



FEDERAL AND STATE ACTIONS | JULY 18, 2023



Operation Stop Scam Calls
Federal Trade Commission | ftc.gov/calls



PARTICIPATING AGENCIES

Alabama Attorney General's Office
Alaska Attorney General's Office
Arizona Attorney General's Office
Arkansas Attorney General's Office
California Attorney General's Office
Colorado Attorney General's Office
Connecticut Attorney General's Office
Delaware Attorney General's Office
District of Columbia Attorney General's Office
Federal Communications Commission
Federal Trade Commission
Florida Attorney General's Office
Georgia Attorney General's Office
Hawaii Attorney General's Office
Idaho Attorney General's Office
Illinois Attorney General's Office
Indiana Attorney General's Office
Iowa Attorney General's Office
Kansas Attorney General's Office
Kentucky Attorney General's Office
Louisiana Attorney General's Office
Maine Attorney General's Office
Maine Public Utilities Commission
Maryland Attorney General's Office
Massachusetts Attorney General's Office

Michigan Attorney General's Office
Minnesota Attorney General's Office
Mississippi Attorney General's Office
Missouri Attorney General's Office
Montana Attorney General's Office
Nebraska Attorney General's Office
Nevada Attorney General's Office
New Hampshire Attorney General's Office
New Jersey Attorney General's Office
New Mexico Attorney General's Office
New York Attorney General's Office
North Carolina Attorney General's Office
North Dakota Attorney General's Office
Ohio Attorney General's Office
Oklahoma Attorney General's Office
Oregon Attorney General's Office
Pennsylvania Attorney General's Office
Rhode Island Attorney General's Office
Social Security Administration,
Office of the Inspector General
South Carolina Attorney General's Office
South Dakota Attorney General's Office
Tennessee Attorney General's Office
Texas Attorney General's Office

United States Attorney's Office for the
Central District of California
United States Attorney's Office for the
District of Arizona
United States Attorney's Office for the
District of Colorado
United States Attorney's Office for the
District of Columbia
United States Attorney's Office for the
District of Connecticut
United States Attorney's Office for the
District of Delaware
United States Attorney's Office for the
District of Maryland
United States Attorney's Office for the
District of Massachusetts
United States Attorney's Office for the
District of Minnesota
United States Attorney's Office for the
District of Montana
United States Attorney's Office for the
District of Nebraska
United States Attorney's Office for the
District of Nevada
United States Attorney's Office for the
District of New Jersey

* Additional *non-public* actions were taken by
Operation Stop Scam Calls participants



PARTICIPATING AGENCIES

United States Attorney's Office for the District of Rhode Island
United States Attorney's Office for the District of South Carolina
United States Attorney's Office for the District of Utah
United States Attorney's Office for the Eastern District of California
United States Attorney's Office for the Eastern District of New York
United States Attorney's Office for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania
United States Attorney's Office for the Eastern District of Texas
United States Attorney's Office for the Eastern District of Virginia
United States Attorney's Office for the Middle District of Florida
United States Attorney's Office for the Middle District of Georgia
United States Attorney's Office for the Middle District of Pennsylvania
United States Attorney's Office for the Northern District of California

United States Attorney's Office for the Northern District of Florida
United States Attorney's Office for the Northern District of Georgia
United States Attorney's Office for the Northern District of Illinois
United States Attorney's Office for the Northern District of Ohio
United States Attorney's Office for the Northern District of West Virginia
United States Attorney's Office for the Southern District of California
United States Attorney's Office for the Southern District of Florida
United States Attorney's Office for the Southern District of Indiana
United States Attorney's Office for the Southern District of New York
United States Attorney's Office for the Southern District of Ohio
United States Attorney's Office for the Southern District of Texas
United States Attorney's Office for the Western District of Kentucky

United States Attorney's Office for the Western District of Michigan
United States Attorney's Office for the Western District of North Carolina
United States Attorney's Office for the Western District of Pennsylvania
United States Attorney's Office for the Western District of Texas
United States Department of Justice, Commercial Litigation Branch, Financial Litigation Section, Civil Division
United States Department of Justice, Consumer Protection Branch
United States Department of Justice, Criminal Division
United States Postal Inspection Service
Utah Attorney General's Office
Utah Division of Consumer Protection
Vermont Attorney General's Office
Virginia Attorney General's Office
Washington Attorney General's Office
West Virginia Attorney General's Office
Wisconsin Attorney General's Office
Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection
Wyoming Attorney General's Office

* Additional *non-public* actions were taken by Operation Stop Scam Calls participants

Matter Name Action Location	Type of Action	Date/Matter Information	Responsible Agency	Press Contact Staff Contact
FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION NEW ACTIONS				
<p><i>United States v. Fluent, LLC, et al.</i></p> <p>(Fluent, LLC; FTC Matter No. 1923230)</p> <p>United States District Court Southern District of Florida Case No. 9:23-cv-81045</p>	<p>Civil Lawsuit:</p> <p>Seeking civil penalties, permanent injunction, monetary relief, and other relief. Alleged violations of Section 5 of the FTC Act, the Telemarketing Sales Rule, and the Controlling the Assault of Non-Solicited Pornography and Marketing Act of 2003 (“CAN-SPAM Act”).</p>	<p>July 17, 2023: Complaint for Civil Penalties, Permanent Injunction, Monetary Relief, and Other Relief filed.</p> <p>July 17, 2023: Joint Motion for Entry of Proposed Stipulated Order and Stipulated Order for Permanent Injunction, Monetary Judgment, Civil Penalty Judgment, and Other Relief filed.</p> <p>Matter resolved through stipulation.</p>	<p>Federal Trade Commission and U.S. Department of Justice</p> <p>(Case filed by the U.S. Department of Justice on behalf of the Federal Trade Commission)</p>	<p>Mitchell J. Katz <i>Office of Public Affairs</i> (202) 326-2161</p> <p>Purba Mukerjee <i>FTC Midwest Region</i> (312) 960-5611</p>
<p><i>United States v. Viceroy Media Solutions, LLC, et al.</i></p> <p>(Viceroy Media Solutions; FTC Matter No. 2123088)</p> <p>United States District Court Northern District of California Case No. 3:23-cv-3516</p>	<p>Civil Lawsuit:</p> <p>Seeking monetary civil penalties, a permanent injunction, and other equitable relief. Alleged violations of Section 5 of the FTC Act and the Telemarketing Sales Rule.</p>	<p>July 14, 2023: Complaint for Civil Penalties, Permanent Injunction, and Other Relief filed.</p> <p>July 14, 2023: Stipulated Order for Civil Penalty Judgment, Permanent Injunction, and Other Relief filed.</p> <p>July 17, 2023: Stipulated Order for Civil Penalty Judgment, Permanent Injunction, and Other Relief entered.</p> <p>Matter resolved through stipulation.</p>	<p>Federal Trade Commission and U.S. Department of Justice</p> <p>(Case filed by the U.S. Department of Justice on behalf of the Federal Trade Commission)</p>	<p>Mitchell J. Katz <i>Office of Public Affairs</i> (202) 326-2161</p> <p>Denise M. Oki <i>FTC Western Region – San Francisco</i> (415) 848-5100</p>
<p><i>United States v. Yodel Technologies, LLC, et al.</i></p> <p>(Yodel Technologies, LLC; FTC Matter No. 2123074)</p> <p>United States District Court Middle District of Florida Case No. 8:23-cv-1575</p>	<p>Civil Lawsuit:</p> <p>Seeking monetary civil penalties, a permanent injunction, and other equitable relief. Alleged violations of the Telemarketing Sales Rule.</p>	<p>July 14, 2023: Complaint for Permanent Injunction, Civil Penalties, and Other Relief filed.</p> <p>July 14, 2023: Joint Motion for Entry of Proposed Stipulated Order and Stipulated Order for Permanent Injunction, Civil Penalty Judgment, and Other Relief filed.</p> <p>Matter resolved through stipulation.</p>	<p>Federal Trade Commission and U.S. Department of Justice</p> <p>(Case filed by the U.S. Department of Justice on behalf of the Federal Trade Commission)</p>	<p>Mitchell J. Katz <i>Office of Public Affairs</i> (202) 326-2161</p> <p>Jason C. Moon <i>FTC Southwest Region</i> (214) 979-9378</p>

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<p><i>United States v. Hello Hello Miami, LLC, et al.</i></p> <p>(Hello Hello Miami; FTC Matter No. 2223041)</p> <p>United States District Court Southern District of Florida Case No. 1:23-cv-22553</p>	<p>Civil Lawsuit:</p> <p>Seeking monetary civil penalties, a permanent injunction, and other relief. Alleged violations of the Telemarketing Sales Rule.</p>	<p>July 10, 2023: Complaint for Civil Penalties, Permanent Injunction, Monetary Relief, and Other Relief and Demand for Jury Trial filed.</p> <p>Case pending.</p>	<p>Federal Trade Commission and U.S. Department of Justice</p> <p>(Case filed by the U.S. Department of Justice on behalf of the Federal Trade Commission)</p>	<p>Mitchell J. Katz <i>Office of Public Affairs</i> (202) 326-2161</p> <p>Sophia Siddiqui <i>FTC Bureau of Consumer Protection</i> (202) 326-2230</p>
<p><i>United States and State of Arizona v. Vision Solar LLC, et al.</i></p> <p>(Solar Xchange; FTC Matter No. 2223063)</p> <p>United States District Court District of Arizona Case No. 2:23-cv-01387</p>	<p>Civil Lawsuit:</p> <p>Seeking a permanent injunction, monetary civil penalties, and other relief. Alleged violations of Section 5 of the FTC Act, the Telemarketing Sales Rule, the Arizona Consumer Fraud Act, and the Arizona Telephone Solicitation Act.</p>	<p>July 14, 2023: Complaint for Permanent Injunction, Civil Penalties, and Other Relief and Demand for Jury Trial filed.</p> <p>July 14, 2023: Joint Motion for Entry of Stipulated Order for Permanent Injunction, Civil Penalty Judgment, and Other Relief as to Defendants Solar Xchange LLC and Mark Getts and Stipulated Order for Permanent Injunction, Civil Penalty Judgment, and Other Relief as to Defendants Solar Xchange LLC and Mark Getts filed.</p> <p>Case pending (as to Defendant Vision Solar LLC).</p>	<p>Federal Trade Commission, U.S. Department of Justice, and Arizona Attorney General’s Office</p> <p>(Case filed by the U.S. Department of Justice, on behalf of the Federal Trade Commission, and the Arizona Attorney General’s Office)</p>	<p>Mitchell J. Katz <i>Office of Public Affairs</i> (202) 326-2161</p> <p>Alan Bakowski <i>FTC Southeast Region</i> (404) 656-1363</p> <p>Laura Dilweg <i>Arizona Attorney General’s Office</i> (602) 542-7753</p>

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FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION PREVIOUSLY ANNOUNCED ACTIONS/MATTERS				
Project Point of No Entry (PoNE)	Cease and Desist/Warning Letters	<p>To stop illegal overseas calls, Project PoNE targets “point of entry” or “gateway” VoIP service providers and warns they must work to keep illegal robocalls out of the country. Through Project PoNE, the Commission: (1) identifies point of entry VoIP service providers that are routing or transmitting illegal call traffic, (2) demands they stop doing so and warns their conduct may violate the Telemarketing Sales Rule, and then (3) monitors them to pursue recalcitrant providers, including by opening law enforcement investigations and filing lawsuits when appropriate.</p> <p>April 11, 2023: <i>FTC Ramps Up Fight to Close the Door on Illegal Robocalls Originating from Overseas Scammers and Imposters</i></p> <p>https://www.ftc.gov/news-events/news/press-releases/2023/04/ftc-ramps-fight-close-door-illegal-robocalls-originating-overseas-scammers-imposters</p> <p>Ongoing project.</p>	Federal Trade Commission	<p>Mitchell J. Katz <i>Office of Public Affairs</i> (202) 326-2161</p> <p>Fil M. de Banate <i>FTC East Central Region</i> (216) 263-3413</p> <p>Christian Capece <i>FTC East Central Region</i> (216) 263-3419</p>
<p><i>United States v. XCast Labs, Inc.</i></p> <p>(XCast Labs; FTC Matter No. 2223097)</p> <p>United States District Court Central District of California Case No. 2:23-cv-03646</p>	<p>Civil Lawsuit:</p> <p>Seeking permanent injunction, civil penalties, and other relief. Alleged violation of the Telemarketing Sales Rule.</p>	<p>May 12, 2023: Complaint for Permanent Injunction, Civil Penalties, and Other Relief and Demand for Jury Trial filed.</p> <p>May 12, 2023: <i>FTC Sues to Stop VoIP Service Provider That Assisted and Facilitated Telemarketers in Sending Hundreds of Millions of Illegal Robocalls to Consumers Nationwide</i></p> <p>https://www.ftc.gov/news-events/news/press-releases/2023/05/ftc-sues-stop-voip-service-provider-assisted-facilitated-telemarketers-sending-hundreds-millions</p> <p>Case pending.</p>	<p>Federal Trade Commission and U.S. Department of Justice</p> <p>(Case filed by the U.S. Department of Justice on behalf of the Federal Trade Commission)</p>	<p>Mitchell J. Katz <i>Office of Public Affairs</i> (202) 326-2161</p> <p>Thomas M. Biesty <i>FTC Bureau of Consumer Protection</i> (202) 326-3043</p>

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<p><i>United States v. Stratics Networks Inc., et al.</i></p> <p>(Stratics Networks; FTC Matter No. 2023189)</p> <p>United States District Court Southern District of California Case No. 3:23-cv-00313</p>	<p>Civil Lawsuit:</p> <p>Seeking permanent injunction, monetary relief, civil penalties, and other relief. Alleged violations of Section 5 of the FTC Act (as to Defendants Tek Ventures, LLC, also d/b/a Provident Solutions; Atlas Marketing Partners, Inc.; Atlas Investment Ventures, LLC; Eric Petersen; Todd DiRoberto; Kasm, also d/b/a Kasm, Inc.; and Kenan Azzeh) and the Telemarketing Sales Rule (as to all defendants).</p>	<p>February 16, 2023: Complaint for Permanent Injunction, Monetary Relief, Civil Penalties, and Other Relief filed.</p> <p>February 16, 2023: Joint Motion for Entry of Stipulated Order for Permanent Injunction, Monetary Judgment, and Other Relief filed as to Defendants Kasm, also d/b/a Kasm, Inc., and Kenan Azzeh.</p> <p>February 17, 2023: <i>FTC Sues to Stop Interconnected Web of VoIP Service Providers Carrying Robocalls Pitching Phony Debt Relief Services</i></p> <p>https://www.ftc.gov/news-events/news/press-releases/2023/02/ftc-sues-stop-interconnected-web-voip-service-providers-carrying-robocalls-pitching-phony-debt</p> <p>February 23, 2023: Stipulated Order for Permanent Injunction, Monetary Judgment, and Other Relief entered by the Court as to Defendants Kasm, also d/b/a Kasm, Inc., and Kenan Azzeh.</p> <p>June 14, 2023: Stipulated Order for Permanent Injunction, Monetary Judgment, and Other Relief entered by the Court as to Defendants Netlatitude, Inc., and Kurt Hannigan.</p> <p>Case pending (as to remaining defendants).</p>	<p>Federal Trade Commission and U.S. Department of Justice</p> <p>(Case filed by the U.S. Department of Justice on behalf of the Federal Trade Commission)</p>	<p>Mitchell J. Katz <i>Office of Public Affairs</i> (202) 326-2161</p> <p>Christopher E. Brown <i>FTC Bureau of Consumer Protection</i> (202) 326-2825</p>

