

From: [Richie Shuman](#)
To: [OCI Company Licensing](#)
Subject: Comments towards Delta Dental acquisition of multi-state DSO
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To whom it may concern,

The planned acquisition should be viewed as a huge red flag to the FTC, states insurance commissioners, and most of all, patients. A dental practice, in this case, practices, being owned by the insurer is quite obviously the beginning step in monopolistic activity. In the practice of dentistry, and more broadly in medicine, patients must come first, and this planned acquisition blurs that delineation. Delta Dental is in the business of providing insurance; using their profits to make acquisitions to further their growth as a provider means they are benefiting/profitting on all aspects of dental care. Controlling both sides of the service of dentistry, or any service, product, or commodity is the definition of a monopoly.

It is my sincerest hope this test on the virtues capitalism via Delta Dental will be abruptly denied on the basis of monopolistic behavior. Thus also protecting all individuals across the USA seeking dental care, thousands of small businesses (dental private and/or corporate practices), and even more broadly speaking the view of the practice of medicine across our country.

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