



Office of the Secretary

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20580

July 29, 2008

Ms. Mindy A. Bockstein  
Chairperson and Executive Director  
State of New York  
Executive Department  
Consumer Protection Board  
5 Empire State Plaza, Suite 2101  
Albany, N.Y. 12223

*Re: In the Matter of The TJX Companies, Inc., File No. 072-3055, Docket No. C-4227  
In the Matter of Reed Elsevier Inc. et al., File No. 052-3094, Docket No. C-4226*

Dear Ms. Bockstein:

This acknowledges your letter commenting on the Federal Trade Commission's consent agreements in the above-entitled proceedings. Your letter was placed on the public record pursuant to Rule 4.9(b)(6)(ii) of the Commission's Rules of Practice, 16 C.F.R. § 4.9(b)(6)(ii), and was given serious consideration by the Commission.

Your comment expresses support for the proposed consent orders against TJX and against Reed Elsevier Inc. and Seisint, Inc., the general approach the Commission has taken in its data security matters, and the Commission's recommendation to Congress that it be granted civil penalty authority in data security cases. In addition, your comment discusses the benefits of the security assessment provision included in the Commission's data security consent orders, and encourages the Commission to make public whether a respondent has passed or failed an assessment. In response, the Commission notes that because information about whether a respondent has passed or failed an assessment could facilitate unauthorized access to the respondent's computer systems, providing such information to the public could put sensitive information at risk.

After reviewing your comment, and the other submitted comment, the Commission has determined that the public interest would be best served by accepting the consent order. Thank you again for your comment.

By direction of the Commission.

Donald S. Clark  
Secretary