

Questions for the Record from Representative Hank Johnson
Hearing on Online Platforms and Market Power, Part 4: Perspectives
of the Antitrust Agencies
November 13, 2019

1. Chairman Simons, It's my understanding that the FTC's Bureau of Competition as well as its Consumer Protection Bureau have recently been involved in examining the cybersecurity practices of automobile dealer management software systems. In fact, not long ago, the Consumer Protection Bureau brought and settled an action against one software provider for failing to take reasonable steps to secure consumers' data which resulted in a breach of data affecting approximately 12.5 million individuals . Meanwhile, the Competition Bureau has been engaged in the investigation of a different software provider under the auspice that it's utilization of strong data security protocols could potentially implicate antitrust concerns. Can you please provide some insight into whether the two bureaus are coordinating on important policy issues like the impact of antitrust laws on data security?