

## **COFECE Notified Diverse Economic Agents of a Statement of Probable Responsibility for Possible Relative Monopolistic Practices in the Market for the Generation, Processing and Commercialization of Credit Information**

- *The Investigative Authority's Statement of Probable Responsibility establishes that the notified economic agents and individuals possibly incurred in anticompetitive conducts known as refusal to deal and price discrimination, both penalized in the Federal Economic Competition Law*
- *Relative monopolistic practices are those in which one or several participants with substantial market power carry out a conduct to displace competitors or impede their access to the market or establish exclusive advantages that favor one or several economic agents.*
- *With the notification of the statement, a trial-like procedure is initiated, in which the notified parties will be able to address COFECE's allegations.*

**Mexico City, January 12, 2018.-** The Federal Economic Competition Commission (COFECE or Commission) notified diverse economic agents of their probable responsibility in the commission of relative monopolistic practices in the market for credit information generation, processing and commercialization.

The investigation began on January 5, 2015 and concluded on September 25, 2017 with the Statement of Probable Responsibility issued by the Investigative Authority, in which it indicated having knowledge of facts that possibly derived in the commission of relative monopolistic practices known as price discrimination, which consists in establishing different prices or conditions to buyers under equal circumstances and refusal to deal, which implies not selling or providing a good or service that is normally offered to others. Both conducts are penalized by the Federal Economic Competition Law.

Relative monopolistic practices are those in which one or several market participants have substantial market power, which is used to unduly displace their competitors, impede their access to the market or establish exclusive advantages that benefit one or several economic agents.

The notification of the Statement of Probable Responsibility establishes the initiation of the case's trial-like procedure, which will be conducted by the Technical Secretariat of this Commission. During which the alleged offenders have the right to argue in their favor and

submit evidence related to the allegations presented against them. Once the facts have been addressed, the evidence processed and the corresponding arguments presented, COFECE's Board of Commissioners may issue a resolution as per the law.

According to the Federal Economic Competition Law, if the Commission confirms a relative monopolistic practice has been carried out, the economic agents may be fined with up to 8% of their income.

*See in Spanish: [What is a relative monopolistic practice?](#) and [What are Statements of Probable Responsibility and why are they used?](#)*

– 000 –

***A BETTER MEXICO IS EVERYONE'S BUSINESS***

*The Federal Economic Competition Commission is entrusted with safeguarding competition and free market access. Through this, it contributes to consumer welfare and the efficient functioning of markets. Through its work, COFECE seeks better conditions for consumers, greater output, better services and a “level playing field” for businesses.*