



FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION
PROTECTING AMERICA'S CONSUMERS

Microsoft/Activision Blizzard, In the Matter of

Tags: [Competition](#) | [Merger](#) | [Gaming](#)

Last Updated: October 11, 2023

Case Status: Pending

In the Matter of Microsoft Corporation, a corporation, and Activision Blizzard, Inc., a corporation

FTC Matter/File Number: 2210077

Docket Number: 9412

Enforcement Type: Part 3 Administrative Complaints

Case Summary

The Federal Trade Commission authorized an administrative complaint against the proposed merger between Microsoft Corp. and Activision Blizzard, Inc., a video game developer that creates and publishes games such as *Call of Duty*, *World of Warcraft*, *Diablo*, and *Overwatch*. Microsoft sells the Xbox gaming console and also offers a video game subscription service called Xbox Game Pass, as well as a cloud-based video game streaming service. The agency alleges that the deal would enable Microsoft to suppress competitors to its Xbox gaming consoles and its rapidly growing subscription and cloud-gaming business. The Commission withdrew the matter from adjudication in July 2023, and returned it to adjudication on September 26, 2023. The evidentiary hearing will commence 21 days after the issuance of the district court's decision in *FTC v. Microsoft*.

Case Timeline

October 11, 2023

[Order Denying Complaint Counsel's Request for Expedited Briefing and Ruling](#) (666.26 KB)

October 10, 2023

[Complaint Counsel's Motion to Extend Fact Discovery to Allow Discovery Regarding Respondents' Agreements with Ubisoft Entertainment SA and Sony Interactive Entertainment LLC and Request for Expedited Ruling](#) (1.65 MB)

[Respondents' Notice of Opposition to Complaint Counsel's Request for Expedited Briefing](#) (713.56 KB)

October 2, 2023

[Complaint Counsel's Corrected Pre-Trial Brief](#) (41.54 MB)

September 26, 2023

 [Order Returning Matter to Adjudication](#) (717.8 KB)


July 20, 2023

 [Order Withdrawing Matter from Adjudication](#) (115.08 KB)

July 18, 2023

 [Respondents' Joint Motion to Withdraw This Matter from Adjudication](#) (726.95 KB)

July 6, 2023

 [Notice of Appearance of Counsel for Third Party Amazon.com Inc. - L. Oliver and E. Kurban](#)
(806.42 KB)

June 29, 2023

 [Order Granting Respondents' Motion for Second Revised Scheduling Order](#) (736.18 KB)

 [Complaint Counsel's Memorandum in Opposition to Respondents' Motion for Second Revised Scheduling Order](#) (1.37 MB)

June 26, 2023

 [Respondents' Motion for Second Revised Scheduling Order](#) (728.59 KB)

June 5, 2023

 [Notice of Withdrawal of Appearance - Taylor Alexander](#) (730.95 KB)

May 12, 2023

 [Order Granting Joint Motion for First Revised Scheduling Order](#) (731.4 KB)

May 10, 2023

 [Joint Motion for First Revised Scheduling Order](#) (843.81 KB)


April 24, 2023

 [Complaint Counsel's Opposition to Non-Party Steve Singers Motion to Quash Complaint Counsel's Subpoena Ad Testificandum](#) (13.01 MB)

April 20, 2023

 [Order Denying Motion of Non-Party Steve Singer to Quash Subpoena Ad Testificandum](#)
(160.96 KB)


April 17, 2023

 [Non-Party Steve Singer's Motion to Quash Complaint Counsel's Untimely Subpoena Ad Testificandum to Steve Singer](#) (1.93 MB)

April 3, 2023

 [Order Granting Third Agreed Motion for Extension of Time](#) (664.08 KB)

March 30, 2023

 [Third Unopposed Motion of Non-Party Cornerstone Research for Extension of Time to Move to Limit or Quash or Otherwise Respond to Subpoena](#) (788.22 KB)


March 29, 2023

 [Notice of Change of Address](#) (905.56 KB)

March 24, 2023

 [Order Granting Second Agreed Motion for Extension of Time](#) (663.64 KB)

March 23, 2023

 [Second Unopposed Motion of Non-Party Cornerstone Research for Extension of Time to Move to Limit or Quash or Otherwise Respond to Subpoena](#) (794.49 KB)

March 21, 2023

 [Order on Complaint Counsel's Motion to Compel Production of Documents](#) (832.4 KB)

March 15, 2023


 [Order Granting Agreed Motion for Extension of Time](#) (663.86 KB)