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<p><i>United States v. VoIP Terminator, Inc., et al.</i></p> <p>(VoIP Terminator; FTC Matter No. 1923189)</p> <p>United States District Court Middle District of Florida Case No. 6:22-cv-00798</p>	<p>Civil Lawsuit:</p> <p>Seeking permanent injunction, civil penalties, and other relief. Alleged violations of the Telemarketing Sales Rule.</p>	<p>April 26, 2022: Compliant for Permanent Injunction, Civil Penalties, and Other Relief filed.</p> <p>April 26, 2022: United States’ Consent Motion for Entry of Stipulated Order for Permanent Injunction, Civil Penalty Judgment, and Other Relief (“Consent Decree”) filed.</p> <p>April 26, 2022: <i>FTC Takes Action to Stop Voice over Internet Provider from Facilitating Illegal Telemarketing Robocalls, Including Scams Relating to the Pandemic</i></p> <p>https://www.ftc.gov/news-events/news/press-releases/2022/04/ftc-takes-action-stop-voice-over-internet-provider-facilitating-illegal-telemarketing-robocalls</p> <p>May 4, 2022: Stipulated Order for Permanent Injunction, Civil Penalty Judgment, and Other Relief entered by the Court.</p>	<p>Federal Trade Commission and U.S. Department of Justice</p> <p>(Case filed by the U.S. Department of Justice on behalf of the Federal Trade Commission)</p>	<p>Mitchell J. Katz <i>Office of Public Affairs</i> (202) 326-2161</p> <p>Jody Goodman <i>FTC Bureau of Consumer Protection</i> (202) 326-3096</p>

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<p><i>Federal Trade Commission v. American Vehicle Protection Corp., et al.</i></p> <p>(American Vehicle Protection; FTC Matter No. 2023103)</p> <p>United States District Court Southern District of Florida Case No. 0:22-cv-60298</p>	<p>Civil Lawsuit:</p> <p>Seeking preliminary and permanent injunctive relief, monetary relief, and other relief. Alleged violations of Section 5 of the FTC Act and the Telemarketing Sales Rule.</p>	<p>February 8, 2022: Complaint for Permanent Injunction, Monetary Relief, and Other Relief filed.</p> <p>February 9, 2022: <i>FTC Charges Florida-based Sellers for Deceptively Marketing “Extended Auto Warranty” Programs</i></p> <p>https://www.ftc.gov/news-events/news/press-releases/2022/02/ftc-charges-florida-based-sellers-deceptively-marketing-extended-auto-warranty-programs</p> <p>March 24, 2023: <i>FTC Action Leads to Lifetime Industry Ban for Operators of ‘Extended Vehicle Warranty’ Scam</i></p> <p>https://www.ftc.gov/news-events/news/press-releases/2023/03/ftc-action-leads-lifetime-industry-ban-operators-extended-vehicle-warranty-scam</p> <p>March 27, 2023: Stipulated Order for Permanent Injunction and Monetary Judgment as to Certain Defendants (American Vehicle Protection Corp., CG3 Solutions Inc., d/b/a My Protection Plan Inc., Tony Gonzalez Consulting Group, Inc., Tony Allen Gonzalez, and Charles Gonzalez) entered by the Court.</p> <p>June 23, 2023: Stipulated Order for Permanent Injunction, Monetary Judgment, and Other Relief as to Defendants Daniel Kole and Kole Consulting Group, Inc., entered by the Court.</p>	<p>Federal Trade Commission</p>	<p>Mitchell J. Katz <i>Office of Public Affairs</i> (202) 326-2161</p> <p>Harold Kirtz <i>FTC Southeast Region</i> (404) 656-1357</p>

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<p><i>Federal Trade Commission v. Netlatitude, Inc.</i></p> <p>United States District Court Southern District of Texas Case No. 4:21-mc-01300</p>	<p>Federal Court Petition to Enforce Civil Investigative Demand</p>	<p>May 28, 2021: Petition to Enforce Civil Investigative Demand filed.</p> <p>March 10, 2022: Order Granting Motion for Hearing or Ruling on Petition to Enforce Civil Investigative Demand filed.</p> <p>April 21, 2022: Notice Regarding Response to Civil Investigative demand filed indicating respondent produced documents, provided narrative responses, and produced sworn certification regarding the completeness of its document production and interrogatory responses.</p>	<p>Federal Trade Commission</p>	<p>Mitchell J. Katz <i>Office of Public Affairs</i> (202) 326-2161</p> <p>Miles D. Freeman <i>FTC Western Region – Los Angeles</i> (310) 824-4332</p>
<p><i>Federal Trade Commission v. Deltracon Inc.</i></p> <p>United States District Court Central District of California Case No. 8:21-mc-00025</p>	<p>Federal Court Petition to Enforce Civil Investigative Demand</p>	<p>July 16, 2021: Petition to Enforce Civil Investigative Demand filed.</p> <p>August 25, 2021: Order to Show Cause issued by the Court.</p> <p>February 14, 2022: <i>FTC to VoIP Providers: Turn Over Information for Robocall Investigations or Prepare to be Sued in Federal Court</i></p> <p>https://www.ftc.gov/news-events/news/press-releases/2022/02/ftc-voip-providers-turn-over-information-robocall-investigations-or-prepare-be-sued-federal-court</p>	<p>Federal Trade Commission</p>	<p>Mitchell J. Katz <i>Office of Public Affairs</i> (202) 326-2161</p> <p>Valerie Verduce <i>FTC Southeast Region</i> (404) 656-1355</p> <p>William Hodor <i>FTC Midwest Region</i> (312) 960-5592</p>

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<p><i>Federal Trade Commission v. XCast Labs, Inc.</i></p> <p>United States District Court Central District of California Case No. 2:21-mc-01026</p>	<p>Federal Court Petition to Enforce Civil Investigative Demand</p>	<p>August 6, 2021: Petition for Summary Enforcement of a Civil Investigative Demand filed.</p> <p>December 9, 2021: Report and Recommendation of United States Magistrate Judge entered by the Court.</p> <p>January 6, 2022: Order Accepting Findings and Recommendations of United States Magistrate Judge entered by the Court.</p> <p>January 6, 2022: Judgment entered by the Court.</p> <p>February 14, 2022: <i>FTC to VoIP Providers: Turn Over Information for Robocall Investigations or Prepare to be Sued in Federal Court</i></p> <p>https://www.ftc.gov/news-events/news/press-releases/2022/02/ftc-voip-providers-turn-over-information-robocall-investigations-or-prepare-be-sued-federal-court</p>	<p>Federal Trade Commission</p>	<p>Mitchell J. Katz <i>Office of Public Affairs</i> (202) 326-2161</p> <p>Valerie Verduce <i>FTC Southeast Region</i> (404) 656-1355</p> <p>William Hodor <i>FTC Midwest Region</i> (312) 960-5592</p>

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE				
United States Department of Justice	<p>Department of Justice (DOJ) participants include the Department of Justice, Consumer Protection Branch, Civil Division; Department of Justice, Criminal Division; Department of Justice, Commercial Litigation Branch, Financial Litigation Section, Civil Division; and the United States Attorney’s Offices for the following districts: Central District of California; District of Arizona; District of Colorado; District of Columbia; District of Connecticut; District of Delaware; District of Maryland; District of Massachusetts; District of Minnesota; District of Montana; District of Nebraska; District of Nevada; District of New Jersey; District of Rhode Island; District of South Carolina; District of Utah; Eastern District of California; Eastern District of New York; Eastern District of Pennsylvania; Eastern District of Texas; Eastern District of Virginia; Middle District of Florida; Middle District of Georgia; Middle District of Pennsylvania; Northern District of California; Northern District of Florida; Northern District of Georgia; Northern District of Illinois; Northern District of Ohio; Northern District of West Virginia; Southern District of California; Southern District of Florida; Southern District of Indiana; Southern District of New York; Southern District of Ohio; Southern District of Texas; Western District of Kentucky; Western District of Michigan; Western District of North Carolina; Western District of Pennsylvania; and Western District of Texas.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">All criminal charges are allegations and defendants are innocent until proven guilty.</p>			
<i>United States v. Hello Hello Miami, et al.</i>	Civil Lawsuit	<p>Civil suit alleging that Hello Hello Miami, a Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP) provider, and its CEO assisted and facilitated the dialing of millions of calls that violated the Telemarketing Sales Rule, including by placing calls to individuals on the Do Not Call Registry and by playing prerecorded messages (robocalls) without consent. The complaint alleges that many such calls were used to carry out fraud schemes by, for example, impersonating Amazon and attempting to induce consumers to purchase goods or services or provide personal information.</p> <p>July 10, 2023: Complaint filed.</p>	FTC; DOJ Consumer Protection Branch; and United States Attorney’s Office for the Southern District of Florida	DOJ Office of Public Affairs (202) 514-2007
<i>United States and State of Arizona v. Vision Solar LLC, et al.</i>	Civil Lawsuit	<p>Civil suit alleging that Vision Solar LLC, a company that sells solar panels to consumers; Solar Xchange LLC, a telemarketer that Vision Solar paid to generate consumer leads and schedule appointments; and Solar Xchange’s owner and CEO violated the Telemarketing Sales Rule, including by placing tens of millions of calls to phone numbers on the National Do Not Call Registry and falsely telling consumers that they were affiliated with an electric utility company or government entity. A proposed resolution has been reached with two defendants.</p> <p>July 14, 2023: Complaint and proposed resolution with two defendants filed.</p>	FTC and DOJ Consumer Protection Branch	DOJ Office of Public Affairs (202) 514-2007
<i>United States v. Yodel Technologies, et al.</i>	Civil Lawsuit	<p>Civil suit alleging that Yodel Technologies, a telemarketing company that makes calls selling a variety of products and services, and its owner made millions of calls that violated the Telemarketing Sales Rule, including by placing calls to individuals on the Do Not Call Registry and by playing prerecorded messages (robocalls) without obtaining legitimate consent. Parties have reached a proposed resolution.</p> <p>July 14, 2023: Complaint and proposed resolution filed.</p>	FTC; DOJ Consumer Protection Branch; and United States Attorney’s Office for the Middle District of Florida	DOJ Office of Public Affairs (202) 514-2007

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<i>United States v. Fluent, et al.</i>	Civil Lawsuit	<p>Civil suit alleging that Fluent is substantially assisting violations of the Telemarketing Sales Rule by procuring purported consumer consents to receive robocalls via deceptive and unfair means. Parties have reached a proposed resolution.</p> <p>July 17, 2023: Complaint and proposed resolution filed.</p>	FTC; DOJ Consumer Protection Branch; and United States Attorney’s Office for the Southern District of Florida	DOJ Office of Public Affairs (202) 514-2007
<i>United States v. Viceroy Media Solutions, LLC, et al.</i>	Civil Lawsuit	<p>Civil suit alleging that Viceroy Media Solutions, LLC, dba quick-jobs.com, Voltron Interactive, LLC, and two individual defendants violated the Telemarketing Sales Rule by operating as “consent farms” that obtains consumers’ personal information and purported consent under the guise of offering access to job listings and then sell the leads to entities that inundate the consumers with illegal robocalls and other solicitations. Parties have reached a proposed resolution.</p> <p>July 14, 2023: Complaint and resolution filed and entered.</p>	FTC; DOJ Consumer Protection Branch; and United States Attorney’s Office for the Northern District of California	DOJ Office of Public Affairs (202) 514-2007
<i>United States v. Nexway, et al.</i>	Civil Lawsuit	<p>Civil suit seeking injunctive relief, civil penalties, and other monetary relief against six corporate entities and two individuals. Lawsuit alleges that, since at least August 2016, the defendants violated the FTC Act and the Telemarketing Sales Rule by processing credit card payments for India-based Tech Live Connect and other foreign clients that commit telemarketing fraud via tech support scams. The case settled for strong injunctive relief and \$49.5 million in civil penalties. Defendants to pay \$650,000, remaining suspended due to defendants’ inability to pay.</p> <p>April 3, 2023: Complaint filed.</p> <p>April 14, 2023: Settlement entered.</p> <p>April 17, 2023: <i>Credit Card Processors Ordered to Pay \$650,000 in Consumer Redress for Assisting in Fraudulent Computer Repair Telemarketing Schemes</i></p> <p>https://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/credit-card-processors-ordered-pay-650000-consumer-redress-assisting-fraudulent-computer</p> <p>April 17, 2023: <i>FTC Acts to Block Payment Processor’s Credit Card Laundering for Tech Support Scammers</i></p> <p>https://www.ftc.gov/news-events/news/press-releases/2023/04/ftc-acts-block-payment-processors-credit-card-laundering-tech-support-scammers</p>	FTC and DOJ Consumer Protection Branch	DOJ Office of Public Affairs (202) 514-2007

