## Exhibit A

## UNITED STATES OF AMERICA FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION

**COMMISSIONERS:** 

Jon Leibowitz, Chairman J. Thomas Rosch Edith Ramirez Julie Brill

In the Matter of	) )	DOCKET NO. C-4336
GOOGLE INC., a corporation.	) )	poemer noi e issu
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#### **DECISION AND ORDER**

The Federal Trade Commission, having initiated an investigation of certain acts and practices of the Respondent named in the caption hereof, and the Respondent having been furnished thereafter with a copy of a draft of Complaint which the Bureau of Consumer Protection proposed to present to the Commission for its consideration and which, if issued, would charge the Respondent with violation of the Federal Trade Commission Act; and

The Respondent and counsel for the Commission having thereafter executed an agreement containing a consent order, an admission by the Respondent of all the jurisdictional facts set forth in the aforesaid draft complaint, a statement that the signing of the agreement is for settlement purposes only and does not constitute an admission by the Respondent that the law has been violated as alleged in such complaint, or that any of the facts as alleged in such complaint, other than jurisdictional facts, are true, and waivers and other provisions as required by the Commission's Rules; and

The Commission having thereafter considered the matter and having determined that it had reason to believe that the Respondent has violated the Federal Trade Commission Act, and that a complaint should issue stating its charges in that respect, and having thereupon accepted the executed consent agreement and placed such agreement on the public record for a period of thirty (30) days for the receipt and consideration of public comments, and having duly considered the comments received from interested persons pursuant to Section 2.34 of its Rules, now in further conformity with the procedure prescribed in Section 2.34 of its Rules, 16 C.F.R. § 2.34, the Commission hereby issues its complaint, makes the following jurisdictional findings, and enters the following order:

- 1. Respondent Google is a Delaware corporation with its principal office or place of business at 1600 Amphitheatre Parkway, Mountain View, CA 94043.
- 2. The Federal Trade Commission has jurisdiction of the subject matter of this proceeding and of the Respondent, and the proceeding is in the public interest.

#### **ORDER**

#### **DEFINITIONS**

For purposes of this order, the following definitions shall apply:

- 1. Unless otherwise specified, "respondent" shall mean Google, its successors and assigns, officers, agents, representatives, and employees. For the purpose of Parts I, II, and III of this order, "respondent" shall also mean Google acting directly or through any corporation, subsidiary, division, website, or other device.
- 2. "Clear(ly) and prominent(ly)" shall mean:
  - A. In textual communications (e.g., printed publications or words displayed on the screen of a computer or mobile device), the required disclosures are of a type, size, and location sufficiently noticeable for an ordinary consumer to read and comprehend them, in print that contrasts highly with the background on which they appear;
  - B. In communications disseminated orally or through audible means (e.g., radio or streaming audio), the required disclosures are delivered in a volume and cadence sufficient for an ordinary consumer to hear and comprehend them;
  - C. In communications disseminated through video means (e.g., television or streaming video), the required disclosures are in writing in a form consistent with subpart (A) of this definition and shall appear on the screen for a duration sufficient for an ordinary consumer to read and comprehend them, and in the same language as the predominant language that is used in the communication; and
  - D. In all instances, the required disclosures: (1) are presented in an understandable language and syntax; and (2) include nothing contrary to, inconsistent with, or in mitigation of any other statements or disclosures provided by respondent.
- 3. "Commerce" shall mean as defined in Section 4 of the Federal Trade Commission Act, 15 U.S.C. § 44.
- 4. "Google user" shall mean an identified individual from whom respondent has collected information for the purpose of providing access to respondent's products and services.

- 5. "Covered information" shall mean information respondent collects from or about an individual, including, but not limited to, an individual's: (a) first and last name; (b) home or other physical address, including street name and city or town; (c) email address or other online contact information, such as a user identifier or screen name; (d) persistent identifier, such as IP address; (e) telephone number, including home telephone number and mobile telephone number; (f) list of contacts; (g) physical location; or any other information from or about an individual consumer that is combined with (a) through (g) above.
- 6. "Third party" shall mean any individual or entity other than: (1) respondent; (2) a service provider of respondent that: (i) uses or receives covered information collected by or on behalf of respondent for and at the direction of the respondent and no other individual or entity, (ii) does not disclose the data, or any individually identifiable information derived from such data, to any individual or entity other than respondent, and (iii) does not use the data for any other purpose; or (3) any entity that uses covered information only as reasonably necessary: (i) to comply with applicable law, regulation, or legal process, (ii) to enforce respondent's terms of use, or (iii) to detect, prevent, or mitigate fraud or security vulnerabilities.

