Augmented, Native and Interactive

The New World of Digital & Mobil Advertising

It All Adds Up!



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Partner, Rimon, P.C. December 8, 2017





ADVERTISING IN A DIGITAL, MOBILE, INTERACTIVE WORLD

Our Agenda

- Basic Principles of Advertising Law
- Native Advertising
- Advertising & Online/Mobile Gaming
- Celebrity Endorsements, Bloggers, Experts & Consumers
- Augmented Reality & Advertising in Virtual Worlds
- Programmatic Buying
- Advertiser-Agency Relationships



BASIC PRINCIPLES OF ADVERTISING LAW

What is an "Advertisement" Anyway?

Any communication of information intended to promote the sale or use of commercial products or services by informing or influencing people

Distinctions between advertising, information and entertainment are blurring:

- Advertisers and consumers are content creators
- Media and entertainment companies are ad supported revenue engines
- > Technology and search companies are network publishers
- Telecommunications and gaming companies are distribution platforms.

Social media and gaming, through globally networked technology embedded in interactive platforms has given rise to fundamental changes in the ability to create use, distribute and control information and content (and who has the ability to do so) also blurring the distinction between consumers, content creators, employees, individuals and brands.



Federal Trade Commission Act: Section 5



Unfair methods of competition in or affecting commerce, and unfair or deceptive acts or practices in or affecting commerce, are hereby declared unlawful.

Advertising law is designed to protect the consumer, not the advertiser

What is Unfair?

Advertising is unfair if:

- It injures consumers
- It violates established public policy
- Is unethical or unscrupulous

Examples:

- Forcing consumers to buy unwanted goods
- Selling consumers defective goods on an "as is" basis
- Locking consumers in expensive, long-term contracts



What is Deceptive?

Advertising is deceptive if it contains any representation, omission, act or practice ("claim") that:

- Is likely to mislead (in light of the totality of circumstances and targeted audience);
- Would be deceptive to a reasonable consumer; and
- > Is material (i.e., involves information the consumer would likely consider important as part of the decision making process)

Claims can be:

- > Express
- Implied
- Created by Net Impression

Claims must be substantiated in advance. Without reasonable basis to substantiate a claim prior to dissemination, the claim will be treated as false, even if the claim is ultimately proven to be true.



Express Claims









Implied Claims

Cheat death.

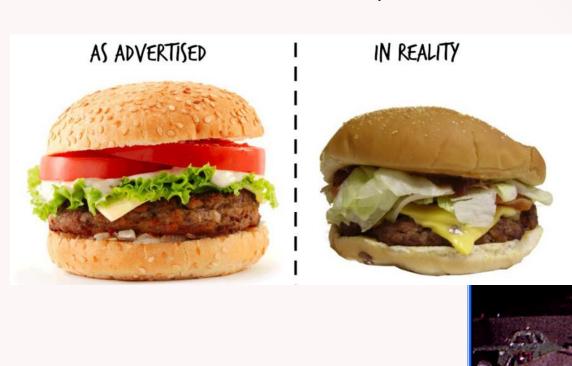
The antioxidant power of pomegranate juice:



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Deception by Omission

Even if literally truthful, ads can be deceptive if information material to a purchase decision or to fully inform, is omitted





Puffery

Puffery is a 'claim' (usually in the form of an opinion, exaggeration or hyperbole) that

Cannot reasonably be proven or disproven;
 or

 No reasonable person would believe (or consider material to a purchase decision)

"You've tried the rest, now try the BEST!"

Puffery does NOT require substantiation: In essence, an advertiser's right to blatantly lie with as much exaggeration as possible, since no reasonable (rational) person would or could believe it!



Overall (Net) Impression

What does the average, reasonable consumer believe or understand when receiving the message, communication and information?



Contract Terms Are Claims

Online & Mobile Terms are "Claims" and consequently:

- If you fail to honor your own terms and conditions, including a stated privacy policy that can be considered deceptive and misleading under Section 5 of the FTC Act (in addition to being a breach of contract); and
- The FTC construes online and mobile privacy policies as also applying to offline data collection unless the policy expressly states otherwise.

Advertising in Digital & Mobile Formally Regulated

Guides Concerning the Use of Endorsements and Testimonials in Advertising

[16 C.F.R. Part 255; First promulgated in 1975, previously revised in 1980 and now newly revised and effective 2009

Bloggers and advertisers held accountable:

- Obligation to guide and correct errors*
- Disclose payments (consideration)
- Disclose connections (material)
- > Opinion must be honest and free of unsubstantiated or false claims.