Matter Name Action Location	Type of Action	Date/Matter Information	Responsible Agency	Press Contact Staff Contact
<i>United States v. Stratics Networks, et al.</i>	Civil Lawsuit	<p>Civil suit seeking injunctive relief, civil penalties, and other monetary relief against Stratics Networks, Inc. and multiple other defendants for violating the FTC Act and the Telemarketing Sales Rule by initiating and transmitting telemarketing calls that use fake consents to leave prerecorded voice messages marketing misleading and unfair products, including credit card debt relief services.</p> <p>February 17, 2023: Complaint and proposed resolution with two defendants filed.</p> <p>February 17, 2023: <i>United States Files Complaint Against Illegal Robocall Telemarketers and Telecommunications Service Providers</i></p> <p>https://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/united-states-files-complaint-against-illegal-robocall-telemarketers-and-telecommunications</p> <p>February 17, 2023: <i>FTC Sues to Stop Interconnected Web of VoIP Service Providers Carrying Robocalls Pitching Phony Debt Relief Services</i></p> <p>https://www.ftc.gov/news-events/news/press-releases/2023/02/ftc-sues-stop-interconnected-web-voip-service-providers-carrying-robocalls-pitching-phony-debt</p> <p>June 16, 2023: Resolution entered with two additional defendants.</p>	FTC and DOJ Consumer Protection Branch	DOJ Office of Public Affairs (202) 514-2007
<i>United States v. XCast Labs, Inc.</i>	Civil Lawsuit	<p>Civil suit seeking injunctive relief, civil penalties, and other monetary relief against XCast Labs, a Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP) provider. Lawsuit alleges XCast Labs assisted and facilitated the dialing of billions of calls that violated the Telemarketing Sales Rule. These robocalls delivered prerecorded marketing messages, and many of them were delivered to numbers listed on the National Do Not Call Registry, failed to truthfully identify the seller of the services being marketed, falsely claimed affiliations with government entities, contained other false or misleading statements to induce purchases, or were transmitted with “spoofed” caller ID information. The complaint alleges that XCast Labs continued to allow its services to transmit these calls even after being alerted to their illegality.</p> <p>May 12, 2023: Complaint filed.</p> <p>May 12, 2023: <i>United States Files Complaint Against Telecommunications Service Provider for Assisting and Facilitating Illegal Robocalls</i></p> <p>https://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/united-states-files-complaint-against-telecommunications-service-provider-assisting-and</p> <p>May 12, 2023: <i>FTC Sues to Stop VoIP Service Provider That Assisted and Facilitated Telemarketers in Sending Hundreds of Millions of Illegal Robocalls to Consumers Nationwide</i></p>	FTC and DOJ Consumer Protection Branch	DOJ Office of Public Affairs (202) 514-2007

Matter Name Action Location	Type of Action	Date/Matter Information	Responsible Agency	Press Contact Staff Contact
		https://www.ftc.gov/news-events/news/press-releases/2023/05/ftc-sues-stop-voip-service-provider-assisted-facilitated-telemarketers-sending-hundreds-millions		
<i>United States v. VoIP Terminator, et al.</i>	Civil Lawsuit	<p>Suit alleged that Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP) service provider defendants facilitated tens of millions of illegal telemarketing calls, and robocalls that displayed spoofed caller IDs. The complaint alleges that the illegal calls transmitted by defendants included recorded messages about air duct cleaning services that purportedly filtered out COVID-19, preying on consumers’ fears of the virus, as well as messages involving credit card interest rate reduction and tech support scams. The case settled for strong injunctive relief and \$3.3 million in civil penalties suspended due to defendants’ inability to pay.</p> <p>April 26, 2022: Complaint filed.</p> <p>April 26, 2022: <i>FTC Takes Action to Stop Voice over Internet Provider from Facilitating Illegal Telemarketing Robocalls, Including Scams Relating to the Pandemic</i></p> <p>https://www.ftc.gov/news-events/news/press-releases/2022/04/ftc-takes-action-stop-voice-over-internet-provider-facilitating-illegal-telemarketing-robocalls</p> <p>May 6, 2022: Settlement entered.</p> <p>May 6, 2022: <i>United States Settles Suit Against VoIP Service Providers for Facilitating Millions of Illegal Telemarketing Calls about COVID-19</i></p> <p>https://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/united-states-settles-suit-against-voip-service-providers-facilitating-millions-illegal</p>	FTC and DOJ Consumer Protection Branch	DOJ Office of Public Affairs (202) 514-2007
<i>United States v. Luis Enrique Rendon Cardenas</i>	Criminal Case	<p>A California man was sentenced to 65 months in prison for his role in conspiring with Peruvian-based call centers that defrauded Spanish-speaking United States residents by falsely threatening them with arrest, deportation, and other legal consequences.</p> <p>He is the eleventh defendant to be sentenced to prison in the scheme. As part of the investigation, seven Peruvian call center owner-operators and four distribution center operators who processed payments and facilitated the fraud have been convicted and sentenced.</p> <p>December 7, 2022: Guilty plea entered.</p> <p>December 7, 2022: <i>Eleventh Defendant Pleads guilty in \$15 Million Scheme to Defraud Spanish-Speaking United States Immigrants</i></p> <p>https://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/eleventh-defendant-pleads-guilty-15-million-scheme-defraud-spanish-speaking-united-states</p>	DOJ Consumer Protection Branch	DOJ Office of Public Affairs (202) 514-2007

Matter Name Action Location	Type of Action	Date/Matter Information	Responsible Agency	Press Contact Staff Contact
		<p>March 8, 2023: Sentencing.</p> <p>March 8, 2023: <i>Eleventh Defendant Sentenced in \$15 Million Scheme to Defraud Thousands of Spanish-Speaking United States Immigrants</i></p> <p>https://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/eleventh-defendant-sentenced-15-million-scheme-defraud-thousands-spanish-speaking-united</p>		
<i>United States v. Anthony Stewart</i>	Criminal Case	<p>A resident of Montego Bay, Jamaica was extradited to the United States on charges relating to his participation in a lottery fraud scheme. Victims throughout the United States received phone calls in which they were falsely informed that they had won cash prizes totaling over \$1 million and needed to pay fees to claim their winnings. The victims never received any “winnings.”</p> <p>October 28, 2022: Extradition announced.</p> <p>October 28, 2022: <i>Jamaican National Extradited to the United States in Connection with Fraudulent Lottery Scheme That Targeted Elderly Victims in the United States</i></p> <p>https://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/jamaican-national-extradited-united-states-connection-fraudulent-lottery-scheme-targeted</p>	DOJ Consumer Protection Branch	DOJ Office of Public Affairs (202) 514-2007
<i>United States v. Greg Warren Clarke</i>	Criminal Case	<p>A Jamaican national was extradited and sentenced to three years in prison for conspiring to run a Jamaica-based lottery scam. Victims were called and told they won a large lottery prize, but needed to pay taxes or fees to claim it. A coconspirator was also charged and sentenced to three years in prison.</p> <p>August 19, 2022: <i>Jamaican National Pleads Guilty to Defrauding Elderly Americans Through a Jamaica-Based Lottery Scam</i></p> <p>https://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/jamaican-national-pleads-guilty-defrauding-elderly-americans-through-jamaica-based-lottery</p> <p>October 28, 2022: Sentencing.</p> <p>October 28, 2022: <i>Jamaican National Sentenced for Stealing Money from Elderly Americans through Jamaica-Based Lottery Scam</i></p> <p>https://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/jamaican-national-sentenced-stealing-money-elderly-americans-through-jamaica-based-lottery</p>	DOJ Consumer Protection Branch	DOJ Office of Public Affairs (202) 514-2007

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<i>United States v. Damone D. Oakley</i>	Criminal Case	<p>A Jamaican national was extradited and has pled guilty to charges relating to his participation in a phony sweepstakes scheme. Victims throughout the United States received mailings, text messages or phone calls in which they were falsely told that they had won millions of dollars and luxury vehicles in a sweepstakes, but first needed to pay taxes and fees in order to claim their winnings. The indictment alleges that the defendant, using a variety of names, including “Officer Alex Logan” and “Officer Stan Valentine,” instructed his victims to send their money in order to acquire their purported “winnings.”</p> <p>July 7, 2023: Guilty plea entered.</p>	DOJ Consumer Protection Branch; United States Attorney’s Office for the Middle District of Pennsylvania	DOJ Office of Public Affairs (202) 514-2007
<i>United States v. Jon J. Kahen</i>	Criminal Case	<p>A New York man and CEO of Global Voicecom Inc. (GVI) pleaded guilty to money laundering for his role as the owner and operator of a Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP) company that facilitated and profited from the introduction of fraudulent robocall traffic into the United States. Beginning at least as early as 2016, GVI began serving as a gateway carrier for an India-based VoIP provider that used GVI’s gateway carrier services to route fraudulent robocalls – including, but not limited to, government imposter calls.</p> <p>By 2018, defendant became aware that this India-based VoIP provider was using GVI’s telecommunications services to engage in unlawful activities (e.g., wire fraud involving fraudulent robocalls), and by May 2019, he was aware that the funds paid to GVI by this client for continued gateway carrier services constituted the proceeds of unlawful activities. Despite this knowledge, defendant conducted unlawful monetary transactions involving these criminally derived funds.</p> <p>September 16, 2022: Guilty plea.</p> <p>September 16, 2022: <i>New York Man Enters Guilty Plea to Laundering Monies Connected to Proceeds from Facilitating Fraudulent Robocalls</i></p> <p>https://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/new-york-man-enters-guilty-plea-laundering-monies-connected-proceeds-facilitating-fraudulent</p>	DOJ Consumer Protection Branch; United States Attorney’s Office for the Southern District of California	DOJ Office of Public Affairs (202) 514-2007
<i>United States v. Tracy Knowles, et al.</i>	Criminal Case	<p>Two defendants were sentenced for their roles in a grandparent or emergency scam. One received 108 months in prison and the other 24 months in prison.</p> <p>Members of the criminal enterprise contacted consumers by phone and told them phony stories that their grandchildren were in legal trouble and needed money to pay for bail, pay medical expenses for car accident victims, or prevent additional charges from being filed. Members of the conspiracy and their associates obtained money from victims through in-person cash pick-ups, by mail or commercial carriers, or via wire transfers. Conspirators laundered the proceeds by transferring the funds or converting from fiat currency to cryptocurrency. Three other coconspirators have also pled guilty and been sentenced.</p>	DOJ Consumer Protection Branch; United States Attorney’s Office for the Southern District of California	DOJ Office of Public Affairs (202) 514-2007

Matter Name Action Location	Type of Action	Date/Matter Information	Responsible Agency	Press Contact Staff Contact
		<p>August 31, 2022: Sentencings.</p> <p>August 31, 2022: <i>Two Defendants in ‘Grandparent Scam’ Network Sentenced for RICO Conspiracy Targeting Elderly Americans</i></p> <p>https://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/two-defendants-grandparent-scam-network-sentenced-rico-conspiracy-targeting-elderly-americans</p>		
<i>United States v. Harold Sobel</i>	Criminal Case	<p>Defendant was sentenced to 42 months in prison for his role as part of an international criminal enterprise that unlawfully debited money from the bank accounts of unknowing U.S. victims. Members of the criminal enterprise created shell companies for the purpose of receiving victim funds and created fake websites for the shell companies that claimed to offer products or services, such as cloud storage. Members of the criminal enterprise executed unauthorized debits against victims’ bank accounts, while falsely representing to banks that the debits were authorized by the victims as payment for the non-existent products and services.</p> <p>The criminal enterprise also operated a call center that fielded complaints from victims of the unauthorized debits. The call center sought to dissuade victims from making reports to the victims’ banks and to government agencies.</p> <p>December 16, 2022: Sentencing.</p> <p>December 16, 2022: <i>Defendant Sentenced for Role in Sophisticated International Scheme to Steal Money from American Consumers’ Bank Accounts</i></p> <p>https://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/defendant-sentenced-role-sophisticated-international-scheme-steal-money-american-consumers</p>	DOJ Consumer Protection Branch; United States Attorney’s Office for the Southern District of Texas	DOJ Office of Public Affairs (202) 514-2007
<i>United States v. Roger, et al.</i>	Criminal Case	<p>A defendant was sentenced to nearly 12 years in prison for his role in a lottery scam in which telemarketers based in Costa Rica called consumers and falsely posed as U.S. government officials and contacted victims in the United States to tell them they had won a substantial “sweepstakes” prize, but before collecting this supposed prize, they needed to make a series of up-front payments to cover purported taxes or other fees. Multiple other defendants have been convicted and sentenced.</p> <p>January 11, 2023: Sentencing.</p> <p>January 11, 2023: <i>Man Sentenced for Role in International Telemarketing Scheme</i></p> <p>https://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/man-sentenced-role-international-telemarketing-scheme</p>	DOJ, Criminal Division, Fraud Section	DOJ Office of Public Affairs (202) 514-2007

Matter Name Action Location	Type of Action	Date/Matter Information	Responsible Agency	Press Contact Staff Contact
<i>United States v. Adrian Abramovich</i>	Civil Lawsuit	<p>Lawsuit filed under the Truth in Caller ID Act of 2009 seeking recovery of a forfeiture imposed by the FCC for defendant’s Caller-ID violations. The complaint alleges defendant made more than 96 million robocalls during just a three-month period, and that an FCC sample of 80,000 calls revealed use of false caller identification information, commonly known as “spoofing.”</p> <p>May 8, 2023: Complaint filed.</p>	DOJ, Financial Litigation Section, Commercial Litigation Branch	DOJ Office of Public Affairs (202) 514-2007
<i>United States v. Michael Alexai Dragunov, et al.</i>	Criminal Case	<p>A federal grand jury returned an indictment charging two men who allegedly ran a decade-long telemarketing scam primarily targeting elderly victims that fraudulently obtained more than \$4.5 million via false promises to help victims sell or rent their timeshare properties. According to the indictment, from August 2013 to June 2023, the defendants purported to represent companies that provided advertising and other services to current or former timeshare owners. Victims allegedly were induced to enter into agreements with the defendants’ telemarketing companies by falsely representing that the telemarketing companies would assist the victims with selling or renting their timeshare properties for a “one time” advertising fee.</p> <p>July 11, 2023: Indictment</p> <p>July 11, 2023: <i>West L.A. Man Charged with Running Decade-Long \$4.5 Million Timeshare Telemarketing Scheme That Scammed Elderly Victims</i></p> <p>https://www.justice.gov/usao-cdca/pr/west-la-man-charged-running-decade-long-45-million-timeshare-telemarketing-scheme</p>	United States Attorney’s Office for the Central District of California	DOJ Office of Public Affairs (202) 514-2007
<i>United States v. Eghosasere Avboraye-Igbinedion</i>	Criminal Case	<p>A federal jury convicted Eghosasere Avboraye-Igbinedion for a federal charge of conspiracy to commit mail fraud and four counts of mail fraud, in connection with a scheme in which he and his co-conspirators defrauded more than 85 victims of more than \$2.5 million.</p> <p>Conspirators targeted victims throughout the United States, calling and posing as a police officer, lawyer, or other individual, falsely telling the victim that a relative, typically the victim’s grandchild, had been incarcerated in connection with a car accident or traffic stop involving a crime, and needed money—often tens of thousands of dollars—for bail, legal fees, and other expenses. The evidence proved that Avboraye-Igbinedion’s part in the scheme was to retrieve packages of cash sent by elderly victims. A co-defendant was sentenced to nine years in prison.</p> <p>June 16, 2023: Conviction.</p> <p>June 16, 2023: <i>Florida Man Convicted in Maryland After Six-Day Trial for Nationwide Scheme That Defrauded Elderly Victims of More Than \$2.5 Million</i></p>	United States Attorney’s Office for the District of Maryland	DOJ Office of Public Affairs (202) 514-2007

