



## ENFORCEMENT AGAINST DIGITAL LENDING VIOLATIONS

Pursuant to Sections 17(a), (e), (g), (h), (l), (m), (s), (x), (v), 18(3), 123, 124, 127, 129 and 130 of the Federal Competition and Consumer Protection Act, 2018 (FCCPA)

**Monday, February 5, 2024:** The Federal Competition and Consumer Protection Commission, as part of the continuing investigation and monitoring of Digital Money Lenders (DMLs), has observed an upsurge in violations of the Inter agency Joint Task Force's Limited Interim Regulatory/Registration Framework and Guidelines for Digital Lending 2022.

The Commission understands the increased demand for loans during this time of year, leading to an increased risk of default due to large numbers and typical cash flow challenges and constraints. However, the solution cannot be to violate law or utilise unethical recovery methods. As such, the Commission is intensifying enforcement efforts and adopting a zero-tolerance stance towards any exploitation of consumers or abusive conduct, whether in balance calculations, loan default enforcement, or recovery processes.

In addition, in the coming days, the Commission will be engaging approved loan apps with respect to a more robust compliance framework including any additional requirements where applicable, and possible mechanisms for otherwise blacklisted apps.

The Commission will welcome demonstrated and timely compliance by all legitimate operators in order to promote and enhance fairness to consumers and fairness among competitors. With respect to operators that do not possess the Commission's approval, the scrutiny process will include law enforcement action against such, in addition to regulatory prohibition and consequences.

The Commission reiterates its commitment to ensure legal and ethical operations in digital lending; and encourages consumers to consider/patronise only approved DMLs (list available at [www.fccpc.gov.ng](http://www.fccpc.gov.ng)). Feedback and complaint may be forwarded to: [lenderstaskforce@fccpc.gov.ng](mailto:lenderstaskforce@fccpc.gov.ng).

**Dr. Adamu Abdullahi**

Ag. Executive Vice Chairman/ Chief Executive Officer