Brand ambassadors & sponsored influencers must be transparent and honest and can be held personally liable for failing to disclose material connections AND advertisers are liable for the actions of those they "support."

If a blogger portrays her or himself as an expert or having unique qualifications to make laudatory statements about the advertiser's product or service, blogger may have independent responsibility.

* The FTC has taken a real world approach, and understands that "[i]t's unrealistic to expect you to be aware of every single statement made by a member of your network. But it's up to you to make a reasonable effort to know what participants in your network are saying."



An Example of Failure to Disclose: FTC v Lord & Taylor

Paid 50 influencers to post Instagram pictures of themselves wearing the same dress from a new collection and use an @lordandtaylor mention and #DesignLab hashtag.





But, they failed to disclose they had given the dress and paid thousands of dollars in exchange for the endorsement.

March 2016: Settlement. No financial penalty, but consent order for 20 years.





Promotions on Social Media Platforms

Social media platforms restrict, prohibit or have limitations, through their terms of use, on the conduct of advertising & promotions.



















In addition to the laws and regulations that apply, advertisers must comply with these terms which are contractually and legally binding.

Disclosures - Disclaimers



Disclosures - Disclaimers



Disclosures - Disclaimers

In order for a disclosure to be effective as a disclaimer, at a minimum:

- There must be a clear link between the claim and the disclosure
- > The "disclosure" should explain, not contradict
- The disclosure must be readable by consumers
 - > NO in mice type;
 - > NOT buried in 80 pages of legalese, blah, blah, blah; and
 - > NOT in difficult to read:

*Type so small only mice could possibly read it

When Reviewing Advertising

Four Basic Principles

- > Tell the Truth
- > Support All Claims
- Secure All Necessary Rights
- Are There Specific Laws, Regulations, Social, Political and/or [Fill In The Blank] Issues That Apply?

Ask Yourself

What is this?

What is it trying to say?

What is the law that applies?

Are the claims supported?

Do we own all this?

Should we be more sensitive?

How are we producing this?

Where is this going to be seen?

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Key Issues to Watch Out For

Rights of Publicity

IP Rights: Trademark/Copyright/Music/Art

Clearances / Licenses

Celebrities / Sports Figures / Politicians

- > SAG
- Endorsements
- Image/Reputation

Experts

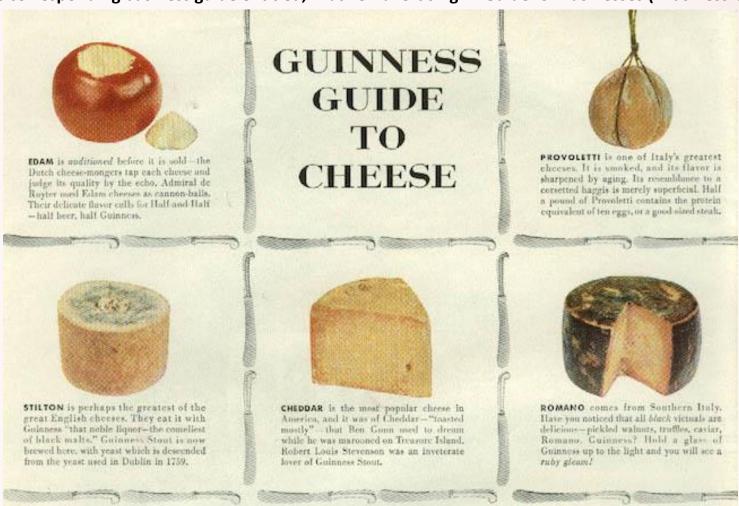
Consumers

Special Consideration:

- > Children
- Alcohol
- > Firearms
- > Tobacco
- Gambling
- > more

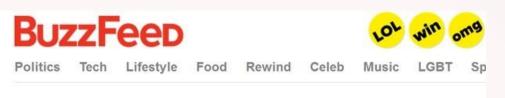
NATIVE ADVERTISING

Federal Trade Commission Enforcement Policy Statement on Deceptively Formatted Advertisements ("Policy Statement") and the corresponding business guide entitled, 'Native Advertising: A Guide for Businesses ("Business Guide").



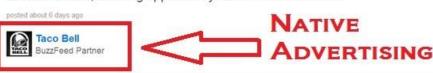


Native Advertising



10 Photos From 2012 That Should've Never Been Shared

Some things are just meant to be kept to yourself, just like the new Taco Bell Loaded Grillers, amazing appetizers you don't have to share.