Matter Name Action Location	Type of Action	Date/Matter Information	Responsible Agency	Press Contact Staff Contact
		https://www.justice.gov/usao-md/pr/florida-man-convicted-maryland-after-six-day-trial-nationwide-scheme-defrauded-elderly		
<i>United States v. Maurice Tunnell</i>	Civil Lawsuit	<p>Secured permanent injunction against an individual who allegedly moved proceeds for a lottery fraud scheme. Victims received phone calls telling them they had won a prize but needed to pay taxes and fees before receiving the winnings.</p> <p>June 16, 2023: Permanent injunction.</p>	United States Attorney's Office for the District of Delaware	DOJ Office of Public Affairs (202) 514-2007
<i>United States v. Shannon Burns</i> <i>United States v. James Burns</i> <i>United States v. Roberta Gass</i>	Civil Lawsuits	<p>The U.S. Attorney's Office for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania filed three separate civil complaints and civil injunctions against alleged money mules accused of participating in lottery fraud schemes based in Jamaica and Nigeria. Architects of lottery schemes contact potential victims, falsely claim that those victims have won the lottery, and thereby induce the victims to send money to account for taxes and fees purportedly associated with victims' falsely promised lottery winnings.</p> <p>May 25, 2023: Civil resolutions announced.</p> <p>May 25, 2023: <i>United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania Announces Participation in National Money Mule Initiative; Obtains Three Civil Injunctions Against Alleged Money Mules Involved in Lottery Scams</i></p> <p>https://www.justice.gov/usao-edpa/pr/united-states-attorney-eastern-district-pennsylvania-announces-participation-national</p>	United States Attorney's Office for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania	DOJ Office of Public Affairs (202) 514-2007
<i>United States v. Liang Liang Zeng, et al.</i>	Criminal Case	<p>A Chinese national residing in New York was sentenced to 54 months in federal prison for wire fraud related to a fraudulent gift card scheme where fraudsters induced victims to purchase gift cards via phone calls. For example, a conspirator called victim J.G., a resident of South Carolina, claiming to be a representative of the IRS. The caller informed the victim that she owed taxes to the IRS and would be arrested if the outstanding taxes were not paid. The caller advised J.G. that she could resolve the debt by purchasing gift cards from Target and Walmart and providing the caller with the numbers on the back of each card. Dozens of victims in many different states were defrauded. The defendant used the gift cards to purchase high end electronics. Two co-defendants have pleaded guilty to their roles in the scheme.</p> <p>May 26, 2023: Sentencing.</p> <p>May 26, 2023: <i>Chinese National Sentenced to 54 Months in Federal Prison for a \$1 Million Fraudulent Gift Card Scheme</i></p> <p>https://www.justice.gov/usao-md/pr/chinese-national-sentenced-54-months-federal-prison-1-million-fraudulent-gift-card</p>	United States Attorney's Office for the District of Maryland	DOJ Office of Public Affairs (202) 514-2007

Matter Name Action Location	Type of Action	Date/Matter Information	Responsible Agency	Press Contact Staff Contact
<i>United States v. Reinaldo Miralles Gonzalez</i>	Criminal Case	<p>Reinaldo Miralles Gonzalz has been sentenced to 30 months in federal prison and ordered to pay \$123,000 in restitution after pleading guilty to conspiracy to commit mail fraud. Gonzalez was part of a fraud scheme that targeted users of a money transfer service. Fraudsters would call users of the service, identify themselves as FBI agents (using the names of real agents), and scare the users into believing that the FBI had identified them as financial supporters of terrorism. Threatening legal action, and in one case deportation, the fraudsters tricked the victims into mailing blank money orders to addresses associated with Gonzalez. Some victims were repeatedly victimized and forced to take funds from retirement accounts to satisfy the demands.</p> <p>May 10, 2023: Sentencing.</p> <p>May 10, 2023: <i>Member of FBI Imposter Ring That Intimidated, Defrauded Victims Sentenced to Federal Prison</i></p> <p>https://www.justice.gov/usao-sdfl/pr/member-fbi-imposter-ring-intimidated-defrauded-victims-sentenced-federal-prison</p>	United States Attorney's Office for the Southern District of Florida	DOJ Office of Public Affairs (202) 514-2007
<i>United States v. Michael McDonagh, et al.</i>	Criminal Case	<p>Michael McDonagh pleaded guilty to one count of wire fraud. The other four defendants charged with along with McDonagh also have pleaded guilty. McDonagh controlled several telemarketing companies that purported to offer timeshare relief. McDonagh-controlled telemarketing companies contacted timeshare owners and offered to help them terminate their timeshare interest for a fixed fee. Within weeks of the victim paying the fee, the victims were contacted and told a series of lies to induce them to pay more money.</p> <p>May 8, 2023: Guilty plea.</p> <p>May 8, 2023: <i>Lead Defendant in Multimillion-Dollar Boiler Room Scam That Targeted Timeshare Owners Pleads Guilty to Wire Fraud</i></p> <p>https://www.justice.gov/usao-cdca/pr/lead-defendant-multimillion-dollar-boiler-room-scam-targeted-timeshare-owners-pleads</p>	United States Attorney's Office for the Central District of California	DOJ Office of Public Affairs (202) 514-2007
<i>United States v. David Maresca, et al.</i> <i>United States v. David Maresca, et al.</i>	Criminal Case & Civil Lawsuit	<p>An indictment charged four individuals for their roles in a conspiracy that promised distressed homeowners with help to avoid foreclosure, extracted fees, but then did not provide the promised legal services. The scheme involved marketing Synergy Law and Themis Law through telephone, television, and Internet advertising which told homeowners that attorneys could help them avoid foreclosure. The defendants, through the law firms, operated call centers, where workers used scripts during calls with homeowners falsely promising that an attorney would review the homeowner's case file. The conspirators knew their claims were false and fraudulent. In a parallel civil case, the government secured a temporary injunction and appointment of a receiver.</p>	United States Attorney's Office for the District of Columbia	DOJ Office of Public Affairs (202) 514-2007

Matter Name Action Location	Type of Action	Date/Matter Information	Responsible Agency	Press Contact Staff Contact
		<p>May 3, 2023: Indictment.</p> <p>May 3, 2023: <i>Two Lawyers and Two Others Charged in Conspiracy That Defrauded Distressed Homeowners Looking for Help</i></p> <p>https://www.justice.gov/usao-dc/pr/two-lawyers-and-two-others-charged-conspiracy-defrauded-distressed-homeowners-looking</p> <p>May 4, 2023: Civil complaint filed.</p>		
<i>United States v. Steven Short, et al.</i>	Criminal Case	<p>Steven Short was sentenced to 78 months in prison for conspiracy to commit wire fraud and bank fraud in connection with his participation in a fraudulent scheme to obtain credit card processing services for his deceptive Florida-based telemarketing operation through a California-based company called CardReady LLC.</p> <p>Short and E.M. Systems carried out a telemarketing fraud scheme in which they used telemarketers to cold-call consumers, targeting consumers with outstanding credit card debt. Short charged fees up to \$1,495 in exchange for guaranteeing to reduce debt and lower their interest rates, but instead generally sent them cookie-cutter booklets with ordinary budgeting advice.</p> <p>May 2, 2023: Sentencing.</p> <p>May 2, 2023: <i>Head of Telemarketing Operation Sentenced to 78 Months in Prison for \$19 Million Credit Card Laundering Scheme</i></p> <p>https://www.justice.gov/usao-sdny/pr/head-telemarketing-operation-sentenced-78-months-prison-19-million-credit-card</p>	United States Attorney’s Office for the Southern District of New York	DOJ Office of Public Affairs (202) 514-2007
<i>United States v. Sukhdev Vaid, et al.</i>	Criminal Case	<p>A federal grand jury indicted Sukhdev Vaid and Eddy Joseph on conspiracy, wire fraud, and interstate transportation of stolen property charges. The allegations are that the defendants caused a message to pop up on the victim’s computer appearing to be from “Microsoft Support.” The message directed the victims to call a number. When the victims did, the defendants said the computer had been hacked and the victims’ bank accounts were in danger. To fix the problem, the victims provided the defendants with remote access to their computers. The defendants then directed the victims to pull out the money in the victims’ account and give it to “the Fed” where it would be held until the hackers were eliminated. The defendants would then meet the victims and steal the cash.</p> <p>April 26, 2023: Indictment.</p>	United States Attorney’s Office for the District of Montana	DOJ Office of Public Affairs (202) 514-2007

Matter Name Action Location	Type of Action	Date/Matter Information	Responsible Agency	Press Contact Staff Contact
<i>United States v. Jason Torres, et al.</i>	Criminal Case	<p>Two individuals were charged as part of an alleged scheme to defraud student loan debtors by making false promises to induce them to make payments. As part of the scheme, one of the defendants and others he directed called victims and falsely promised to reduce or eliminate student loan debt for a certain number of payments. After obtaining authorization from victims to withdraw payments from their bank accounts, the scheme then withdrew payments in excess of the amounts listed in each contract.</p> <p>April 12, 2023: Indictment.</p> <p>April 12, 2023: <i>Colorado Springs Residents Indicted in Alleged Scheme to Defraud Hundreds of Student Loan Debtors</i></p> <p>https://www.justice.gov/usao-co/pr/colorado-springs-residents-indicted-alleged-scheme-defraud-hundreds-student-loan-debtors</p>	United States Attorney’s Office for the District of Colorado	DOJ Office of Public Affairs (202) 514-2007
<i>United States v. Nachiket Banwarim</i>	Criminal Case	<p>Nachiket Banwarim was indicted for conspiracy to commit mail fraud, wire fraud, and money laundering, for his involvement in an international multi-million dollar tech support fraud scam.</p> <p>Banwari was part of a conspiracy that carried out an international internet technical support fraud scam, through his management of Capstone Technologies LLC. Fraudulent internet pop-up “ads” were a central part of the conspiracy’s tech support scam. It is alleged that the fraudulent pop-ups suddenly appeared on victims’ computers freezing their screens and containing misrepresentations designed to trick the victims into believing their computer needed technical support to fix a problem, prompting victims to contact Capstone at a number shown on the pop-ups. When victims called Capstone’s India-based call center for assistance, the indictment alleges that victims were tricked into purchasing unnecessary technical support services from Capstone. The indictment further alleges that the conspirators defrauded thousands of victims throughout the United States of more than \$7 million.</p> <p>April 6, 2023: Indictment.</p> <p>April 6, 2023: <i>Charlotte Man Indicted for International Multi-Million Dollar Tech Support Fraud Scam</i></p> <p>https://www.justice.gov/usao-wdnc/pr/charlotte-man-indicted-international-multi-million-dollar-tech-support-fraud-scam</p>	United States Attorney’s Office for the Western District of North Carolina	DOJ Office of Public Affairs (202) 514-2007
<i>United States v. Ashish Bajaj</i>	Criminal Case	<p>Indian national Ashish Bajaj was sentenced today to 33 months in prison for his role in an international conspiracy. The scheme involved calling victims across the United States and impersonating fraud prevention specialists from various banks, online retailers, and online payment companies. They contacted victims and falsely claimed that they were fraud prevention specialists employed by reputable companies and that the victims’</p>	United States Attorney’s Office for the District of New Jersey	DOJ Office of Public Affairs (202) 514-2007

Matter Name Action Location	Type of Action	Date/Matter Information	Responsible Agency	Press Contact Staff Contact
		<p>accounts with banks, online retailers, or online payments companies were being targeted for fraud. Bajaj and his conspirators then falsely told the victims that their fraud prevention efforts required the victims’ assistance in a sting operation to catch the perpetrators.</p> <p>April 6, 2023: Sentencing.</p> <p>April 6, 2023: <i>Foreign National Sentenced to 33 Months in Prison for Participating in an International Scheme to Defraud Elderly Victims</i></p> <p>https://www.justice.gov/usao-nj/pr/foreign-national-sentenced-33-months-prison-participating-international-scheme-defraud</p>		
<i>United States v. O’Hanlon, et al.</i>	Criminal Case	<p>Seven people have been charged for their participation in a telemarketing scheme to defraud timeshare owners. The defendants and additional conspirators engaged in a scheme to financially enrich themselves by selling fraudulent services to timeshare owners, including offering to rent or buy the owners’ timeshares under false and fraudulent pretenses or representations, and offering to recover monies timeshare owners had previously paid in connection with other scams. The conspirators obtained lists of timeshare owners and their contact information, and cold-called them to pitch their various services in return for upfront fees. The conspirators made numerous false and misleading statements to the timeshare owners.</p> <p>April 4, 2023: Indictment.</p> <p>April 4, 2023: <i>Three People Plead Guilty, Four More Charged with Conspiracy to Commit Wire Fraud in Connection with Telemarketing Scheme Targeting Timeshare Owners over the Age of 55</i></p> <p>https://www.justice.gov/usao-nj/pr/three-people-plead-guilty-four-more-charged-conspiracy-commit-wire-fraud-connection</p>	United States Attorney’s Office for the District of New Jersey	DOJ Office of Public Affairs (202) 514-2007
<i>United States v. \$39,760 in Funds from JP Morgan Chase Bank Accounts, et al.</i>	Civil Lawsuit	<p>The U.S. Attorney’s Office for the Western District of Michigan filed a civil forfeiture and return of over \$79,000 that was stolen from an individual victimized by a “debt elimination services” scam. According to allegations contained in the civil forfeiture complaint, fraudsters contacted the victim by phone, offering a debt elimination service, which was a scam. Throughout the scam, the victim made upfront “fee payments” that totaled \$79,760, while the victim’s underlying debt was never paid off. Following an investigation, these fraud proceeds were seized by the FBI from various bank accounts, forfeited to the United States, and ultimately returned to the victim.</p> <p>April 3, 2023: Assets forfeited.</p>	United States Attorney’s Office for the Western District of Michigan	DOJ Office of Public Affairs (202) 514-2007

