



**For Immediate Release**  
**Contact: Amy Hinojosa**  
[ahinojosa@hermana.org](mailto:ahinojosa@hermana.org)

## **MANA hopeful following Federal Court ruling against Vemma Nutrition Company**

---

Last month, we were gratified to see the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) take direct steps to shut down the predatory multi-level marketing (MLM) company Vemma by filing a lawsuit and classifying it as an illegal pyramid scheme, underscoring its deceptive business practices. We were further encouraged to learn that the U.S. District Court Judge overseeing the FTC's complaint determined it would ban Vemma from resuming normal operations, stating "[there was little doubt the energy-drink maker was operating a pyramid scheme.](#)"

MANA has been actively calling on the FTC to conclude their investigation against another troubling MLM company under heavy federal review - Herbalife. This lawsuit against Vemma represents progress toward protecting all consumers from similar companies operating as pyramid schemes. More importantly, a strong, clear message is being sent to the entire MLM industry: preying on the financially vulnerable and making [false claims of wealth and economic empowerment](#), are unacceptable as a business model.

As an organization that prides itself on efforts to prepare middle and high school students for college and career, we are deeply disappointed in Vemma for not only targeting unassuming college students and younger teenagers, but in some cases, even encouraging young recruits to [hide their involvement from their own parents.](#)

Consumers everywhere should remain vigilant and question companies offering business opportunities that contain buy-to-qualify requirements and place a high level of importance on recruitment over actual retail sales in order to be compensated. MANA will continue to advocate for strong consumer protections and a final decision on the Herbalife investigation. The Vemma ruling is a positive indicator that unlawful MLMs will be brought to justice.

###