

It is unlawful to sell any franchise in this State which is subject to registration under this subtitle without first providing to the prospective franchisee, [at least 48 hours prior to the execution by the prospective franchisee of any binding franchise or other agreement, or at least 48 hours prior to the receipt of any consideration, whichever occurs first,] AT THE EARLIER OF: (1) THE PROSPECTIVE FRANCHISEE'S FIRST PERSONAL MEETING WITH THE FRANCHISOR WHICH IS HELD FOR THE PURPOSE OF DISCUSSING THE SALE OR POSSIBLE SALE OF A FRANCHISE, OR (2) 10 BUSINESS DAYS PRIOR TO THE EXECUTION OF A CONTRACT OR PAYMENT OF ANY CONSIDERATION RELATING TO THE FRANCHISE RELATIONSHIP, a copy of the prospectus, together with a copy of all proposed agreements relating to the sale of the franchise.

359.

The registration may be renewed for additional periods of one year each, unless the Commissioner by rule, [or] regulation, OR ORDER specifies a different period, by submitting to the Commissioner a registration renewal statement no later than 15 business days prior to the expiration of the registration unless the period is waived by order of the Commissioner. If a stop order or other order is not in effect under this subtitle, registration of the offer of the franchises automatically becomes renewed effective at 12 o'clock noon of the date on which the prior registration is due to expire, or at an earlier time as the Commissioner determines.

363.

(A) Whenever it appears to the Commissioner that any person has engaged or is about to engage in any act or practice, constituting a violation of any provision of this law or any rule or order under it, he may [bring an action in the name of the people of the State of Maryland in the circuit court to enjoin the acts or practices or to enforce compliance with this law or any rule or order under it. Upon a proper showing, a permanent or preliminary injunction, restraining order or writ of mandate shall be granted and a receiver or conservator may be appointed for the defendant or the defendant's assets. The court may not require the Commissioner to post a bond.] DO ANY OR ALL OF THE FOLLOWING:

(1) ORDER THE FRANCHISOR OR OFFEROR OF THE FRANCHISE TO DESIST AND REFRAIN FROM THE FURTHER OFFER OR SALE OF THE FRANCHISE UNLESS AND UNTIL THE OFFER IS MADE IN COMPLIANCE WITH THIS SUBTITLE. IF, AFTER ISSUANCE OF THE ORDER, A REQUEST FOR A HEARING IS FILED IN WRITING BY THE PERSON TO WHOM THE ORDER IS DIRECTED, A HEARING SHALL BE HELD. UNLESS THE HEARING IS COMMENCED WITHIN 15 BUSINESS DAYS AFTER THE REQUEST IS MADE, OR THE PERSON AFFECTED CONSENTS TO A LATER DATE, THE ORDER IS RESCINDED;