Matter Name Action Location	Type of Action	Date/Matter Information	Responsible Agency	Press Contact Staff Contact
		<p>April 3, 2023: <i>Money from Debt Elimination Services Fraud Scheme Successfully Forfeited and Returned to Victim</i></p> <p>https://www.justice.gov/usao-wdmi/pr/2023_0403_Civil_Forfeiture_Money_Returned_To_Victim</p>		
<i>United States v. Gaurang Contractor</i>	Criminal Case	<p>Guarang Contractor, an Indian citizen living in New Jersey, was sentenced for a year and a day in prison for his role in a conspiracy which resulted in a Massachusetts victim converting her bank account funds into gold, because she was tricked into believing that her accounts had been compromised by purported drug traffickers. A man posing as an agent for the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration called the victim and said that her bank accounts had been “compromised” by drug dealers. She was directed to purchase gold and leave it in an unlocked vehicle so a “court officer” could pick up the gold for safekeeping. Contractor’s role was to pick up the gold.</p> <p>May 24, 2023: Sentencing.</p> <p>May 24, 2023: <i>New Jersey Man Sentenced for Conspiring with Someone Posing as DEA Agent to Defraud Victim of Gold</i></p> <p>https://www.justice.gov/usao-ma/pr/new-jersey-man-sentenced-conspiring-someone-posing-dea-agent-defraud-victim-gold</p>	United States Attorney’s Office for the District of Massachusetts	DOJ Office of Public Affairs (202) 514-2007
<i>United States v. Kunhua Jia, et al.</i>	Criminal Case	<p>Two individuals were charged for their roles in facilitating phone and email scams, including where victims were contacted via phone and told that they were speaking with a government agent and that they needed to wire money to a secure account to resolve a criminal case. Defendants opened bank accounts in fake names using counterfeit passports. Defendants received the proceeds of government imposter scams and withdrew the money in cash.</p> <p>March 3, 2023: Charges filed.</p>	United States Attorney’s Office for the Central District of California	DOJ Office of Public Affairs (202) 514-2007
<i>United States v. Chaohui Chen, et al.</i>	Criminal Case	<p>Two individuals were sentenced after pleading guilty to their participation in a wire fraud scheme where victims were deceived into purchasing prepaid gift cards and providing that information to the defendants for their own personal gain. A typical execution of the scheme involved unnamed third parties who would make false and fraudulent telephone calls, sometimes claiming to the victims they were part of the Social Security Administration. The callers would convince victims to purchase prepaid gift cards and provide to them the 16-digit gift card numbers and unique pins for the gift cards, in return for a cashier’s check in the amount of the gift card purchased. Chen and Zheng would redeem the gift cards at various stores by purchasing household items and additional prepaid gift cards.</p> <p>March 20, 2023: Sentencing.</p>	United States Attorney’s Office for the District of Utah	DOJ Office of Public Affairs (202) 514-2007

Matter Name Action Location	Type of Action	Date/Matter Information	Responsible Agency	Press Contact Staff Contact
		<p>March 20, 2023: <i>Defendants Sentenced in a \$217,200 Gift Card Conspiracy and Wire Fraud Scheme That Cheated Victims, Including the Elderly, Out of Thousands of Dollars</i></p> <p>https://www.justice.gov/usao-ut/pr/defendants-sentenced-217200-gift-card-conspiracy-and-wire-fraud-scheme-cheated-victims</p>		
<i>United States v. Anirudha Kalkote, et al.</i>	Criminal Case	<p>Anirudha Kalkote pled guilty for conspiracy to commit mail fraud. He participated in a fraud ring that contacted victims by phone or via internet sites that directed victims to call a particular phone number. Once victims contacted the fraudsters, they were told various stories such as they were communicating with an expert that needed remote access to their computer in order to provide technical support services. The fraudsters then gained access to victims’ personal data and bank and credit card information. Victims typically paid a fee to conspirators for the fake technical support but were later told they were due a refund. Through paying for “technical support” or through the “refund” process, the ring gained access to the victim’s bank account(s) and credit cards and manipulated the accounts to make it appear the victim was paid too large a refund due to a typographical error. Four others have already pleaded guilty in relation to the scheme and are awaiting sentencing.</p> <p>March 20, 2023: Guilty plea.</p> <p>March 20, 2023: <i>Last Individual Admits Role in Nationwide Fraud Scheme Targeting Elderly Victims</i></p> <p>https://www.justice.gov/usao-sdtx/pr/last-individual-admits-role-nationwide-fraud-scheme-targeting-elderly-victims</p>	United States Attorney’s Office for the Southern District of Texas	DOJ Office of Public Affairs (202) 514-2007
<i>United States v. Kamal Zafar, et al.</i>	Criminal Case	<p>Kamal Zafar was sentenced to 41 months in prison for conspiracy to commit wire fraud in connection with a fraudulent scheme directed at thousands of individuals in the United States. The scheme called victims in the United States and falsely claimed to be employees of the Internal Revenue Service, the Social Security Administration or the Drug Enforcement Administration advising the victims that they owed the government money. Zafar recruited individuals to open bank accounts in the names of inactive and shell corporations and assisted in the laundering of fraud proceeds. After the victims wired payments to bank accounts that Zafar had opened or directed to be opened to receive the fraud proceeds, the funds were either withdrawn and laundered through additional bank accounts or wired to foreign countries. Zafar’s six co-conspirators previously pleaded guilty.</p> <p>March 15, 2023: Sentencing.</p> <p>March 15, 2023: <i>Manager of Transnational Fraud Scheme Sentenced to 41 Months in Prison</i></p>	United States Attorney’s Office for the Eastern District of New York	DOJ Office of Public Affairs (202) 514-2007

Matter Name Action Location	Type of Action	Date/Matter Information	Responsible Agency	Press Contact Staff Contact
		https://www.justice.gov/usao-edny/pr/manager-transnational-fraud-scheme-sentenced-41-months-prison		
<i>United States v. William Perez</i>	Criminal Case	<p>William Perez was sentenced to 18 months in federal prison for conspiracy to commit money laundering. India-based conspirators falsely and fraudulently identified themselves as federal law enforcement officers, such as Social Security Administration officials, FBI agents, or IRS officers, provided “official” titles and/or “badge numbers,” and threatened their victims with imminent arrest, a lawsuit, and/or other economic consequences, usually based on alleged drug trafficking or money laundering crimes supposedly committed using the victims’ identities. The conspirators told victims, the majority of whom were older adults, that they could avoid these consequences by mailing checks or cash equivalents to conspirators in the United States. Perez laundered money that had been extorted from United States residents by conspirators residing in the United States and overseas. Perez received payments directly from victims, typically via packages sent via a commercial carrier. Once he retrieved the fraud proceeds, Perez provided them to his coconspirators and was paid for conducting the transactions.</p> <p>March 6, 2023: Sentencing.</p> <p>March 6, 2023: <i>Tampa Man Sentenced for Money Laundering Conspiracy Relating to Government Impersonator Scam</i></p> <p>https://www.justice.gov/usao-mdfl/pr/tampa-man-sentenced-money-laundering-conspiracy-relating-government-impersonator-scam</p>	United States Attorney’s Office for the Middle District of Florida	DOJ Office of Public Affairs (202) 514-2007
<i>United States v. Kenneth Breyer, et al.</i>	Criminal Case	<p>Two individuals were charged for their roles in a lottery fraud scheme. As part of the scheme, victims received phone calls telling them falsely that they had won a prize, but needed to prepay taxes and fees to claim it. Defendants received and forwarded victim funds.</p> <p>March 23, 2023: Indictment.</p>	United States Attorney’s Office for the District of Nebraska	DOJ Office of Public Affairs (202) 514-2007
<i>United States v. Lavonne Kemp, et al.</i>	Criminal Case	<p>Lavonne Kemp was charged with participating in a fraud scheme targeting home computer users across the United States. People became victims of the scam when they were deceived by an email message falsely claiming that a bank withdrawal had been made from their bank account to allegedly pay for the installation of computer security software. The message invited anyone disagreeing with the charge to call a “customer service” number. Those who called this number spoke with a person who agreed to immediately reverse the “charge.” During this refund process, the “customer service” co-conspirator indicated that he had mistakenly deposited thousands of dollars into the victim’s account because of a keystroke error. The victim was then induced to rectify this “error” by mailing cash to Kemp’s address. Between January 2021 and September 2022, Kemp allegedly received approximately \$3,500,000 traceable to this fraudulent scheme.</p>	United States Attorney’s Office for the Western District of Michigan	DOJ Office of Public Affairs (202) 514-2007

Matter Name Action Location	Type of Action	Date/Matter Information	Responsible Agency	Press Contact Staff Contact
		<p>March 3, 2023: Indictment.</p> <p>March 3, 2023: <i>Battle Creek Woman Charged in \$3,500,000 Computer Scam</i></p> <p>https://www.justice.gov/usao-wdmi/pr/2023_0303_Kemp</p>		
<i>United States v. Bryan Valdez-Espinosa, et al.</i>	Criminal Case	<p>Three men have been sentenced to federal prison for their roles in a “grandparent scam” conspiracy that defrauded more than a dozen Rhode Island seniors. The seniors were called by members of the conspiracy who impersonated family members or attorneys, claiming that a family member had been arrested and was in immediate need of cash for bail payments. The victims were directed to gather cash for these fake bail payments and to provide the money to a courier who would be sent to their home. Alarcon was sentenced to 30 months of incarceration. Valdez-Espinosa was to 30 months of incarceration. Jason Hatcher was sentenced to 33 months of incarceration.</p> <p>November 21, 2022: Sentencing (Hatcher).</p> <p>February 13, 2023: Sentencing (Valdez-Espinosa).</p> <p>February 24, 2023: Sentencing (Alarcon).</p> <p>February 27, 2023: <i>Three Sentenced in “Grandparent Scam” Conspiracy That Defrauded Rhode Island Seniors</i></p> <p>https://www.justice.gov/usao-ri/pr/three-sentenced-grandparent-scam-conspiracy-defrauded-rhode-island-seniors</p>	United States Attorney’s Office for the District of Rhode Island	DOJ Office of Public Affairs (202) 514-2007
<i>United States v. Michael Jones, et al.</i>	Criminal Case	<p>Michael Jones was sentenced to 78 months in prison for defrauding hundreds of small business owners. Jones and his co-defendants convinced more than 2,100 small business owners to pay nearly \$12 million for what Jones and his co-defendants described as advance fees to fund expenses to apply for supposed government, private and charitable grants for the victims’ businesses. Following a script, Jones and others would falsely tell the victims that government, private and charitable organizations would provide grants to them regardless of the type of business they operated, but the victim first needed to pay thousands of dollars in fees to access those grants. Jones and his co-defendants induced the small business owners to give them money in exchange for services that were never provided.</p> <p>February 22, 2023: Sentencing.</p> <p>February 22, 2023: <i>Las Vegas Man Sentenced to Prison for \$12 Million Advance Fee Telemarketing Scheme Targeting Small Business Owners</i></p>	United States Attorney’s Office for the District of Nevada	DOJ Office of Public Affairs (202) 514-2007

Matter Name Action Location	Type of Action	Date/Matter Information	Responsible Agency	Press Contact Staff Contact
		https://www.justice.gov/usao-nv/pr/las-vegas-man-sentenced-prison-12-million-advance-fee-telemarketing-scheme-targeting		
<i>United States v. Adrian Lawrence</i>	Criminal Case	<p>Jamaican citizen Adrian Lawrence was indicted for conspiracy to commit mail and wire fraud in connection with a scheme to defraud U.S. citizens. Lawrence and his co-conspirators carried out a scheme via telephone and email to defraud United States citizens by falsely telling them that they had won certain sweepstakes contests that were sponsored by Publishers Clearing House, federal agencies such as the Federal Trade Commission, and other entities. Lawrence also told the victims that to facilitate the release of their sweepstakes prizes, they first needed to wire-transfer money to various bank accounts. Lawrence knew that the victims owed no fees and had won no sweepstakes prizes.</p> <p>February 10, 2023: Extradition.</p> <p>February 10, 2023: <i>Jamaican Citizen Indicted for Multi-Million Dollar Fraud Scheme Extradited to the United States</i></p> <p>https://www.justice.gov/usao-edny/pr/jamaican-citizen-indicted-multi-million-dollar-fraud-scheme-extradited-united-states</p>	United States Attorney’s Office for the Eastern District of New York	DOJ Office of Public Affairs (202) 514-2007
<i>United States v. Alrick Anthony Gardner</i>	Criminal Case	<p>Alrick Anthony Gardner was charged with fraud offenses stemming from his alleged participation in a sweepstakes scam that defrauded victims across the country of millions of dollars. Scammers notified victims, primarily by telephone, that they won a Publishers Clearing House sweepstakes. The victims were told that to collect their winnings, they must pay fees and taxes. Following the initial phone call, Gardner sometimes mailed the victims fake documents, including a “winning notification” letter from Publishers Clearing House and a letter from the Internal Revenue Service stating that the victims were required by law to pay taxes on their winnings.</p> <p>February 10, 2023: Indictment.</p> <p>February 10, 2023: <i>New Britain Man Indicted for Scheme Targeting Elderly Victims</i></p> <p>https://www.justice.gov/usao-ct/pr/new-britain-man-indicted-scheme-targeting-elderly-victims</p>	United States Attorney’s Office for the District of Connecticut	DOJ Office of Public Affairs (202) 514-2007
<i>United States v. Ejiro Efevwerha, et al.</i>	Criminal Case	<p>Ejiro Efevwerha, a dual Nigerian and Canadian citizen, was sentenced to 87 months’ imprisonment for his role in a conspiracy to commit fraud. The conspiracy used a network of individuals in the U.S. to receive victim money in U.S. bank accounts, often opened under fraudulent names, and transferred those funds to co-conspirators inside and outside of the U.S. Among the schemes were grandparent scams, where victims were called and told their grandchild was in jeopardy. Co-defendant Ochuko Sylvester Eruotor was sentenced to 168 months in federal prison. The other seven co-defendants sentenced</p>	United States Attorney’s Office for the Western District of Texas	DOJ Office of Public Affairs (202) 514-2007