I.

IT IS ORDERED that respondent, in or affecting commerce, shall not misrepresent in any manner, expressly or by implication:

- A. the extent to which respondent maintains and protects the privacy and confidentiality of any covered information, including, but not limited to, misrepresentations related to: (1) the purposes for which it collects and uses covered information, and (2) the extent to which consumers may exercise control over the collection, use, or disclosure of covered information.
- B. the extent to which respondent is a member of, adheres to, complies with, is certified by, is endorsed by, or otherwise participates in any privacy, security, or any other compliance program sponsored by the government or any other entity, including, but not limited to, the U.S.-EU Safe Harbor Framework.

II.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that respondent, prior to any new or additional sharing by respondent of the Google user's identified information with any third party, that: 1) is a change from stated sharing practices in effect at the time respondent collected such information, and 2) results from any change, addition, or enhancement to a product or service by respondent, in or affecting commerce, shall:

- A. Separate and apart from any final "end user license agreement," "privacy policy," "terms of use" page, or similar document, clearly and prominently disclose: (1) that the Google user's information will be disclosed to one or more third parties, (2) the identity or specific categories of such third parties, and (3) the purpose(s) for respondent's sharing; and
- B. Obtain express affirmative consent from the Google user to such sharing.

#### III.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that respondent, in or affecting commerce, shall, no later than the date of service of this order, establish and implement, and thereafter maintain, a comprehensive privacy program that is reasonably designed to: (1) address privacy risks related to the development and management of new and existing products and services for consumers, and (2) protect the privacy and confidentiality of covered information. Such program, the content and implementation of which must be documented in writing, shall contain privacy controls and procedures appropriate to respondent's size and complexity, the nature and scope of respondent's activities, and the sensitivity of the covered information, including:

- A. the designation of an employee or employees to coordinate and be responsible for the privacy program.
- B. the identification of reasonably foreseeable, material risks, both internal and external, that could result in the respondent's unauthorized collection, use, or disclosure of covered information, and an assessment of the sufficiency of any safeguards in place to control these risks. At a minimum, this privacy risk assessment should include consideration of risks in each area of relevant operation, including, but not limited to: (1) employee training and management, including training on the requirements of this order, and (2) product design, development, and research.
- C. the design and implementation of reasonable privacy controls and procedures to address the risks identified through the privacy risk assessment, and regular testing or monitoring of the effectiveness of those privacy controls and procedures.
- D. the development and use of reasonable steps to select and retain service providers capable of appropriately protecting the privacy of covered information they receive from respondent, and requiring service providers by contract to implement and maintain appropriate privacy protections.
- E. the evaluation and adjustment of respondent's privacy program in light of the results of the testing and monitoring required by subpart C, any material changes to respondent's operations or business arrangements, or any

other circumstances that respondent knows or has reason to know may have a material impact on the effectiveness of its privacy program.

#### IV.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that, in connection with its compliance with Part III of this order, respondent shall obtain initial and biennial assessments and reports ("Assessments") from a qualified, objective, independent third-party professional, who uses procedures and standards generally accepted in the profession. A person qualified to prepare such Assessments shall have a minimum of three (3) years of experience in the field of privacy and data protection. All persons conducting such Assessments and preparing such reports shall be approved by the Associate Director for Enforcement, Bureau of Consumer Protection, Federal Trade Commission, Washington, D.C. 20580, in his or her sole discretion. The reporting period for the Assessments shall cover: (1) the first one hundred and eighty (180) days after service of the order for the initial Assessment, and (2) each two (2) year period thereafter for twenty (20) years after service of the order for the biennial Assessments. Each Assessment shall:

- A. set forth the specific privacy controls that respondent has implemented and maintained during the reporting period;
- B. explain how such privacy controls are appropriate to respondent's size and complexity, the nature and scope of respondent's activities, and the sensitivity of the covered information;
- C. explain how the privacy controls that have been implemented meet or exceed the protections required by Part III of this order; and
- D. certify that the privacy controls are operating with sufficient effectiveness to provide reasonable assurance to protect the privacy of covered information and that the controls have so operated throughout the reporting period.

Each Assessment shall be prepared and completed within sixty (60) days after the end of the reporting period to which the Assessment applies. Respondent shall provide the initial Assessment to the Associate Director for Enforcement, Bureau of Consumer Protection, Federal Trade Commission, Washington, D.C. 20580, within ten (10) days after the Assessment has been prepared. All subsequent biennial Assessments shall be retained by respondent until the order is terminated and provided to the Associate Director of Enforcement within ten (10) days of request.