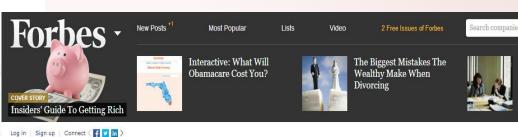




Not everything needs to be shared.
99¢ Loaded Grillers from Taco Bell. Appetizers for one.

LET ME SHARE THIS!

The FTC uses examples such as "Sponsored", "Promotion" "Paid ad" or starting a post/tweet with "Ad:" or "#Ad in native advertising





"Companies are offering these buyouts as a way to shrink the size of their pension plans, which ultimately reduces the impact of that pension plan on the company's financials," says John Beck, senior vice president for benefits consulting at Fidelity Investments.

"From an employee's perspective, the decision comes down to a trade-off between an income stream and a pile of money that's made available to them today."

hold on to their pension.

full bio →



ADVERTISING & ONLINE/MOBILE GAMING

Two Categories of Advertising Issues *

Advertising the Game

Advertising in the Game

Misleading Trailers

Graphics Quality

Advertised Features Not in Game

Free to Play Games with In-App Purchases

Failure to Disclose Odds

Interstitial

Incentivized Downloads

Native Ads

Offer Walls

Videos

Icon Drop

Clearances

* If you count using characters created or developed for gaming to advertise other products or services as a category, then there are three!



Advertising the Game; Characters in Advertising





GLA

Mercedes-Benz

GLA

Mercedes-Benz

In-Game Advertising

STATIC: In-Game billboards and loading screens that are hard-coded into a game by the developer. Comparable to product integration in television, cinema and video.





DYNAMIC: In-Game billboards served dynamically (based on gamer location/ IP Protocol) by 3rd party networks. Comparable to 15 second commercial spots in cable TV, genre specific print, digital billboards.

PRODUCT PLACEMENT: Full integration of brands and products, hard-coded into games by the developer. Comparable to product placement in films & television.



In-Game: Product Placement, Branded Games



AdverGames

Bespoke mini-games created around a brand or product (usually free to play)







Comparable to traditional marketing loyalty programs, experiential and guerrilla* marketing

* Ambient, Ambush, Stealth, Viral and Street Marketing



Don't Lose Sight of State Consumer Protection Laws



Trademark Infringement: A Difficult Road



ENDORSEMENTS & TESTIMONIALS

A verbal or visual communication that consumers, acting reasonably, would be likely to understand to be expressing the opinions, beliefs, findings, or experiences of someone other than the sponsoring advertiser

Note: The FTC and Courts now use the terms "endorsement" and "testimonial" virtually interchangeably.



Endorsements: What You Need to Know: Part I



Endorsements are claims!

Advertisers are liable for false or unsubstantiated statements made through endorsements

Advertisers are liable for failing to reveal material connections to endorsers

Endorsements must reflect the honest opinions, findings, beliefs or experience of
the endorser who may also be liable for false or unsubstantiated statements

If a blogger portrays her or himself as an expert or having unique qualifications to
make laudatory statements about the advertiser's product or service, blogger may
have independent responsibility

The FTC defines an expert as an individual, group, or institution possessing, as a result of experience, study, or training, knowledge of a particular subject, which knowledge is superior to what ordinary individuals generally acquire

A consumer becomes an 'endorser', when – viewed objectively – the consumer is being sponsored by the marketer. If the speaker is acting solely independently, there's no endorsement. But if the speaker is acting on behalf of an advertiser as part of an overall marketing campaign that will make the consumer an endorser.



Endorsements: What You Need to Know: Part II

Endorser must be an actual user throughout.



Accurate depiction, typical of consumer's experience.

May not contain representations or statements that could not be substantiated if made by advertiser.

Individual must actually use product/service.

Previously, experts and celebrities were treated the same way. Payments did not generally trigger disclosure requirements.

Celebrities can be paid, and no disclosures are required where consumers would normally expect a celebrity endorser to be paid (talk shows, public appearances), but if a celebrity has a relationship with the sponsor or compensation is tied to performance, disclosure is required (and all the other rules still apply).

Experts can now be paid for endorsements, but they may have independent liability.

If payment to an expert is related to success or is not a flat fee, disclosure of compensation relationship may be required; and

If there is some other relationship or material connection, that must be disclosed.

Consumers can't be paid, coerced or influenced to provide an endorsement . . . So obtain their endorsement before informing them of potential use in advertising.



Rights of Publicity – Rights of Privacy

The right of publicity refers to the right to control use of your name, image and/or likeness for commercial purposes.

Celebrities have a right of publicity: If a person is recognizable or one can identify distinctive characteristics or trademarks of the individual — apparel, voice, caricature, silhouette - get a release. Even using a quote from a celebrity can run afoul of the right of publicity if the quote implies an endorsement. Under many state laws, the right survives and can be protected after death.