Matter Name Action Location	Type of Action	Date/Matter Information	Responsible Agency	Press Contact Staff Contact
		<p>received a combined 446 months in prison and were ordered to pay restitution.</p> <p>February 9, 2023: Sentencing.</p> <p>February 9, 2023: <i>Ninth Defendant Sentenced in Case Against Organized Fraud, Money Laundering Schemes</i></p> <p>https://www.justice.gov/usao-wdtx/pr/ninth-defendant-sentenced-case-against-organized-fraud-money-laundering-schemes</p>		
<i>United States v. Darlens Renard, et al.</i>	Criminal Case	<p>Five defendants have been convicted and sentenced to prison for their roles in a nationwide fraud scheme that targeted senior citizens. Co-conspirators placed phone calls to seniors claiming that their grandchild or other relative had an urgent legal or medical problem and needed money immediately. The caller, who often claimed to be an attorney, police officer, or other authority figure, told the victim to send an overnight delivery of cash to the address the defendants provided. The defendants' role in the scheme was to retrieve, transport, and launder the money the victims were induced to send. The imposed sentences ranged from 36 months in prison to 97 months in prison.</p> <p>February 9, 2023: Sentencing.</p> <p>February 9, 2023: <i>Five Defendants Sentenced to Federal Prison for Perpetrating Nationwide "Grandparent Scam" Fraud Against Over 68 Victims</i></p> <p>https://www.justice.gov/usao-sdin/pr/five-defendants-sentenced-federal-prison-perpetrating-nationwide-grandparent-scam</p>	United States Attorney's Office for the Southern District of Indiana	DOJ Office of Public Affairs (202) 514-2007
<i>United States v. Roger Ralston, et al.</i>	Criminal Case	<p>Roger Ralston, the CEO of DirectView Holdings, Inc. ("DirectView"), a Florida-based video surveillance and security company, was sentenced to five years in prison for defrauding victims in connection with an international telemarketing scheme. Ralston and his co-conspirators used the services of telemarketing call centers to identify and cold-call potential victims, who were primarily elderly or retired individuals residing in the United Kingdom. Over a series of telephone calls, the telemarketers persuaded victims to invest money under various false and misleading pretenses. In reliance on the false representations and promises, the victims wired funds to various bank accounts in the United States in the names of corporate entities controlled by Ralston. The victims never received a refund on their principal or any return on their investments. Two co-defendants were previously sentenced.</p> <p>February 7, 2023: Sentencing.</p> <p>February 7, 2023: <i>CEO of Security Company Sentenced to Five Years in Prison for International Boiler Room Fraud Scheme</i></p>	United States Attorney's Office for the Southern District of New York	DOJ Office of Public Affairs (202) 514-2007

Matter Name Action Location	Type of Action	Date/Matter Information	Responsible Agency	Press Contact Staff Contact
		<p>https://www.justice.gov/usao-sdny/pr/ceo-security-company-sentenced-five-years-prison-international-boiler-room-fraud-scheme</p>		
<p><i>United States v. Ronnell Taylor, et al.</i></p>	<p>Criminal Case</p>	<p>Three individuals were charged related to government impersonation scam. Michael Galanis was sentenced in federal court to 12 months of imprisonment for conspiring to commit wire fraud. Ronnell Taylor pled guilty.</p> <p>Defendants participated in an IRS impersonation conspiracy involving call centers located in India that would use phone numbers to make their calls appear to originate in the United States. The calls would provide recorded information to individuals in the United States and fraudulently claim that the call was from the IRS concerning the individual's failure to pay taxes. The call would provide a U.S.-based telephone number for the individual to call in order to resolve the matter. Calls to these U.S.-based telephone numbers would be automatically forwarded to call centers in India, and those who answered would tell callers that they owed money to the IRS and demand immediate payment via gift card or other means.</p> <p>September 16, 2022: Guilty Plea (Taylor).</p> <p>September 16, 2023: <i>Jeannette Man Pleads Guilty in IRS Impersonation Fraud Scheme</i></p> <p>https://www.justice.gov/usao-wdpa/pr/jeannette-man-pleads-guilty-irs-impersonation-fraud-scheme</p> <p>February 6, 2023: Sentencing (Galanis).</p> <p>February 6, 2023: <i>Jeannette Man Sentenced to Prison for Role in Elder Fraud Scheme</i></p> <p>https://www.justice.gov/usao-wdpa/pr/jeannette-man-sentenced-prison-role-elder-fraud-scheme</p>	<p>United States Attorney's Office for the Western District of Pennsylvania</p>	<p>DOJ Office of Public Affairs (202) 514-2007</p>
<p><i>United States v. Rojay Lawson</i></p>	<p>Criminal Case</p>	<p>Two Jamaican nationals – Rojay Lawson and Theresa Lawson – were each sentenced to more than five years in federal prison after pleading guilty to their roles in a fraudulent lottery scam. As part of the scheme, conspirators called elderly victims and falsely told victims that they had won a sweepstakes. The defendants and their co-conspirators would tell the victims that they needed to pay bogus fees and/or taxes in order to collect their purported winnings.</p> <p>The defendants and their co-conspirators would direct the victims where to send the bogus fees and/or taxes. Evidence showed victims purchased prepaid cards, USPS money orders, or bank money orders; mailed cash or personal checks; or made wire deposits into the defendants' bank accounts. The defendants in turn wired the fraudulent funds to co-conspirators in Jamaica.</p>	<p>United States Attorney's Office for the District of South Carolina</p>	<p>DOJ Office of Public Affairs (202) 514-2007</p>

Matter Name Action Location	Type of Action	Date/Matter Information	Responsible Agency	Press Contact Staff Contact
		<p>February 2, 2023: Sentencing.</p> <p>February 2, 2023: <i>Jamaican Nationals Sentenced to Federal Prison for Their Roles in Lottery Scam Targeting Elderly Victims</i></p> <p>https://www.justice.gov/usao-sc/pr/jamaican-nationals-sentenced-federal-prison-their-roles-lottery-scam-targeting-elderly-0</p>		
<i>United States v. Contents of Binance Account</i>	Civil Lawsuit	<p>An investigation of a fraud scheme has resulted in the forfeiture of approximately 151 Bitcoins, as well as other digital assets. In October 2020, overseas individuals began targeting vulnerable victims, including first generation U.S. citizens and elderly persons, through phone calls by pretending to be members of U.S. law enforcement agencies and telling the victims that their identity had been compromised. The overseas individuals used computer programs to make it appear as if their phone calls were coming from legitimate government sources. After gaining the victims’ trust, the overseas individuals requested transfers of money for “safekeeping” with the promise that the victims would receive their money, plus interest, when the perpetrators of the nonexistent identity fraud were captured. Once the overseas individuals had access to the victims’ money, they moved the money through multiple bank accounts and converted the money to digital currency in the form of Bitcoin and other cryptocurrencies.</p> <p>January 20, 2023: Assets forfeited.</p> <p>January 20, 2023: <i>Phone Scam Investigation Results in Forfeiture of Nearly \$3 Million in Cryptocurrency</i></p> <p>https://www.justice.gov/usao-ct/pr/phone-scam-investigation-results-forfeiture-nearly-3-million-cryptocurrency</p>	United States Attorney’s Office for the District of Connecticut	DOJ Office of Public Affairs (202) 514-2007
<i>United States v. Dhruv Jani, et al.</i>	Criminal Case	<p>The defendants were part of a conspiracy to launder funds obtained from a government official impersonation scheme. Victims were contacted by telephone and coerced into believing they were under investigation by “agents” of federal law enforcement agencies (the FBI, SSA, DHS, Treasury, or DEA). The conspirators told these victims that their identities had been connected to a criminal incident, their imminent arrest and/or deportation from the United States had been ordered by law enforcement, and that the only way to avoid arrest and or deportation was to pay large sums of money. The victims were instructed to withdraw cash from their bank accounts and mail the cash to various addresses. Witte’s role in the scheme was to use fake identification cards provided to him by a conspirator to pick up victims’ packages of cash mailed. He used some of the cash to purchase money orders, which one of his codefendants then deposited into third-party accounts. Two defendants have been sentenced to, one to 26 months and one to 28 months in prison, and a third has pled guilty</p> <p>January 20, 2023: Sentencing (Witte).</p>	United States Attorney’s Office for the District of Colorado	DOJ Office of Public Affairs (202) 514-2007

Matter Name Action Location	Type of Action	Date/Matter Information	Responsible Agency	Press Contact Staff Contact
		<p>January 20, 2023: <i>Colorado Man Sentenced to Federal Prison for Role in Money Laundering Conspiracy</i></p> <p>https://www.justice.gov/usao-co/pr/colorado-man-sentenced-federal-prison-role-money-laundering-conspiracy</p> <p>February 23, 2023: Sentencing (Henderson).</p> <p>February 24, 2023: <i>Colorado Man Sentenced to Federal Prison for Role in Money Laundering Conspiracy</i></p> <p>https://www.justice.gov/usao-co/pr/colorado-man-sentenced-federal-prison-role-money-laundering-conspiracy-0</p> <p>April 18, 2023: Guilty plea (Jani).</p> <p>April 18, 2023: <i>Indian National Pleads Guilty to Money Laundering Conspiracy Based in Wray, Colorado</i></p> <p>https://www.justice.gov/usao-co/pr/indian-national-pleads-guilty-money-laundering-conspiracy-based-wray-colorado</p>		
<i>United States v. Medard Ulysse</i>	Criminal Case	<p>Medard Ulysse was sentenced to nine years in federal prison for wire fraud and conspiracy to commit mail fraud in relation to multiple fraud schemes, including a “grandparent” scam and a COVID-19 CARES Act fraud related to unemployment benefits. Conspirators called the victims pretending to be the victim’s grandchild or other troubled relative to convince the victims to send cash. The victims were directed to send cash to residential addresses that were either vacant or for sale. Ulysse distributed, and directed co-conspirators to distribute, cash payments to other members of the conspiracy for their participation in the scheme.</p> <p>January 19, 2023: Sentencing.</p> <p>January 19, 2023: <i>Serial Fraudster Sentenced to Nine Years in Federal Prison for Participating in Elder Fraud “Grandparent” Scheme and a COVID-19 CARES Act Unemployment Benefit Scheme</i></p> <p>https://www.justice.gov/usao-md/pr/serial-fraudster-sentenced-nine-years-federal-prison-participating-elder-fraud</p>	United States Attorney’s Office for the District of Maryland	DOJ Office of Public Affairs (202) 514-2007

Matter Name Action Location	Type of Action	Date/Matter Information	Responsible Agency	Press Contact Staff Contact
<i>United States v. Jennifer Shah</i>	Criminal Case	<p>Jennifer Shah was sentenced today to 78 months in prison for running a nationwide telemarketing fraud scheme. Shah was an integral leader of a wide-ranging, nationwide telemarketing fraud scheme that victimized thousands of innocent people. The scheme principally involved selling those victims so-called “business services” in connection with the victims’ purported online businesses. In particular, Shah knowingly and intentionally facilitated the sale of “leads” — contact information for potential victims who had been identified as susceptible to the scheme’s lies — to sales floors that were perpetrating the scheme and, during the latter portion of her participation in the scheme, owned and operated one of the sales floors that was part of the scheme.</p> <p>January 6, 2023: Sentencing.</p> <p>January 6, 2023: <i>Reality Show Cast Member Jennifer Shah Sentenced to 78 Months in Prison for Running Nationwide Telemarketing Fraud Scheme</i></p> <p>https://www.justice.gov/usao-sdny/pr/reality-show-cast-member-jennifer-shah-sentenced-78-months-prison-running-nationwide</p>	United States Attorney’s Office for the Southern District of New York	DOJ Office of Public Affairs (202) 514-2007
<i>United States v. Jeffrey Chartier, et al.</i>	Criminal Case	<p>Two former registered brokers who participated in a criminal conspiracy to promote and manipulate the price of shares in publicly traded companies were sentenced to five years and ten years imprisonment. The scheme used a boiler room in its illegal cold call campaigns that used lies and high-pressure sales tactics to lure victims, by, among other things, transferring money and stock required by the boiler room for the campaigns; working with the boiler room to fill the duped victims’ orders with crooked investors’ stock; and creating fraudulent stock purchase agreements, consulting agreements and invoices to cover up the illegal conduct. A third defendant has pled guilty.</p> <p>August 1, 2022: <i>“Boiler Room” Operator Pleads Guilty to International Securities Fraud Conspiracy</i></p> <p>https://www.justice.gov/usao-edny/pr/boiler-room-operator-pleads-guilty-international-securities-fraud-conspiracy</p> <p>December 1, 2022: Sentencing (Chartier).</p> <p>December 1, 2022: <i>Corporate Insider Sentenced to 10 Years’ Imprisonment for Conspiring with Long Island Boiler Room to Pump and Dump Stock on Unsuspecting Elderly Investors</i></p> <p>https://www.justice.gov/usao-edny/pr/corporate-insider-sentenced-10-years-imprisonment-conspiring-long-island-boiler-room</p> <p>January 6, 2023: Sentencing (Isen).</p>	United States Attorney’s Office for the Eastern District of New York	DOJ Office of Public Affairs (202) 514-2007

Matter Name Action Location	Type of Action	Date/Matter Information	Responsible Agency	Press Contact Staff Contact
		<p>January 6, 2023: <i>Former Registered Broker Sentenced to 5 Years' Imprisonment for Conspiring with Long Island Boiler Room to Pump and Dump Stock on Unsuspecting Elderly Investors</i></p> <p>https://www.justice.gov/usao-edny/pr/former-registered-broker-sentenced-5-years-imprisonment-conspiring-long-island-boiler</p>		
<i>United States v. Moin Idrishbhai Pinjara, et al.</i>	Criminal Case	<p>Moin Idrishbhai Pinjara received a 29-month sentence following his conviction for conspiracy. Pinjara was a “runner” in an Indian-based call center scam. Callers in India would contact potential victims in the United States to extort money from them. One common script used in the schemes involved coercing victims into believing federal agents were investigating them. Pinjara would then use aliases and fake identification documents to pick up parcels containing cash which the victims had mailed. Three other runners had been sentenced for their involvement in the same conspiracy.</p> <p>January 4, 2023: Sentencing.</p> <p>January 4, 2023: <i>Fourth Sentenced in Government Impersonation Call Center Scam</i></p> <p>https://www.justice.gov/usao-sdtx/pr/fourth-sentenced-government-impersonation-call-center-scam</p>	United States Attorney’s Office for the Southern District of Texas	DOJ Office of Public Affairs (202) 514-2007
<i>United States v. Gagan Lamba, et al.</i> <i>United States v. Meghna Kumar</i>	Criminal Case	<p>Six defendants have been charged for their roles in a criminal fraud ring that operated a technical support fraud scheme in the United States, India, and Canada. The fraud ring caused fraudulent pop-up windows to appear on victims’ personal computers that made it appear the device was at risk and the consumer needed to call the listed phone number. Upon reaching the call center, victims were instructed to pay the fraud ring in amounts ranging from hundreds to thousands of dollars. The fraud ring often called certain victims again to offer additional services or lengthier service agreements that required victims to pay even more money to the fraud ring.</p> <p>December 14, 2022: Kumar guilty plea.</p> <p>December 16, 2022: Indictment.</p> <p>December 16, 2022: <i>Six Individuals Charged in Multimillion-Dollar Transnational Tech Support Scam Targeting Tens of Thousands of U.S. Victims</i></p> <p>https://www.justice.gov/usao-nj/pr/six-individuals-charged-multimillion-dollar-transnational-tech-support-scam-targeting</p>	United States Attorney’s Office for the District of New Jersey	DOJ Office of Public Affairs (202) 514-2007

