



Joseph R. Biden, Jr.
President, United States of America
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, DC 20500

February 17, 2023

Dear Mr. President:

My name is Adam Wolf and I am the current President of NWIDA – the National Wireless Independent Dealer Association.

NWIDA is the only trade and advocacy group dedicated exclusively to the independent wireless dealer and repair shop. With over 40,000 small and medium sized businesses in the US, our members are the driving force behind the explosion of wireless since the late 1980s.

In January 2023 Samsung filed a Section 337¹ complaint with the USITC² who announced it would open an investigation into the import activity of displays.

In their complaint, Samsung is targeting all aftermarket OLED screens that they claim violate their patents. This could affect all aftermarket OLED panels including those for the iPhone and future models. Samsung's claim says that:

it creates AMOLED displays for mobile devices, and that those displays are covered by a number of patents. However, factories in China (and elsewhere) are, according to Samsung, creating similar screens that infringe upon those patents. And that these screens are often imported by third-party repair businesses in the US as a cheaper option than buying authorized parts directly from, in this case, Samsung.

Samsung wants the ITC to issue orders blocking the importation of these replacement display parts at the border. It has also requested that the wholesaler companies named in the filing be ordered to stop importing, selling, or using the products in question.

Samsung is asking the government to enforce a general exclusion order, which would apply to **everyone**, including individual stores buying directly from China. This would devastate the entire repair industry by permanently blocking the import of aftermarket OLED screens and preventing their use from those who were hoping to fix their phones with a much less expensive alternative.

We find this filing unconscionable.

To be blunt, this would kill the independent repair business, and per our estimates could put well over 75,000 Americans out of work and into unemployment. There are over 25,000 wireless repair businesses in the United States, and with a conservative estimate of just three employees per business, this could be devastating to the repair industry, and to hard working citizens in Wyoming and across the country.

¹ [usitc.gov/intellectual_property/about_section_337.htm](https://www.usitc.gov/intellectual_property/about_section_337.htm)

² public-inspection.federalregister.gov/2023-00233.pdf



Mr. Louis Rossmann is a recognized repair expert who has over 1.75 million subscribers to his YouTube channel. Mr. Rossman has produced an in-depth video available at [youtube.com/watch?v=A002AesVaFk&t=1s](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A002AesVaFk&t=1s).

Mr. Rossman said if found in Samsung's favor it would "fire a kill shot on the entire repair industry."

We agree with his assessment.

The Repair Association ([repair.org](https://www.repair.org)) is a 501(c)6 trade association founded in July of 2013 to support individuals and businesses engaged in repair, reuse, and recycling of digital electronic parts and products.

PIRG ([PIRG.org](https://www.pirg.org)), the Public Interest Research Group, is an advocate for the public interest. They speak out for the public and stand up to special interests on problems that affect the public's health, safety and wellbeing.

Both the Repair Association and PIRG have filed a Public Interest Statement that can be found here - drive.google.com/file/d/14Ta_MULMchgnAYbgLquV8QB-i8pWBmqa/view

In your July, 2021 Executive Order³ Promoting Competition in the American Economy, you asked federal agencies to seek ways to "Make it easier and cheaper to repair items you own by limiting manufacturers from barring self-repairs or third-party repairs of their products."

This order, if granted, will certainly do the opposite of your wishes.

We urge you to contact the USITC and voice your opposition to this filing.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to have your staff contact me directly.

Regards,

Adam Wolf
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³ [whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2021/07/09/fact-sheet-executive-order-on-promoting-competition-in-the-american-economy/](https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2021/07/09/fact-sheet-executive-order-on-promoting-competition-in-the-american-economy/)
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