered hard-core cartels because such concerted actions are highly harmful to market trading order. The EU and Germany have both excluded participants in hard-core cartels as candidates for immunity from fines. Therefore, the FTC has also specified that the regulation of granting immunity from fines to enterprises participating in concerted actions too insignificant for fine imposition is inapplicable to concerted actions adopting hard-core cartel practices.

After assessing the regulations in other countries as mentioned above and the actual circumstances

in the country, the FTC made the decision at the 1,266th Commissioners' Meeting and also announced on Mar. 1, 2016 the Interpretation Kung Fa Tzu No. 10515600941 in which it is stated: "In respect of Article 14 of the Fair Trade Act, an insignificant concerted action is defined as that where the enterprises participating in a concerted action together

account for less than 10% of the relevant market and are assessed as being unable to affect the production, transactions or supply of and demand for service in the said market, but concerted actions intended mainly to restrict the price, quantity, trading counterparts or trading areas of goods or services are excluded in order to retain flexibility in law enforcement." 

Statistics on Complaints

Complaints refer to cases which are filed with the FTC by informers or transferred from other agencies to the FTC about activities suspected as being in violation of the Fair Trade Act or the Multi-level Marketing Supervision Act. Such complaints may be presented in writing (including emails or faxes) or oral statements (made into written records) that provide corresponding details, with the names of informers indicated. Statistics show that the FTC received 313 complaint cases (65% of total cases) between January and March 2016 and reviewed 441 (including 128 unclosed cases from 2015). From 2011 to the end of March 2016 (hereinafter referred to as the 5 recent years), the FTC received 8,093 complaints in total.

Table 1 Complaints Received and Reviewed in the 5 Recent Years

Unit: Case; %

Year	Complaints Received		Handling Result					
	No. of Cases	Ratio to Total Cases %	Total	Sanctions Made	No Sanctions Made	Administrative Disposal	Review Terminated	Consolidation with Other Cases
Total (2011 to Mar. 2016)	8,093	69.5	8,127	420	1,200	25	6,051	431
2011	1,362	73.1	1,346	110	278	15	898	45
2012	1,955	76.5	1,895	86	316	6	1,340	147
2013	1,623	71.2	1,643	102	276	1	1,160	104
2014	1,538	64.8	1,642	77	199	2	1,275	89
2015	1,302	62.3	1,283	37	101	-	1,108	37
Jan.-Mar. 2016	313	65.2	318	8	30	1	270	9

Notes:

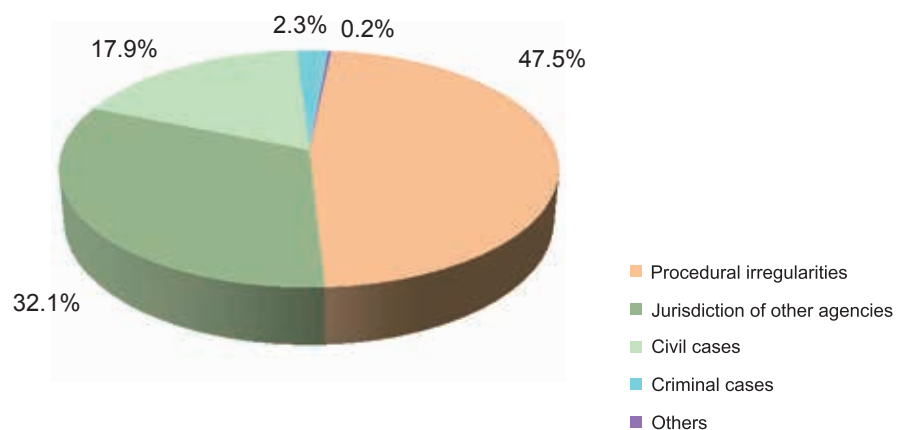
1. "Total cases" include complaints, concerted action applications, merger notifications, regulation interpretation requests, and ex officio investigations.
2. "Administrative disposal" refers to the FTC's adoption of administrative measures such as giving warnings (or making corrections) to industries, giving warnings (or urging that improvements be made in writing) to individual businesses, or requesting that concerned authorities to cooperate in handling cases.
3. "Consolidation with other cases" refers to cases put together to be reviewed when the same informer has repeatedly filed complaints about the same subject matter or different informers have filed complaints about the same subject matter.

The FTC closed 313 complaints between January and March 2016, handed down sanctions in 8 cases and made no sanctions in 30 cases. Among the 8,127 complaints reviewed and closed in the 5 recent years, sanctions were administered in 420 cases (with 455 dispositions issued), no sanctions were made in 1,200 cases, and

administrative disposal was decided in 25 cases. Review was terminated in 6,051 cases that involved criminal cases, civil cases, jurisdiction of other agencies, or procedural irregularities. In other words, 7 out of every 10 cases were closed with review termination as the conclusion (see Table 1).