Matter Name Action Location	Type of Action	Date/Matter Information	Responsible Agency	Press Contact Staff Contact
<i>United States v. Russel Jason Rahm, et al.</i>	Criminal Cases	<p>The District of Minnesota charged approximately 60 individuals in seven cases in 2020 and 2021 related to a telemarketing scam that swindled consumers out of more than \$300 million. The defendants carried out their telemarketing fraud scheme by calling victim-consumers who had one or more existing magazine subscriptions and offering to reduce the cost of an existing magazine subscription. The defendants were lying. In reality, they were not calling from the victim-consumers' magazine companies, and they were not calling to reduce the cost of an existing subscription. Instead, the defendants were tricking the victims into signing up for entirely new magazine subscriptions, which they did not want and often could not afford. This resulted in many victims being billed by several—even dozens—of magazine companies every month.</p> <p>In the last year, eight defendants have pled guilty, including Russel Jason Rahm who was the owner and CEO of several companies involved in the fraudulent scheme, as well as Rhonda Jean Moulder of Florida who worked as a manager for Florida-based companies involved in fraudulent magazine sales. Her role as a manager was to manage telemarketing call centers and oversee the fraud on a day-to-day basis as well as respond to BBB complaints from victims.</p> <p>Guilty Pleas: August 24, 2022; January 13, 2023; January 13, 2023; January 6, 2023; December 27, 2022; October 14, 2022; August 23, 2022; December 21, 2022.</p> <p>October 14, 2022: <i>Florida Woman Pleads Guilty to \$86 Million Magazine Fraud Scheme Targeting Elders</i></p> <p>https://www.justice.gov/usao-mn/pr/florida-woman-pleads-guilty-86-million-magazine-fraud-scheme-targeting-elders</p> <p>December 8, 2022: <i>Kansas City Man Pleads Guilty for His Part in a Nationwide Telemarketing Fraud Scheme</i></p> <p>https://www.justice.gov/usao-mn/pr/kansas-city-man-pleads-guilty-his-part-nationwide-telemarketing-fraud-scheme</p>	United States Attorney's Office for the District of Minnesota	DOJ Office of Public Affairs (202) 514-2007
<i>United States v. Taras Semuso</i>	Criminal Case	<p>Taras Semuso was charged in a one-count indictment with acting as a money courier for scammers who stole more than \$200,000 from a victim. From June 2022 to August 2022, the victim was contacted by phone by a member of the conspiracy claiming to be a government agent and that the victim's bank accounts had been compromised. It is alleged that the conspirator then informed the victim that they were required to provide United States currency to an undercover agent, later identified as the defendant, to keep the victim's bank account funds safe. The victim and the defendant then met on several occasions in which the victim provided the defendant with more than \$200,000 in cash.</p> <p>November 30, 2022: Indictment.</p>	United States Attorney's Office for the Northern District of Ohio	DOJ Office of Public Affairs (202) 514-2007

Matter Name Action Location	Type of Action	Date/Matter Information	Responsible Agency	Press Contact Staff Contact
		<p>December 1, 2022: <i>Ukrainian National Charged with Acting as Courier in Scheme That Stole More Than \$200k from Victim</i></p> <p>https://www.justice.gov/usao-ndoh/pr/ukrainian-national-charged-acting-courier-scheme-stole-more-200k-victim</p>		
<p><i>United States v. Rachael Maia Winslow</i></p>	<p>Criminal Case</p>	<p>A federal jury has found Rachael Maia Winslow guilty of conspiracy to commit money laundering. Winslow was a member of an international conspiracy to launder funds generated via boiler room fraud. The boiler rooms sold foreign victims what they were led to believe were legitimate investments, such as shares or stock in reputable companies such as Facebook, Chesapeake Energy, or Toys R Us. In fact, the investments were worthless, and the boiler rooms defrauded victims of over \$14 million dollars, at least \$4.7 million of which passed through accounts controlled by Winslow.</p> <p>November 22, 2022: Conviction.</p> <p>November 22, 2022: <i>Georgia Woman Convicted for Role in International Conspiracy to Launder Proceeds of “Boiler Room” Fraud</i></p> <p>https://www.justice.gov/usao-mdfl/pr/georgia-woman-convicted-role-international-conspiracy-launder-proceeds-boiler-room</p>	<p>United States Attorney’s Office for the Middle District of Florida</p>	<p>DOJ Office of Public Affairs (202) 514-2007</p>
<p><i>United States v. Sagarkumar Suresh Patel</i></p>	<p>Criminal Case</p>	<p>Sagarkumar Suresh Patel was sentenced to 36 months in prison for multiple counts of mail fraud and mail fraud conspiracy. Co-conspirators would call victims and identify themselves as law enforcement officers or attorneys working with the federal government. They would threaten victims by falsely informing them they had active warrants for their arrest, and that their bank accounts and social security numbers had been compromised. Co-conspirators would tell the victims that to avoid losing money from their bank accounts they needed to withdraw large sums of cash from their bank. The victims were told to insert the cash between the pages of several reading magazines and then place each magazine in a bubble-wrapped envelope before placing the wrapped magazines in a cardboard box. Victims mailed packages to Walgreens and other mail depositories to aliases used by Patel.</p> <p>November 21, 2022: Sentencing.</p> <p>November 21, 2022: <i>Pennsylvania Man Who Received More Than \$1 Million Via Mail Through Government Imposter Scheme Sentenced to Prison</i></p> <p>https://www.justice.gov/usao-sdoh/pr/pennsylvania-man-who-received-more-1-million-mail-through-government-imposter-scheme</p>	<p>United States Attorney’s Office for the Southern District of Ohio</p>	<p>DOJ Office of Public Affairs (202) 514-2007</p>

Matter Name Action Location	Type of Action	Date/Matter Information	Responsible Agency	Press Contact Staff Contact
<i>United States v. Waseem Maknojiya</i>	Criminal Case	<p>Waseem Maknojiya was sentenced to 60 months in federal prison for conspiracy to commit mail fraud. Maknojiya was involved in a telemarketing scheme where Indian call centers extorted money from victims in the United States. One common script used in the scheme involved coercing victims into believing federal agents were investigating them. The “agent” on the phone would convince the victim the only way to clear his or her name from investigation was to send cash in a parcel shipped through FedEx to a name and address they provided. Runners in the United States like Maknojiya would then pick up the parcels.</p> <p>November 8, 2022: Sentencing.</p> <p>November 8, 2022: <i>Indian National Sentenced for Government Impersonation Call Center Scam</i></p> <p>https://www.justice.gov/usao-sdtx/pr/indian-national-sentenced-government-impersonation-call-center-scam</p>	United States Attorney’s Office for the Southern District of Texas	DOJ Office of Public Affairs (202) 514-2007
<i>United States v. Michael Odell Anderson</i>	Criminal Case	<p>Michael Odell Anderson pleaded guilty to a federal charge of conspiracy to commit wire fraud. Specifically, members of the conspiracy called victims posing as a police officer, lawyer, or relative and convinced victims to send money for the purported legal expenses of a loved one, generally a grandchild, who had been incarcerated in connection with a car accident or traffic stop involving a crime.</p> <p>November 7, 2022: Guilty plea.</p> <p>November 7, 2022: <i>Fraudster Pleads Guilty to Participating in an \$800,000 Elder Fraud Scam</i></p> <p>https://www.justice.gov/usao-md/pr/fraudster-pleads-guilty-participating-800000-elder-fraud-scam</p>	United States Attorney’s Office for the District of Maryland	DOJ Office of Public Affairs (202) 514-2007
<i>United States v. Rishi Budhadey</i>	Criminal Case	<p>Rishi Budhadev pleaded guilty to conspiracy to commit wire fraud. Budhadev admitted believing that the funds being transmitted to him had very likely been obtained through fraud. The government found that Budhadev received around 500 MoneyGram money orders worth over \$500,000 from more than 250 senders that he picked up from seven different Walmart stores. Fifty people who sent funds to Budhadev subsequently identified themselves as victims of various scams, including some that involved phone calls, including investment scams, romance scams, person-in-need scams, internet purchase scams, IRS tax scams, and loan scams.</p> <p>October 19, 2022: Guilty plea.</p> <p>October 19, 2022: <i>Virginia Man Pleads Guilty to Conspiracy to Commit Wire Fraud</i></p>	United States Attorney’s Office for the Middle District of Pennsylvania	DOJ Office of Public Affairs (202) 514-2007

Matter Name Action Location	Type of Action	Date/Matter Information	Responsible Agency	Press Contact Staff Contact
		https://www.justice.gov/usao-mdpa/pr/virginia-man-pleads-guilty-conspiracy-commit-wire-fraud		
<p><i>United States v. Amirsinh Diwan, et al.</i></p>	<p>Criminal Case</p>	<p>Amirsinh Diwan, Zaheen Rafikbhai Malvi, and Sohil Usmangani have been charged for their roles in a multi-year fraud and money laundering conspiracy involving call centers. The indictment alleges that the individuals and other co-conspirators engaged in a criminal fraud conspiracy originating from call centers located in India. The callers impersonated U.S. government officials and tricked victims into sending them money to safeguard their assets, avoid arrest or prevent their government benefits from being cut off, according to the charges. Victims allegedly sent money in the form of gift cards by providing redemption codes over the phone and mailed cash in packages sent to FedEx and UPS pick-up locations. The indictment alleges co-conspirators, known as runners, liquidated victims' gift cards at retail locations in the United States or used fake identification documents to pick up their packages containing cash at Walgreens locations.</p> <p>Malvi entered a guilty plea.</p> <p>October 11, 2022: Indictment.</p> <p>October 11, 2022: <i>Out of State Group Charged in \$11M Indian Call Center Fraud Ring</i></p> <p>https://www.justice.gov/usao-sdtx/pr/out-state-group-charged-11m-indian-call-center-fraud-ring</p> <p>May 15, 2023: Guilty plea.</p> <p>May 15, 2023: <i>Manager Admits to Key Role in Indian Call Center Scam</i></p> <p>https://www.justice.gov/usao-sdtx/pr/manager-admits-key-role-indian-call-center-scam</p>	<p>United States Attorney's Office for the Southern District of Texas</p>	<p>DOJ Office of Public Affairs (202) 514-2007</p>
<p><i>United States v. Yao Lin</i></p> <p><i>United States v. Wen Xue Lin</i></p>	<p>Criminal Case</p>	<p>Yao Lin and Wen Xue Lin each pleaded guilty to federal wire fraud charges resulting from separate investigations into gift card schemes involving hundreds of fraud victims from across the country. Wen Lin told agents that he would receive a gift card number from sources in China through an app on his smart phone. Once the gift card number was loaded onto his phone, Wen Lin would go to a Walmart and purchase other kinds of gift cards and send those gift cards back to China. The scams varied to include threats of arrest, finance schemes, and romance scams.</p> <p>September 30, 2022: Guilty pleas.</p> <p>September 30, 2022: <i>Two Defendants Plead Guilty Resulting from Separate Investigations into Complex Wal-Mart Gift Card Schemes Involving Hundreds of Fraud Victims</i></p>	<p>United States Attorney's Office for the Middle District of Georgia</p>	<p>DOJ Office of Public Affairs (202) 514-2007</p>

Matter Name Action Location	Type of Action	Date/Matter Information	Responsible Agency	Press Contact Staff Contact
		https://www.justice.gov/usao-mdga/pr/two-defendants-plead-guilty-resulting-separate-investigations-complex-wal-mart-gift		
<i>United States v. Adedayo Akinwunmi Agbayewa</i>	Criminal Case	<p>Adedayo Akinwunmi Agbayewa was sentenced to five years in prison for a mail fraud and money laundering conspiracy. Agbayewa and his coconspirators were involved in a lottery or sweepstakes telemarketing scheme. The conspirators used false names and falsely notified the victims by mail or telephone that they had won a sweepstakes or lottery. The victims were told that they had to pay taxes or fees before they could receive their winnings. The victims mailed checks or deposited money into bank accounts as directed by the individuals involved in the scheme. However, the victims never received any prize money; in fact, no lottery or sweepstakes ever existed.</p> <p>September 26, 2022: Sentencing.</p> <p>September 26, 2022: <i>Georgia Resident Sentenced to 5 Years in Prison for International Lottery Fraud Scheme That Victimized Elderly People in California and Elsewhere</i></p> <p>https://www.justice.gov/usao-edca/pr/georgia-resident-sentenced-5-years-prison-international-lottery-fraud-scheme-victimized</p>	United States Attorney's Office for the Eastern District of California	DOJ Office of Public Affairs (202) 514-2007
<i>United States v. David Odean McIntosh</i>	Criminal Case	<p>David Odean McIntosh of Jamaica was sentenced to 160 months in prison. McIntosh was one of the leaders of an international fraud ring that targeted thousands of victims around the United States. Jamaican-based scammers and others called victims in the United States, claiming the victims had won a lottery or other prize. To receive their winnings, the victims were told that they must first pay money for taxes and fees. The fraudsters provided some victims with phony letters claiming to be from the IRS that threatened to seize their assets if they failed to pay. McIntosh's role in this scheme was to distribute "lead lists," which contained the names and personal information of thousands of individuals for the scammers to contact and lure into the scheme.</p> <p>August 16, 2023: Sentencing.</p> <p>August 19, 2023: <i>Man Sentenced to 160 Months for Role in International Lottery Fraud Scheme Targeting Elderly Victims</i></p> <p>https://www.justice.gov/usao-az/pr/man-sentenced-160-months-role-international-lottery-fraud-scheme-targeting-elderly</p>	United States Attorney's Office for the District of Arizona	DOJ Office of Public Affairs (202) 514-2007
<i>United States v. Farouq Fasasi, et al.</i>	Criminal Case	<p>Three defendants were sentenced for their roles in lottery and romance scams. In the lottery scam, scammers notify victims by telephone, through online communications, or by mail, that they have won the lottery. The victims are then told that in order to collect the prize they must pay fees for things like taxes, shipping and processing. Often, once a victim sends a small amount of money, a scammer will ask for larger sums of money with a promise of more winnings. The victims never receive winnings.</p>	United States Attorney's Office for the District of Connecticut	DOJ Office of Public Affairs (202) 514-2007

