

IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS
FRANKLIN COUNTY, OHIO

STATE OF OHIO ex rel.)	
ATTORNEY GENERAL)	
MICHAEL DEWINE)	Case No:
30 E. Broad St., 14 th Floor)	
Columbus, Ohio 43215)	
)	Judge:
Plaintiff,)	
v.)	
)	
MARC J. RYDER)	COMPLAINT AND REQUEST FOR
DBA RHI, INCORPORATED)	DECLARATORY JUDGMENT,
2078 Coleman Drive)	INJUNCTIVE RELIEF, CIVIL
Columbus, Ohio 43235)	PENALTIES, AND OTHER
)	APPROPRIATE RELIEF
)	
)	
Defendant.)	

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

1. Plaintiff, State of Ohio, by and through its counsel, the Attorney General of Ohio, Michael DeWine, having reasonable cause to believe that violations of Ohio’s consumer protection laws have occurred, brings this action in the public interest and on behalf of the State of Ohio under the authority vested in him by R.C. 1345.01 *et seq.*
2. The actions of Defendant have occurred in Franklin County and other counties in the State of Ohio and, as set forth below, are in violation of the Consumer Sales Practices Act (“CSPA”), R.C.1345.01, *et seq.* and the Home Solicitation Sales Act (“HSSA”), R.C. 1345.21 *et seq.*

3. Jurisdiction over the subject matter of this action lies with this Court pursuant to R.C. 1345.04 of the CSPA.
4. This Court has venue to hear this case pursuant to Ohio Civ. R. 3(B)(2) and (3).

DEFENDANT

5. Defendant Marc J. Ryder is a natural person residing at 2078 Coleman Dr., Columbus, Ohio 43235.
6. The principal place of business for Defendant Marc J. Ryder is 2078 Coleman Dr., Columbus, Ohio 43235.
7. Defendant conducts business in Ohio using the fictitious name “RHI, Incorporated.”
8. Defendant is a “supplier,” as that term is defined in R.C. 1345.01(C), as he engages in the business of effecting “consumer transactions” by soliciting consumers either directly or indirectly for the sale of goods and installation services for a fee, within the meaning of R.C. 1345.01(A).

STATEMENT OF FACTS

9. Defendant accepted monetary deposits from consumers for the purchase and installation of generators, and failed to deliver the goods and services within eight weeks.
10. Defendant has refused to refund consumers’ deposits or payments despite his failure to deliver the goods and services and the consumers’ requests for refund.
11. Defendant has not registered or reported the fictitious business name “RHI, Incorporated” with the Ohio Secretary of State.

12. Defendant represented to consumers that Defendant would provide the ordered goods and services within an estimated time and then failed to provide such goods and services in the time promised.
13. At the time of the transactions, Defendant failed to provide consumers with proper notices of cancellation forms describing the consumers' rights to cancel the transactions.

PLAINTIFF'S FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION:

VIOLATION OF THE CSPA

COUNT I - FAILURE TO DELIVER

14. Plaintiff incorporates by reference, as if completely rewritten herein, the allegations set forth in paragraphs 1-13 of this Complaint.
15. Defendant committed unfair or deceptive acts or practices in violation of the Failure to Deliver Rule, O.A.C. 109:4-3-09(A) and the CSPA, R.C. 1345.02(A), by accepting money from consumers for goods and services and then permitting eight weeks to elapse without making shipment or delivery of the goods and services ordered, making a full refund, advising the consumer of the duration of an extended delay and offering to send a refund within two weeks if so requested, or furnishing similar goods or services of equal or greater value as a good faith substitute.

COUNT II - FAILURE TO REGISTER FICTITIOUS NAME

16. Plaintiff incorporates by reference, as if completely rewritten herein, the allegations set forth in paragraphs one through fifteen (1-15) of this Complaint.

17. Defendant committed unfair or deceptive acts or practices in violation of R.C. 1345.02(A) of the CSPA, by failing to register or report his fictitious business name with the Ohio Secretary of State, as required by R.C. 1329.01.
18. Such acts or practices have been previously determined by Ohio courts to violate the CSPA, R.C. 1345.01 *et seq.* Defendant committed said violations after such decisions were available for public inspection.

PLAINTIFF'S SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION:

VIOLATION OF THE HSSA

COUNT 1:

FAILURE TO PROVIDE PROPER NOTICE OF THREE DAY RIGHT OF RESCISSION

19. Plaintiff incorporates by reference, as if completely rewritten herein, the allegations set forth in paragraphs one through eighteen (1-18) of this Complaint.
20. Defendant violated the HSSA, R.C. 1345.23 and R.C. 1345.02(A), by failing to give proper notice to consumers of their right to cancel their contracts by a specific date.
21. The act or practice described above has been previously determined by Ohio courts to violate the CSPA, R.C. 1345.01 *et seq.* Defendant committed said violations after such decisions were available for public inspection.

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff respectfully requests that this Court grant the following relief:

- Franklin County Ohio Clerk of Courts of the Common Pleas- 2019 Jul 29 10:11 AM-1004007003
- A. ISSUE A DECLARATORY JUDGMENT that each act or practice complained of herein violates the CSPA, its Substantive Rules, and the HSSA, in the manner set forth in the Complaint.
 - B. ISSUE A PERMANENT INJUNCTION enjoining the Defendant, his agents, servants, employees, successors or assigns, and all persons acting in concert and participation with him, directly or indirectly, through any corporate device, partnership, or other association, under these or any other names, from engaging in the acts and practices of which Plaintiff complains and from further violating the CSPA, R.C. 1345.01 *et seq.*, its Substantive Rules, and the HSSA, R.C. 1345.21 *et seq.*
 - C. ORDER Defendant, pursuant to R.C. 1345.07(B), to pay all actual damages, including non-economic damages, to all consumers injured by the conduct of the Defendant as set forth in this Complaint.
 - D. ASSESS, FINE and IMPOSE upon Defendant a civil penalty of up to \$25,000.00 for each separate and appropriate violation of the CSPA described herein pursuant to R.C. 1345.07(D).
 - E. ISSUE AN INJUNCTION prohibiting Defendant from engaging in business as a Supplier in any consumer transactions in this state until such time as Defendant has satisfied all monetary obligations ordered pursuant to this litigation.
 - F. GRANT Plaintiff its costs incurred in bringing this action.
 - G. ORDER Defendant to pay all court costs associated with this matter.
 - H. GRANT such other relief as the court deems to be just, equitable, and appropriate.

Respectfully submitted,

MICHAEL DEWINE
Attorney General

/s/ Brandon C. Duck
BRANDON C. DUCK (0076725)
Assistant Attorneys General
Counsel for Plaintiff, State of Ohio
Consumer Protection Section
30 East Broad Street, 14th Floor
Columbus, Ohio 43215
614-466-1031