 [Respondents' Opposition to Complaint Counsel's Motion to Compel Production](#) (2.35 MB)

March 14, 2023

 [Complaint Counsel's Motion to Compel Microsoft Corporation and Activision Blizzard Inc. to Produce Documents](#) (1.83 MB)

March 13, 2023

 [Unopposed Motion of Non-Party Cornerstone Research for Extension of Time to Move to Limit or Quash or Otherwise Respond to Subpoena](#) (795.22 KB)


March 10, 2023

 [Order Granting Third Agreed Motion for Extension of Time](#) (649.42 KB)

 [Protective Order Governing Confidential Material](#) (730.67 KB)


 [Notice of Appearance of Third Party Counsel for Fernanda L. Schmid](#) (897.24 KB)

March 9, 2023

 [Third Agreed Motion of Non-Party Take-Two Interactive Software, Inc. For Extension of Time to Move to Limit or Quash or Otherwise Respond to Subpoena](#) (795.5 KB)

March 3, 2023

 [Order Granting Second Agreed Motion for Extension of Time - Take-Two Interactive Software](#) (657.57 KB)

 [Agreed Motion of Non-Party Take-Two Interactive Software Inc. for Extension of Time to Move to Limit or Quash or Otherwise Respond to Subpoena](#) (740.6 KB)


 [Order Granting Agreed Stipulation](#) (653.99 KB)


 [Order Granting Second Agreed Motion for Extension of Time - Non-Party Google, LLC.](#) (654.87 KB)

 [Order Granting Agreed Motion for Extension of Time - Non-Party Take-Two Interactive Software](#) (657.15 KB)

March 2, 2023

 [Second Agreed Motion of Non-Party Google LLC for Extension of Time to Move to Limit or Quash or Otherwise Respond to Subpoena](#) (728.6 KB)

 [Second Agreed Motion of Non-Party Take-Two Interactive Software, Inc. For Extension of Time to Move to Limit or Quash or Otherwise Respond to Subpoena](#) (795.57 KB)

 [Stipulation Regarding the Protection and Clawback of Attorney Client Privileged Information or Information Otherwise Protected from Disclosure](#) (811.52 KB)

 [Order Granting Third Agreed Motion for Extension of Time](#) (651.77 KB)

February 28, 2023


 [Order Granting Second Agreed Motion for Extension of Time](#) (683.43 KB)

February 27, 2023


 [Order Granting Third Agreed Motion for Extension of Time](#) (667.23 KB)

 [Second Agreed Motion of Non-Party Valve Corporation for Extension of Time to Move to Limit or Quash or Otherwise Respond to Subpoena](#) (781.28 KB)

February 24, 2023

 [Third Agreed Motion of Non-Party Google LLC. for Extension of Time to Move to Limit or Quash or Otherwise Respond to Subpoena](#) (660.75 KB)

February 23, 2023


 [Order On Motion of Sony Interactive Entertainment LLC to Quash or Limit Subpoena Duces Tecum](#) (926.22 KB)

 [Order Granting Agreed Motion for Extension of Time](#) (669.35 KB)

February 22, 2023

 [Notice of Appearance of Third Party Counsel for James W. Attridge](#) (1.6 MB)

 [Notice of Appearance of Third Party Counsel for Michael L. Keeley](#) (1.6 MB)

 [Agreed Motion of Non-Party Take-Two Interactive Software, Inc. for Extension of Time to Move to Limit or Quash or Otherwise Respond to Subpoena](#) (795.67 KB)

February 21, 2023

 [Notice of Appearance for Third Party Counsel - Jason Wasserman](#) (1.59 MB)

February 17, 2023

 [Notice of Appearance for Third Party Counsel- Kristen W. Broz - Valve Corporation](#) (907.43 KB)

 [Second Agreed Motion of Non-Party Google, LLC. for Extension of Time to Move to Limit or Quash or Otherwise Respond to Subpoena](#) (733.11 KB)


 [Order Granting Agreed Motion for Extension of Time](#) (662.73 KB)


 [Agreed Motion of Non-Party Nintendo of America Inc. for Extensions of Time to Move to Limit or Quash or Otherwise Respond to Subpoenas](#) (713.7 KB)


February 16, 2023

 [Order Granting Second Agreed Motion for Extension of Time](#) (663.58 KB)


 [Order Granting Agreed Motion for Extension of Time - Google, LLC.](#) (662.15 KB)

 [Agreed Motion of Non-Party Google, LLC. for Extension of Time to Move to Limit or Quash or Otherwise Respond to Subpoena](#) (729.11 KB)