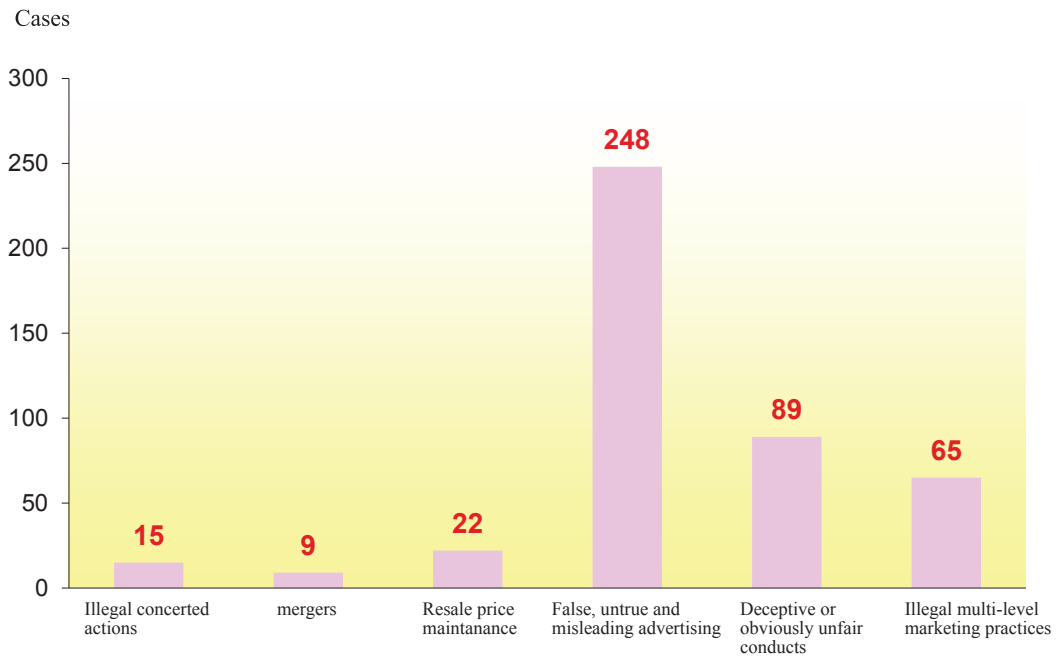
Observation from the types of cases in which review was terminated in the 5 recent years , 2,872 (47.5%) of the cases in which review was terminated involved procedural irregularities such as the informers withdrawing their complaints or failing to provide further information, the FTC being unable to contact the informers, or the identities of offenders not complying with those specified in the FTC’s regulations; 1,943 cases (32.1%) were beyond the FTC’s jurisdiction, or were transferred to be reviewed by other agencies according to its agreement with the FTC(see Fig. 1).

Fig. 1 Types of Cases in Which Review Was Terminated in the 5 Recent Years



Sanctions were made in 8 complaints between January and March 2016 with 9 dispositions issued, 19 businesses sanctioned and fines totaling NT\$3.85 million. In the 5 recent years, the FTC issued 455 dispositions on complaints. Analyzed by types of violation (activities in violation of 2 or more regulations are repeatedly calculated), 248 cases (55%) involved false, untrue and misleading advertising and 89 cases (20%) were associated with deceptive or obviously unfair conducts. The fines imposed amounted to NT\$234.46 million. NT\$66.29 million (28.3%) was imposed for deceptive or obviously unfair conducts, NT\$61.31 million (26.1%) for illegal concerted actions and NT\$53.78 million (22.9%) for false, untrue and misleading advertising (see Fig. 2).

Fig. 2 Sanctions Imposed in Complaints in the 5 Recent Years--by types of violation