V.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that respondent shall maintain and upon request make available to the Federal Trade Commission for inspection and copying, unless respondent asserts a valid legal privilege, a print or electronic copy of:

- A. for a period of three (3) years from the date of preparation or dissemination, whichever is later, all widely disseminated statements that describe the extent to which respondent maintains and protects the privacy and confidentiality of any covered information, with all materials relied upon in making or disseminating such statements;
- B. for a period of six (6) months from the date received, all consumer complaints directed at respondent, or forwarded to respondent by a third party, that allege unauthorized collection, use, or disclosure of covered information and any responses to such complaints;
- C. for a period of five (5) years from the date received, any documents, whether prepared by or on behalf of respondent, that contradict, qualify, or call into question respondent's compliance with this order; and
- D. for a period of three (3) years after the date of preparation of each Assessment required under Part III of this order, all materials relied upon to prepare the Assessment, whether prepared by or on behalf of respondent, including but not limited to all plans, reports, studies, reviews, audits, audit trails, policies, training materials, and assessments, for the compliance period covered by such Assessment.

#### VI.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that respondent shall deliver a copy of this order to all current and future principals, officers, directors, and managers, and to all current and future employees, agents, and representatives having supervisory responsibilities relating to the subject matter of this order. Respondent shall deliver this order to such current personnel within thirty (30) days after service of this order, and to such future personnel within thirty (30) days after the person assumes such position or responsibilities.

#### VII.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that respondent shall notify the Commission at least thirty (30) days prior to any change in the corporation that may affect compliance obligations arising under this order, including, but not limited to, a dissolution, assignment, sale, merger, or other action that would result in the emergence of a successor corporation; the creation or dissolution of a subsidiary, parent, or affiliate that engages in any acts or practices subject to this order; the proposed filing of a bankruptcy petition; or a change in either corporate name or address. Provided, however, that, with respect to any proposed change in the corporation about which respondent learns less than thirty (30) days prior to the date such action is to take place, respondent shall notify the Commission as soon as is practicable after obtaining such knowledge. All notices required by this Part shall be sent by certified mail to the Associate Director,

Division of Enforcement, Bureau of Consumer Protection, Federal Trade Commission, Washington, D.C. 20580.

#### VIII.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that respondent shall, within ninety (90) days after the date of service of this order file with the Commission a true and accurate report, in writing, setting forth in detail the manner and form in which respondent has complied with this order. Within ten (10) days of receipt of written notice from a representative of the Commission, respondent shall submit additional true and accurate written reports.

#### IX.

This order will terminate on October 13, 2031, or twenty (20) years from the most recent date that the United States or the Commission files a complaint (with or without an accompanying consent decree) in federal court alleging any violation of the order, whichever comes later; provided, however, that the filing of such a complaint will not affect the duration of:

- A. any Part in this order that terminates in fewer than twenty (20) years;
- B. this order if such complaint is filed after the order has terminated pursuant to this Part.

<u>Provided, further</u>, that if such complaint is dismissed or a federal court rules that respondent did not violate any provision of the order, and the dismissal or ruling is either not appealed or upheld on appeal, then the order as to such respondent will terminate according to this Part as though the complaint had never been filed, except that the order will not terminate between the date such complaint is filed and the later of the deadline for appealing such dismissal or ruling and the date such dismissal or ruling is upheld on appeal.

By the Commission.

Donald S. Clark Secretary

SEAL:

ISSUED: October 13, 2011

# Exhibit B



## **Advertising Cookie Opt-out Plugin**

<u>Home</u>

**FAQs** 

**Browser instructions** 

## Opting out permanently: Browser Instructions

See instructions for: <u>Internet Explorer, Firefox & Google Chrome | Safari | Other</u> browsers

#### Internet Explorer, Mozilla Firefox & Google Chrome

You can download the plugin for Internet Explorer, for Firefox and for Google Chrome from the homepage of the Google advertising opt-out plugin.

#### Instructions for Safari

While we don't yet have a Safari version of the Google advertising cookie opt-out plugin, Safari is set by default to block all third-party cookies. If you have not changed those settings, this option effectively accomplishes the same thing as setting the opt-out cookie. To confirm that Safari is set up to block third-party cookies, do the following:

- 1. From Safari, select "Safari" in the menu bar, and then select "Preferences"
- 2. In the Preferences Dialog Box, select the "Security" tab
- Make sure the "Accept cookies:" setting is set to "Only from sites you navigate to".
  You can also set this option to "Never", but this will prevent many web sites that rely on cookies from working.