 [Non-Party Sony Interactive Entertainment LLC's Motion for Leave to File Proposed Reply in Support of its Motion to Quash or Limit Subpoena Duces Tecum](#) (1.79 MB)

 [Agreed Motion of Non-Party Nintendo of America Inc. for Extensions of Time to Move to Limit or Quash or Otherwise Respond to Subpoenas](#) (912.34 KB)

February 15, 2023

 [Second Agreed Motion of Non-Party Sony Interactive Entertainment LLC for Extension of Time to Move to Limit or Quash or Otherwise Respond to Subpoena](#) (820.45 KB)

February 13, 2023

 [Respondent Microsoft Corp's Opposition to Non-Party Sony Interactive Entertainment LLC's Motion to Quash or Limit Subpoena Duces Tecum](#) (10.95 MB)

February 10, 2023

 [Proposed Stipulation and Order Governing the Taking of Remote Depositions](#) (908.19 KB)


 [Order Entering Joint Stipulation Governing the Taking of Remote Depositions](#) (878.53 KB)

February 9, 2023

 [Order Granting Agreed Motion for Extension of Time](#) (651.33 KB)

February 8, 2023

 [Order Granting Agreed Motion for Extension of Time](#) (662.7 KB)

 [Agreed Motion of Non-Party Google LLC for Extension of Time to Move to Limit or Quash or Otherwise Respond to Subpoena](#) (732.16 KB)


 [Sony Interactive Entertainment LLC's Motion to Quash or Limit Subpoena Duces Tecum](#) (1.35 MB)

 [Notice of Appearance filed for Bruce Hoffman of Sony Interactive, Third Party Counsel](#) (1.41 MB)


February 8, 2023

 [Notice of Appearance of Third Party Counsel for Sony Entertainment C. Lawrence Malm](#) (1.41 MB)

February 7, 2023

 [Respondent Microsoft Corp.'S Opposition to Non-Party Sony Interactive Entertainment LLC's Fourth Motion for Extension of Time to Move to Limit or Quash Subpoena](#) (1.5 MB)

February 6, 2023


 [Notice of Withdrawal of Non-Party Sony Interactive Entertainment LLCs Fourth Motion for Extension of Time to Move to Limit or Quash Subpoena and Motion for Leave to File Proposed Reply in Support of Its Motion for Extension of Time](#) (1.38 MB)

 [Notice of Appearance for Leah Brannon, Third Party Counsel, Sony Interactive](#) (1.39 MB)

 [Notice of Appearance for Evan Miller, counsel or representative for a third party](#) (1.37 MB)

 [Notice of Appearance for Leonard L. Gordon, counsel or representative for a third party](#) (1.08 MB)

 [Order Granting Motion for Extension of Time for Camelot Communications Ltd. To Seek in Camera Treatment of Documents](#) (690.81 KB)

 [Agreed Motion of Non-Party Nintendo of America Inc. For Extension of Time to Move to Limit or Quash or Otherwise Respond to Subpoena](#) (953.94 KB)

February 3, 2023

 [Non-Party Sony Interactive Entertainment LLC's Motion for Leave to File Proposed Reply in Support of its Motion for Extension of Time to Move to Limit or Quash Subpoena](#) (814.48 KB)


February 2, 2023


 [Order Granting Third Agreed Motion for Extension of Time](#) (663.05 KB)

 [Fourth Motion of Non-Party Sony Interactive Entertainment LLC For Extension of Time to Move to Limit or Quash Subpoena](#) (1.82 MB)

February 1, 2023

 [Notice of Appearance by David E. Morris, Counsel Supporting the Complaint](#) (863.88 KB)

 [Agreed Motion of Non-Party Sony Interactive Entertainment LLC For Extension of Time to Move to Limit or Quash or Otherwise Respond to Subpoena](#) (776.04 KB)

 [Third Agreed Motion of Non-Party Sony Interactive Entertainment LLC for Extension of Time to Move to Limit or Quash or Otherwise Respond to Subpoena](#) (771 KB)


 [Order Granting Agreed Motion for Extension of Time](#) (662.79 KB)

January 31, 2023

 [Order Granting Agreed Motion for Extension of Time](#) (683.2 KB)

January 30, 2023


 [Notice of Appearance for Third Party Counsel, Michael Bonanno and James McGlinchy, NVIDIA](#) (925.22 KB)

 [Agreed Motion of Non-Party Nvidia Corporation for Extension of Time to Move to Limit or Quash or Otherwise Respond to Subpoena](#) (739.71 KB)