FTC Activities in March and April 2016

- ▲ On Mar. 3, the FTC conducted the “Presentation on the Fair Trade Commission Disposal Directions (Policy Statements) on the Distribution Industry” in Taipei City.
- ▲ On Mar. 25, the FTC conducted the “Presentation on Multi-level Marketing Regulations” for the indigenous people, new immigrants, senior citizens and general public in Chiayi County.
- ▲ On Mar. 28, the FTC conducted the “Presentation on the Fair Trade Commission Disposal Directions (Policy Statements) on Real Estate Brokerage” in Taipei City.
- ▲ On Apr. 14 and 27, the teachers and students of the Department of Economics and the Department of Accounting of Soochow University respectively attended the “Fair Trade Act and Multi-level Marketing Supervision Act Training Camp” conducted by the FTC.
- ▲ On Apr. 22, Professor Hsieh Chi-sen of the Department of Law of Aletheia University gave a lecture on “Controversies Related to Competition between Uber and Taxis” at the invitation of the FTC.
- ▲ On Apr. 25, the FTC conducted the “Presentation on the Fair Trade Commission Disposal Directions (Policy Statements) on the Business Practices of Franchisers.”
- ▲ On Apr. 26, the FTC conducted the “2016 Lectures on the Fair Trade Act-Overviews of the Key Points in the Latest Amendment to the Fair Trade Act, the FTC’s Regulations on Implementation of the Leniency Policy and the Regulations on Payment of Rewards for Reporting of Illegal Concerted Actions.”
- ▲ On Apr. 28 and 29, the FTC conducted presentations on “Various Aspects of Trading Traps” at the Alishan Township Office, Chiayi County and Douliou City Office, Yunlin County, respectively.



1. The FTC conducting the “Presentation on the Fair Trade Commission Disposal Directions (Policy Statements) on the Distribution Industry”
2. The FTC conducting the “Presentation on the Fair Trade Commission Disposal Directions (Policy Statements) on Real Estate Brokerage”



3. Professor Hsieh Chi-sen of the Department of Law of Aletheia University gave a lecture on "Controversies Related to Competition between Uber and Taxis"
4. The FTC conducting the "2016 Lectures on the Fair Trade Act-Overviews of the Key Points in the Latest Amendment to the Fair Trade Act, the FTC's Regulations on Implementation of the Leniency Policy and the Regulations on Payment of Rewards for Reporting of Illegal Concerted Actions"

FTC International Exchanges in March and April 2016

- ▲ On Mar. 7, 8 and 23, the FTC respectively attended a webinar held by the ICN Unilateral Conduct Working Group, the Second “Town Hall Meeting” held by the ICN Steering Group and a teleconference held by the ICN Cartel Working Group Subgroup 1.
- ▲ From Mar. 29 to Apr. 2, the FTC attended the workshop “Building Cartel Enforcement” held by the OECD/Korea Policy Centre, Competition Programme in Hanoi, Vietnam.
- ▲ On Apr. 12 and 13, the FTC respectively attended the Third “Town Hall Meeting” held by the ICN Steering Group and a webinar held by the ICN Cartel Working Group Subgroup 1.
- ▲ On Apr. 19, the FTC attended the teleconferences on ICN annual achievement and the “Second Capacity Building Workshop on the Ex-Post Evaluation of Competition Authorities’ Activities” held by the OECD Competition Committee.
- ▲ From Apr. 26 to 29, the FTC Commissioner Chang Hung-Hao led a delegation to attend the ICN Annual Conference and related meetings held in Singapore.



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1. The FTC attending the workshop “Building Cartel Enforcement” held by the OECD/Korea Policy Centre, Competition Programme in Hanoi, Vietnam
2. The FTC Commissioner Chang Hung-Hao (left) in a photo with the Chairman Rod Sims (right) of the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission and the Chief Executive Mr. Toh Han Li (middle) of the Competition Commission of Singapore while leading a delegation to attend the ICN Annual Conference and related meetings held in Singapore

Dear Readers,

In order to improve the quality of our Taiwan FTC Newsletter, we would like to request a few minutes of your time to fill in the questionnaire below. It would be appreciated if you could please directly fill in the questionnaire at the website (<http://www.ftc.gov.tw>). Thank you for your assistance and cooperation.

Regards
Fair Trade Commission

Taiwan FTC Newsletter Reader's Survey

- Nationality : _____
- Category of your organization
 - Government Private Corporation Embassy NGO Media Scholars
 - Other (please specify) _____

1. What do you think of the design of the Taiwan FTC Newsletter, including style and photos?
 Very Good Good Average Bad Very Bad

2. Are the articles clear and understandable or difficult to understand?
 Very Clear Clear Average Difficult Too Difficult

3. Are you satisfied with the contents of the Taiwan FTC Newsletter, including choice of subjects, length and thoroughness of articles?
 Very satisfied Satisfied Average Dissatisfied Very Dissatisfied

4. Which section is your favorite one?
 Selected Cases Regulation Report FTC Statistics FTC Activities
 FTC International Exchanges

5. What more would you like to see in the Taiwan FTC Newsletter, e.g. different subjects? Do you have any other suggestions?

Your advice : _____

Taiwan FTC Newsletter

Publisher	Wu, Shio-Ming
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