#### instructions for other browsers

Unfortunately, the plugin is not available for other browsers. You can always opt out using the <u>Ads Preferences Manager</u>, but without a special browser plugin, your optout setting will go away when you delete your browser's cookies (you would need to set it again manually).

If you're using another browser that's not mentioned above, you can look for a common feature, which accomplishes the same as setting the DoubleClick opt-out cookie: Find a setting in your browser's settings that allows you to only accept cookies from sites you visit, or only "first-party cookies". This option may also be described as "blocking third-party cookies."

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## EXCERPT FROM GOOGLE'S ADVERTISING AND PRIVACY WEBPAGE

categories that are relevant to you. Using the <u>Ads Preferences Manager</u> for browsers and <u>Ads Preferences Manager App</u> for applications, you can remove any interest categories that don't apply and Google will no longer use them for showing you interest-based ads. You can also change which demographic categories are associated with your browser or anonymous ID. When you edit your ads preferences, your new settings may not take immediate effect, since it takes time for the change to be processed in our systems.

## How do I opt out of interest-based advertising?

If you prefer not to receive interest-based advertising in web browsers, you can always click on the "Opt out" button on the Ads Preferences Manager. When you are accessing the web through a web browser, Google also offers a number of options to permanently save your opt-out settings in your browser. After you opt out, Google will not collect interest category information and you will not receive interest-based ads. You will still see the same number of ads as before, and Google may still show relevant ads based on the content of a web page, or other non-personal information. For example, if you visit a gardening site, Google can determine the content of the site and may automatically show ads related to gardening to all visitors without using a cookie. Additionally, whenever we serve an ad on Google search or on the sites of our AdSense for search partners, the ads which are displayed may still be based on the search terms you enter.

If you prefer not to receive interest-based advertising in applications and other clients that use an anonymous ID, you can always opt out using the appropriate preferences manager.

Read more about opting-out of interest-based advertising in applications and other clients.

## What is the Ads Preferences Manager?

The <u>Ads Preferences Manager</u> is a Google site where you can manage settings associated with the ads you see. Our goal is to provide you with transparency and choice about the ads we show you.

- For Google search and Gmail, we explain why you got specific ads, and we also let you block ads from websites you aren't interested in.
- For websites that have partnered with Google to show AdWords ads, we show you a list of interests we associate with you that can affect the ads you see on those websites. We also let you add or delete interests from that list.

## How does Google use cookies to serve ads?

A cookie is a snippet of text that is sent from a website's servers and stored on a web browser. Like most websites and search engines, Google uses cookies in order to provide a better user

## EXCERPT FROM GOOGLE'S ADS AND ADVERTISING PRIVACY WEBPAGE

Read more information about interest-based advertising and the Ads Preferences Manager.

#### How to opt out of the DoubleClick cookie

You may choose to opt out of the DoubleClick cookie at any time.

If you select the DoubleClick opt-out cookie, ads delivered to your browser by our ad-serving technology will not be served based on the DoubleClick cookie. Your DoubleClick opt-out cookie will not be uniquely identified. Other options on AdSense sites, partner sites and Google services that use the DoubleClick cookie may no longer be available; for example, we may no longer be able to prevent your browser from being served with the same ad over and over.

As long as your browser retains the DoubleClick opt-out cookie, Google won't serve new DoubleClick cookies to your browser.

Using a tool created by the Network Advertising Initiative, of which Google is a member, you can opt out of several third-party ad servers' and networks' cookies simultaneously.

### Preserving your opt-out cookie

When you get a new computer, install a new browser, erase or otherwise alter your browser's cookie file (including upgrading certain browsers) you may also clear the cookies in your browser, including the DoubleClick opt-out cookie. Google offers a number of options to preserve your opt-out cookie.

### **Conversion Tracking Cookie**

Google also uses a cookie to measure advertising performance for advertisers who have opted-in to conversion tracking on Google and its AdSense partners websites. The conversion tracking cookie is set when a user clicks on an ad delivered by Google where the advertiser has opted-in to tracking. These cookies expire within 30 days and are not personally-identifiable. If this cookie has not yet expired when the user visits certain pages of the advertiser's website, Google and the advertiser will be able to tell that the user clicked the ad and proceeded to that page. Each advertiser gets a different cookie, so no cookie can be tracked across advertiser websites.

## · How we use the conversion cookie information

We use the information collected by the conversion cookie to provide aggregate conversion stats to advertisers who have opted-in to conversion tracking. Advertisers are able to see the