

# **Direct Selling Self-Regulatory Council**

INDEPENDENT INVESTIGATION. INCREASED OVERSIGHT. ACTIVE MONITORING.

## WHO

The Direct Selling Self-Regulatory Council (DSSRC) was launched in 2019 as a third-party, independent self-regulatory program administered by the non-profit organization BBB National Programs. DSSRC is funded by the Direct Selling Association (DSA).

#### **PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS**

- # 1,326 representative product claims and 1,583 representative earnings claims removed from social media platforms and company websites
- 22 cases referred to government agencies (e.g., Federal Trade Commission) for non- response/ non-compliance with inquiries
- 112 public case decisions
- Approximately 1,423,017 unique URLs reviewed for potential infractions
- 709 posts reviewed related to COVID-19
- 272 administratively closed cases
- 2021 winner of ICAS Best Sectoral Initiative Award

#### **WHAT**

DSSRC monitors the entire U.S. direct selling industry and embodies the following principles:

- Clear industry standards on issues such as product and earning representations
- Relevant best practices from other self-regulatory models
- A process that both monitors and enforces strict business principles; and
- Guidance to improve the business and advertising practices of DSA members and the entire direct selling channel.

## WHY

Direct selling - when done correctly - can benefit salesforce members and consumers.

However, the dissemination of unsupported product claims and the over-embellishment of the amount of money that can be earned through a direct selling opportunity remains an ongoing concern in the industry.

DSSRC is a proactive effort to identify and eliminate product and earnings claims that compromise the reputation of the direct selling industry. To be successful, effective self-regulation requires ongoing commitment and participation from companies and salesforce members from across the channel.

### THE DSSRC TEAM

PETER MARINELLO Vice President, DSSRC HOWARD SMITH Attorney, DSSRC JOANNE LI Advertising Review Specialist