



Department of Justice

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JUSTICE DEPARTMENT ISSUES STATEMENTS REGARDING AT&T INC.'S ABANDONMENT OF ITS PROPOSED ACQUISITION OF T-MOBILE USA INC.

WASHINGTON – Deputy Attorney General James M. Cole and Acting Assistant Attorney General for the Antitrust Division Sharis A. Pozen issued the following statements today after AT&T Inc. abandoned its proposed acquisition of T-Mobile USA Inc. from its parent company, Deutsche Telekom AG:

Deputy Attorney General Cole:

“This result is a victory for the millions of Americans who use mobile wireless telecommunications services. A significant competitor remains in the marketplace and consumers will benefit from a quick resolution of this matter without the unnecessary expense of taxpayer money and government resources.”

Acting Assistant Attorney General Pozen:

“Consumers won today. Had AT&T acquired T-Mobile, consumers in the wireless marketplace would have faced higher prices and reduced innovation. We sued to protect consumers who rely on competition in this important industry. With the parties’ abandonment, we achieved that result.”

On Aug. 31, 2011, the department filed a lawsuit in U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia, to block the transaction, which would have combined two of the only four wireless carriers with nationwide networks. State attorneys general from California, Illinois, Massachusetts, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Puerto Rico and Washington joined the United States as co-plaintiffs. The department coordinated its review of the proposed transaction with the Federal Communications Commission.

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