Everyone has a right of privacy: The use of a **living individual's** name, likeness, photograph, voice, or indicia of identity for purposes of advertising or trade is prohibited without the person's written consent.

Publicity became a property right, rather than personal right [In *Factors v. Pro Arts*, 597 F.2d 215 (2d Cir. 1978), regarding an Elvis Presley poster, confirmed publicity was a property right, surviving the death of the celebrity].



Stealth Endorsements



Celebrity Endorsements: The Good, the Bad & the Ugly











A Word About Contracts & Intellectual Property

When dealing with celebrity endorsements online, mobile and on social media, contractual issues and intellectual property rights are not identical to those you may be used to in traditional print, radio and television advertising.

When dealing with celebrities, athletes or non-consumers, * consider whether use of that individual in commercial advertising is covered by the SAG/AFTRA Commercials Contract.

The producer and/or agency also must be a signatory.

(and remember Global Rule One)



* You would be surprised at how many individuals who aren't actors are actually SAG members



UNREAL ADVERTISING

Advertising in Virtual Worlds and Augmented Reality



Advertising in Virtual Worlds



Barbie:
Proprietary
Virtual
World



Coca-Cola: MyCoke" Web World

Johnson & Johnson: Splenda Island In Second Life





H&R Block: A virtual "office" in Second Life



Augmented Reality Creates Advertising Opportunity

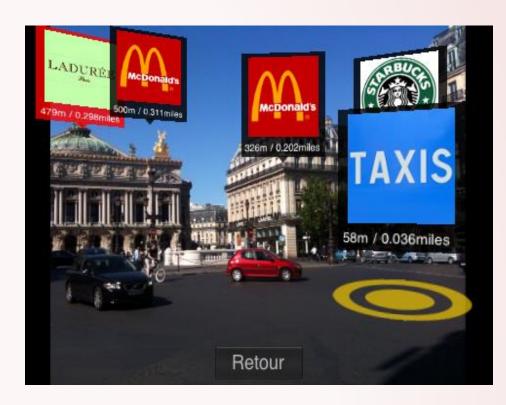
Lonely Planet mobile city guide apps overlay place-of-interest information on pictures seen through travelers' cell phone cameras.



"We got three million downloads in 24 hours across the apps we gave for free, and the halo effect in to the paid apps was absolutely phenomenal—our paid downloads went through the roof." Lonely Planet







PROGRAMMATIC BUYING

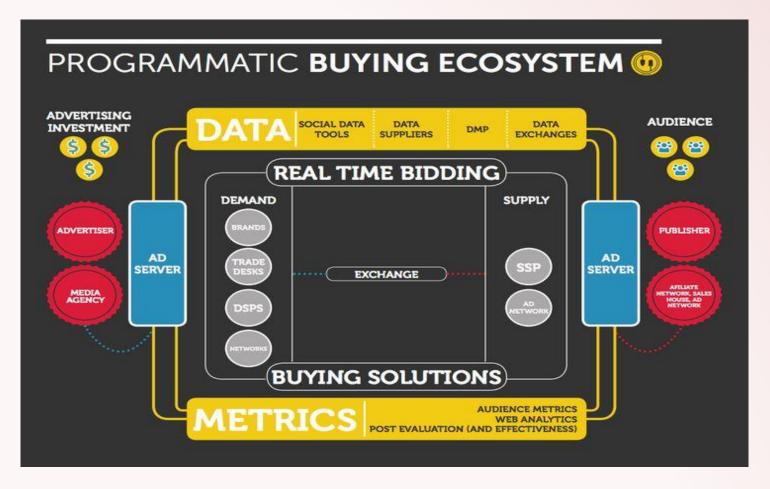
Programmatic media buying, marketing and advertising is the mathematical, calculable, algorithmic purchase and sale of advertising space in real time.

Software automates buying, context, placement and optimization of the inventory of advertising space using a bidding system, also in real time.

Automating the advertising and media buying process allows the process to be accomplished and adjusted in real time, without reliance on individuals, judgments, human price negotiation or manual insertion.



Programmatic Buying: Rise of the Machines



Programmatic media buying allows a brand to tailor an advertisement to the right person, at the right time in the right context – using demographic data and insight (collected, licensed or purchased) – to their target audience. It is more precise, more personalized – both the message and the medium – resulting in more effective marketing campaigns.



ADVERTISER – AGENCY RELATIONSHIPS

Brave New World of Industry Click (Fraud), (Mis)Trust and Transparency?



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Thank You







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