I'm Eileen Harrington, the Executive Director of the Federal Trade Commission.

I encourage you to read the Federal Trade Commission's 2012 Performance and Accountability Report, which explains what you, the taxpayer, get for your investment in the FTC's mission and programs. The report highlights major accomplishments in fulfilling our core goals of protecting consumers and promoting competition. The report also outlines our plans for addressing future challenges.

This year's report includes an overview of key performance measures, efficiency measures, and financial highlights.

In Fiscal Year 2012, we met or exceeded over 80 percent of our key performance measures, and the independent financial audit resulted in our sixteenth consecutive unqualified opinion, the highest audit opinion available.

Additionally, we have won the Certificate of Excellence in Accountability Reporting awarded by the Association of Government Accountants for the past five years, and we strive to continue this high standard of performance.

We at the Federal Trade Commission are proud to serve the American public and we strive to be good stewards of the public resources, your resources, that you have entrusted to us.

We hope you find our annual Performance and Accountability Report to be helpful and informative. Thank you.