

## Summary

The Consumer Affairs Committee of Division 2 (Anti-trust, Trade Regulation and Consumer Affairs) proposes that the Daily Washington Law Reporter commence publication of the Orders issued by the Administrative Law Judge of the D.C. Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs. These orders constitute an important and growing body of local jurisprudence in the consumer law area, but at present they are inadequately publicized. Publication would help draw the Bar's attention to DCRA, to consumer law and to the opportunities for enforcement of consumers' rights.

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STANDING COMMITTEE  
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Editor  
The Daily Washington Law Reporter  
1625 Eye Street, NW  
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Dear Editor:

I write to draw your attention to an important but under-utilized body of law in Washington, D.C. that deserves publication in the Daily Washington Law Reporter.<sup>1</sup>

The D.C. Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs (DCRA) is the principal local agency for enforcement of the city's stringent consumer protection legislation. DCRA's procedures include investigation, negotiation and ultimately a full-scale, adversary-type administrative hearing before an administrative law judge. The current ALJ, the Honorable Sharon T. Nelson, has issued approximately 25 Orders during the two years, averaging about 7 pages typed, doublespaced.

These orders constitute an important, growing body of D.C. jurisprudence. They are valuable resources for local practitioners, but they are difficult to locate, and are not

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<sup>1</sup> The views expressed herein represent only those of the Consumer Affairs Committee of Division 2 (Antitrust, Trade Regulation and Consumer Affairs) of the District of Columbia Bar and not those of the D.C. Bar or its Board of Governors.

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generally well-publicized. Publication in the Daily Washington Law Reporter would bring them to the attention of the Bar, enhance the DCRA's ability to educate the public about consumers' rights, and enable practitioners to stay abreast of current developments in this important field.

The Consumer Affairs Committee of Division 2 (Anti-trust, Trade Regulation and Consumer Affairs) of the District of Columbia Bar therefore respectfully requests that the Daily Washington Law Reporter commence publication, as soon as possible, of DCRA ALJ orders and associated documents. Please feel free to contact me at 624-8311 or Ms. Artis Hampshire, Chief of DCRA's Office of Compliance, at 727-7140, for further information.

Sincerely,

David A. Koplow  
Chairperson  
Consumer Affairs Committee  
of Division 2