January 27, 2023

 [Order Granting Second Agreed Motion for Extension of Time](#) (662.84 KB)

January 26, 2023

 [Second Agreed Motion of Non-Party Sony Interactive Entertainment LLC for Extension of Time to Move to Limit or Quash or Otherwise Respond to Subpoena](#) (3.38 MB)

 [Notice of Appearance for Counsel or Representative for a Third Party- Isabel Tuz](#) (1.38 MB)

January 20, 2023

 [Agreed Motion of Non-Party Sony Interactive Entertainment LLC. for Extension of Time to Move to Limit or Quash or Otherwise Respond to Subpoena](#) (740.32 KB)

January 18, 2023

 [Notice of Appearance by Leah Brannon, counsel or representative for a third party](#) (1.37 MB)

January 5, 2023

 [Notice of Appearance by Joseph Ansaldo, Counsel Supporting the Complaint](#) (809.57 KB)

January 4, 2023

 [Amended Answer and Defense of Respondent Microsoft Corp.](#) (1.14 MB)


 [Order Granting Consent Motions for Leave to Amend Answer and Defenses](#) (658.5 KB)

 [Answer and Defenses of Respondent Activision Blizzard, Inc.](#) (1.52 MB)

 [Scheduling Order](#) (802.71 KB)

January 3, 2023

 [Respondent Microsoft Corp.'S Consent Motion for Leave to Amend its Answer and Defenses](#) (1.49 MB)

 [Respondent Activision Blizzard, Inc.'s Consent Motion for Leave to Amend Its Answer and Defenses](#) (1.66 MB)

January 3, 2023

 [Initial Prehearing Telephonic Scheduling Conference](#) (105.54 KB)

December 23, 2022

 [Administrative Law Judge's Order Setting Prehearing Conference](#) (651.82 KB)

 [Order Granting Agreed Motion for Extension of Time](#) (662.08 KB)

December 22, 2022

 [Answer and Defenses of Respondent Microsoft Corp.](#) (1.11 MB)

 [Answer and Defenses of Respondent Activision Blizzard, Inc.](#) (2.07 MB)


 [Notice of Appearance for Cassandra DiPietro, Counsel Supporting the Complaint](#) (816.23 KB)

December 15, 2022

 [Notice of Appearance for Michael Franchak, Counsel Supporting the Complaint](#) (798.54 KB)

 [Notice of Appearance by Peggy Bayer Femenella, Counsel Supporting the Complaint](#) (798.2 KB)

December 14, 2022

 [Notice of Appearance by Steven Sunshine, Julia York, Maria Raptis, and Michael Sheeran, Counsel for Respondent Activision Blizzard](#) (627.12 KB)

December 12, 2022

 [Notice of Appearance by Taylor Alexander, Counsel Supporting the Complaint](#) (796.24 KB)

 [Notice of Appearance by James Gossman, Counsel Supporting the Complaint](#) (794.7 KB)

 [Notice of Appearance by Ethan Gurwitz, Counsel Supporting the Complaint](#) (795.51 KB)

 [Notice of Appearance by Amanda Butler, Counsel Supporting the Complaint](#) (796.13 KB)

 [Notice of Appearance by Steven Santulli, Counsel Supporting the Complaint](#) (793.93 KB)

 [Notice of Appearance by Nicole Callan, Counsel Supporting the Complaint](#) (794.23 KB)

 [Notice of Appearance by Edmund Saw, Counsel Supporting the Complaint](#) (794.72 KB)

 [Notice of Appearance by Merrick Pastore, Counsel Supporting the Complaint](#) (795.11 KB)

 [Notice of Appearance by Maria Cirincione, Counsel Supporting the Complaint](#) (793.89 KB)

 [Notice of Appearance by Michael Moiseyev, Counsel for respondent Microsoft Corporation](#) (809.6 KB)

 [Notice of Appearance by Megan Granger, Counsel for Respondent Microsoft Corporation](#) (842.56 KB)

December 9, 2022

 [Notice of Appearance for Meredith Levert, Counsel Supporting the Complaint](#) (819.83 KB)

 [Notice of Appearance for James Abel, Counsel Supporting the Complaint](#) (769.29 KB)

 [Order Designating Administrative Law Judge](#) (679.73 KB)

 [Protective Order Governing Confidential Material](#) (734.75 KB)

December 8, 2022

 [Administrative Part 3 Complaint \(Redacted Public Version\)](#) (409.76 KB)

PRESS RELEASE: [FTC Seeks to Block Microsoft Corp.'s Acquisition of Activision Blizzard, Inc.](#)