



# FEDERATION OF AMERICAN CONSUMERS AND TRAVELERS - NEWS RELEASE -

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **Consumers Warned About Dealing with Stores Which Are Planning to Close Their Doors**

EDWARDSVILLE, IL, November 26, 2008 - A substantial number of retailers have informed the Securities and Exchange Commission of plans to close some -- or all! -- locations between now and January 2009.

The Federation of American Consumers and Travelers (FACT) has issued a list of those retailers so that no one gets caught purchasing gift cards which can't be redeemed or products whose guarantees cannot be honored.

The full list can be found by visiting the FACT Web site:

[www.usafact.org/newsbulletins.aspx](http://www.usafact.org/newsbulletins.aspx)

FACT is a not-for-profit association which was founded in 1984 and which provides a variety of benefits -- ranging from [medical insurance](#) and [dental care discounts](#) to [prescription drug savings](#) and [timely consumer information](#) -- for more than 1 million Americans.

“Basically,” says FACT managing director Vicki Rolens, “consumers need to make certain that they don’t get caught short by the rash of store closings. If someone already has purchased a gift card from one of the listed stores, then he or she should be certain it is used before there’s no place to use it!”

She says that some of the stores involved are Ann Taylor, Cachè, Disney, Gap, J. Jill, KB Toys, Linens ‘n Things, Talbots, Sharper Image, and Zale’s. She urges everyone to check the complete list of planned closings before doing any further Christmas shopping, and to pass along the information to family and friends.

Rolens adds: “The good news, I suppose, is that the consumer can probably find some real bargains at stores on the list. You just need to avoid buying gift cards, and must understand that anything you buy will in all likelihood not be returnable.”

###

Questions may be directed to FACT by sending an e-mail to [cservice@usafact.org](mailto:cservice@usafact.org). More information on the Federation of American Consumers and Travelers may be found in the *Encyclopedia of Associations*, and by visiting the association's web site ([www.usafact.org](http://www.usafact.org)). [The organization was formed](#) under the not-for-profit corporation laws of the District of Columbia in 1984. Its administrative office is located at 318 Hillsboro Avenue, Edwardsville, IL 62025.