Matter Name Action Location	Type of Action	Date/Matter Information	Responsible Agency	Press Contact Staff Contact
		<p>August 3, 2022: Sentencing (Pierre).</p> <p>August 3, 2022: <i>Bridgeport Man Sentenced to 30 Months in Prison for Role in Lottery and Romance Fraud Schemes</i></p> <p>https://www.justice.gov/usao-ct/pr/bridgeport-man-sentenced-30-months-prison-role-lottery-and-romance-fraud-schemes</p> <p>August 8, 2022: Sentencing (Fasasi).</p> <p>August 8, 2022: <i>Leader of Lottery and Romance Fraud Scheme Sentenced to 14 Years in Federal Prison</i></p> <p>https://www.justice.gov/usao-ct/pr/leader-lottery-and-romance-fraud-scheme-sentenced-14-years-federal-prison</p> <p>August 23, 2022: Sentencing (Thomas).</p> <p>August 23, 2022: <i>Lottery and Romance Fraud Scheme Participant Sentenced to 6 Years in Federal Prison</i></p> <p>https://www.justice.gov/usao-ct/pr/lottery-and-romance-fraud-scheme-participant-sentenced-6-years-federal-prison</p>		
<i>United States v. Raymond A. Erker</i>	Criminal Case	<p>Raymond A. Erker was sentenced to nearly 22 years in prison, or 262 months, following his conviction at trial of stealing more than \$9.3 million from clients in a Ponzi scheme. As part of the scheme, Erker sold investments to clients that he misrepresented as annuities and senior secured notes with no risk of loss and with a guaranteed rate of return. Court documents state that Erker, without the approval or consent of investors, diverted funds to other entities that they controlled and their personal bank accounts. To keep up with promised rates of return, Erker falsely represented that payments to previous investors were rates of return and interest when, in actuality, these payments were new investor funds, the defining characteristic of a Ponzi scheme.</p> <p>To avoid detection, Erker set up office fronts in Delaware and Nevada, contracted with call centers and created false websites and account statements that purported to show investor account balances.</p> <p>August 2, 2022: Sentencing.</p> <p>August 2, 2022: <i>Former Westlake Investment Advisor Sentenced to Nearly 22 Years in Prison for Operating Ponzi Scheme</i></p>	United States Attorney's Office for the Northern District of Ohio	DOJ Office of Public Affairs (202) 514-2007

Matter Name Action Location	Type of Action	Date/Matter Information	Responsible Agency	Press Contact Staff Contact
		https://www.justice.gov/usao-ndoh/pr/former-westlake-investment-advisor-sentenced-nearly-22-years-prison-operating-ponzi		
<i>United States v. Ashish Bajaj</i>	Criminal Case	<p>Ashish Bajaj was sentenced to 33 months in prison for his role in an international conspiracy. Bajaj and his conspirators operated a scheme that involved calling victims across the United States and impersonating fraud prevention specialists from various banks, online retailers, and online payment companies, claiming that the victims’ accounts with banks, online retailers, or online payments companies were being targeted for fraud. Bajaj and his conspirators then falsely told the victims that their fraud prevention efforts required the victims’ assistance in a sting operation to catch the perpetrators. Bajaj and the conspirators asked the victims to send money from their bank accounts to accounts controlled by Bajaj and the conspirators and falsely promised to return their money within a few days of the purported sting operation.</p> <p>April 6, 2023: Sentencing.</p> <p>April 6, 2023: <i>Foreign National Sentenced to 33 Months in Prison for Participating in an International Scheme to Defraud Elderly Victims</i></p> <p>https://www.justice.gov/usao-nj/pr/foreign-national-sentenced-33-months-prison-participating-international-scheme-defraud</p>	United States Attorney’s Office for the District of New Jersey	DOJ Office of Public Affairs (202) 514-2007
<i>United States v. Hirenkumar P. Chaudhari</i>	Criminal Case	<p>Hirenkumar P. Chaudhari was sentenced to three years in federal prison for laundering cash proceeds from a telemarketing scheme. The scheme involved phone calls from people falsely claiming to be associated with, among other agencies, the Social Security Administration and U.S. Department of Justice, stating that a victim’s identity had been stolen and that it was necessary to transfer money to various bank accounts, including the accounts opened by Chaudhari.</p> <p>July 29, 2022: Sentencing.</p> <p>July 29, 2022: <i>Suburban Chicago Man Sentenced to Three Years in Federal Prison for Laundering Proceeds from Telemarketing Scheme That Defrauded Elderly Victims</i></p> <p>https://www.justice.gov/usao-ndil/pr/suburban-chicago-man-sentenced-three-years-federal-prison-laundering-proceeds</p>	United States Attorney’s Office for the Northern District of Illinois	DOJ Office of Public Affairs (202) 514-2007

Matter Name Action Location	Type of Action	Date/Matter Information	Responsible Agency	Press Contact Staff Contact
<i>United States v. Tracy Lee Jedlicki</i>	Criminal Case	<p>Tracy Lee Jedlicki was sentenced to 30 months in federal prison for conspiracy to commit wire fraud. Jedlicki and her coconspirators operated international boiler rooms in Panama and elsewhere using high-pressure sales techniques to defraud individuals who believed they were investing substantial amounts of money in regulated financial products or markets, such as options in commodities and stocks. Jedlicki and her coconspirators then laundered fraud proceeds generated by the boiler rooms through several money laundering rings, to overseas accounts, with the launderers receiving a percentage of the funds they had moved.</p> <p>July 22, 2022: Sentencing.</p> <p>July 22, 2022: <i>Delray Beach Woman Sentenced to 30 Months in Prison for Her Role in International Boiler Room Conspiracy</i></p> <p>https://www.justice.gov/usao-mdfl/pr/delray-beach-woman-sentenced-30-months-prison-her-role-international-boiler-room</p>	United States Attorney's Office for the Middle District of Florida	DOJ Office of Public Affairs (202) 514-2007
<i>United States v. Tyrell Harris, et al.</i>	Criminal Case	<p>Jamaican nationals Tyrell Harris and Errol Durrant were each sentenced to more than five years in federal prison after pleading guilty to their roles in a lottery scam. As part of the scheme, the defendants or their co-conspirators would contact victims and falsely inform the victims that they had won a sweepstakes. The supposed prizes in these sweepstakes usually consisted of millions of dollars, a new vehicle, or other valuable items. The defendants and their co-conspirators would tell the victims that they needed to pay bogus fees and/or taxes in order to collect their purported winnings. The defendants and their co-conspirators would direct the elderly victims where to send the bogus fees and/or taxes. Victims purchased prepaid cards, USPS money orders, and bank money orders, and mailed cash/personal checks to the defendants. Tyrell Harris was sentenced to 90 months in federal prison and Errol Durrant to 80 months in federal prison.</p> <p>May 30, 2023: Sentencing.</p> <p>May 30, 2023: <i>Jamaican Nationals Sentenced to Federal Prison for Their Roles in Scam Targeting Elderly Victims</i></p> <p>https://www.justice.gov/usao-sc/pr/jamaican-nationals-sentenced-federal-prison-their-roles-scam-targeting-elderly-victims</p>	United States Attorney's Office for the District of South Carolina	DOJ Office of Public Affairs (202) 514-2007
<i>United States v. Javon Jonathan Spencer</i>	Criminal Case	<p>Jamaican national Javon Jonathan Spencer was sentenced to 18 months in prison after he pleaded guilty to conspiracy to commit mail fraud and mail fraud. Spencer was involved in a lottery fraud scheme that contacted the targeted individuals via mail or telephone and informed the victims that they won a lottery or sweepstakes, such as the Publishers Clearinghouse Sweepstakes. However, to claim and receive the money, the victims would need to pay upfront fees or taxes.</p>	United States Attorney's Office for the Northern District of Ohio	DOJ Office of Public Affairs (202) 514-2007

Matter Name Action Location	Type of Action	Date/Matter Information	Responsible Agency	Press Contact Staff Contact
		<p>May 18, 2023: Sentencing.</p> <p>May 19, 2023: <i>Jamaican National Sentenced to Prison for Lottery Fraud</i></p> <p>https://www.justice.gov/usao-ndoh/pr/jamaican-national-sentenced-prison-lottery-fraud</p>		
<i>United States v. Martins Inalegwu, et al.</i>	Criminal Case	<p>Martins Inalegwu, Steincy Mathieu, and Nigerian national Moses Chukwuebuka Alexander were indicted on April 6, 2023, for various charges of conspiracy to commit mail and wire fraud, wire fraud, mail fraud, conspiracy to commit money laundering, money laundering, transacting in criminal proceeds, and tax evasion. Inalegwu, Mathieu, Alexander and their conspirators, allegedly participated in a romance scheme. The conspirators made initial contact with victims through online dating and social media websites, then corresponded with victims via email and phone, pretended to strike up a romantic relationship with victims and then requested the victims send money to them, or their associates, for fictitious emergency needs. In all instances, the individuals whom the victims believed they were speaking to did not exist, and instead they were speaking to the conspirators of this scheme. Inalegwu, Mathieu and their conspirators engaged in apartment rental scams wherein they advertised the rental of a property, not owned or controlled by them, for the purpose of collecting money from the victims in the form of application fees and security deposits. After Inalegwu, Mathieu and conspirators collected the money, the victims never heard from them again. Conspirators used myriad email accounts and phone numbers to communicate with the victims.</p> <p>April 6, 2023: Indictment.</p> <p>April 13, 2023: <i>Four People Indicted for Roles in Romance and Internet Frauds, Illegal Money Transmitting</i></p> <p>https://www.justice.gov/usao-nj/pr/four-people-indicted-roles-romance-and-internet-frauds-illegal-money-transmitting</p>	United States Attorney's Office for the District of New Jersey	DOJ Office of Public Affairs (202) 514-2007
<i>United States v. Jeel Patel</i>	Criminal Case	<p>Jeel Patel was sentenced to 51 months in prison for conspiracy to commit mail and wire fraud. Patel was part of an international fraud scheme originating from call centers in India. These call centers would initially contact victims using automated robocalls designed to create a sense of urgency with the recipients. After making initial contact with victims, conspirators known as closers would impersonate government officials such as FBI or DEA agents. These closers would trick and coerce victims into wiring funds to bank accounts controlled by the conspiracy, or shipping parcels of cash to addresses to which conspirators had access. Patel retrieved or attempted to retrieve 14 packages from 10 different victims, with total actual losses of \$485,020. Patel also participated in repeated home pickups during which he traveled to the residences of two different 80-year-old victims located in Michigan and South Carolina, and under the guise of being a DEA official took the money directly from the victims.</p>	United States Attorney's Office for the Eastern District of Virginia	DOJ Office of Public Affairs (202) 514-2007

Matter Name Action Location	Type of Action	Date/Matter Information	Responsible Agency	Press Contact Staff Contact
		<p>February 14, 2023: Sentencing.</p> <p>February 14, 2023: <i>South Carolina Man Sentenced for Role in International Elder Fraud Scheme</i></p> <p>https://www.justice.gov/usao-edva/pr/south-carolina-man-sentenced-role-international-elder-fraud-scheme</p>		
<i>United States v. Vikas Mehta, et al.</i>	Criminal Case	<p>Two defendant pled guilty—including one who was also sentenced to 51 months’ imprisonment—for their roles imposter scams. The conspiracy began with either robocall recordings purporting to be from a government agency or with emails purporting to be from legitimate companies. The robocall recordings and email messages provided callback numbers. When individuals called those numbers, they were connected to alleged scammers — some of whom were located in India. During these telephone calls, the scammer pretended either to work for the United States government or to represent a company.</p> <p>Guilty Pleas: December 7, 2022, and May 15, 2023.</p> <p>May 17, 2023: Sentencing.</p>	Unites States Attorney’s Office for the Northern District of Georgia	DOJ Office of Public Affairs (202) 514-2007
<i>United States v. Juan Carlos Arcena Cabrera</i>	Criminal Case	<p>Juan Carlos Arcena Cabrera was indicted with conspiracy to commit mail fraud for his role in a “grandparent scam” that impacted senior victims around the country. “Grandparent scams” involve perpetrators making false claims to victims that their loved one is in jeopardy and in need of money that the perpetrator will use to assist the loved one. Scam callers would reach out to victims repeatedly, claiming more money was needed to cover additional emergency expenses. As part of this conspiracy, Cabrera posed as the grandson of a Kentucky victim and attempted to pick up a parcel full of cash that the victim had shipped from Kentucky to a FedEx store in New York.</p> <p>November 29, 2022: Indictment.</p> <p>November 29, 2022: <i>Federal Grand Jury in Louisville Indicts New York Man for His Role in “Grandparent Scam” Targeting Senior Victims</i></p> <p>https://www.justice.gov/usao-wdky/pr/federal-grand-jury-louisville-indicts-new-york-man-his-role-grandparent-scam-targeting</p>	Unites States Attorney’s Office for the Western District of Kentucky	DOJ Office of Public Affairs (202) 514-2007
<i>United States v. Shelly Leipham</i>	Criminal Case	<p>Shelly Leipham was sentenced to more than 7 years in prison for committing financial fraud. Leipham called a victim living in Harrison County and claimed the victim won one million dollars. Leipham defrauded the victim of nearly \$25,000 by directing the victim to send that amount to her over the course of a two-year period by mail and wire. Leipham badgered and manipulated her victims by calling them over and over again.</p>	United States Attorney’s Office for the Northern District of West Virginia	DOJ Office of Public Affairs (202) 514-2007

Matter Name Action Location	Type of Action	Date/Matter Information	Responsible Agency	Press Contact Staff Contact
		<p>August 30, 2022: Sentencing.</p> <p>August 30, 2022: <i>Las Vegas Woman Gets 7 Years for Elder Financial Fraud</i></p> <p>https://www.justice.gov/usao-ndwv/pr/las-vegas-woman-gets-7-years-elder-financial-fraud</p>		
<i>United States v. Nicole Sprague</i>	Criminal Case	<p>Nicole Sprague was sentenced to 33 months in prison for conspiracy to commit mail fraud and mail fraud. Sprague participated in a tech support scam. The conspirators spoke on the phone to victims, falsely represented themselves to be online computer tech support personnel to obtain money from victims who believed that they were paying for necessary computer repairs or installing computer security software. After the victim agreed to make payment to the telemarketer for purported tech support, access to the victim's computer occurred while the victim believed that a legitimate service had been received. While conspirators were remotely connected to each victim's computer, the conspirators were able to access each victim's personal information, including access to the victim's financial accounts. Sprague routinely deposited the victims' funds into her bank accounts before she disbursed and transferred the proceeds to other members of the conspiracy.</p> <p>August 22, 2022: Sentencing.</p> <p>August 22, 2022: <i>Cape Coral Woman Sentenced to More Than Two and a Half Years in Prison for Committing Fraud Targeting Elderly Victims</i></p> <p>https://www.justice.gov/usao-mdfl/pr/cape-coral-woman-sentenced-more-two-and-half-years-prison-committing-fraud-targeting</p>	United States Attorney's Office for the Middle District of Florida	DOJ Office of Public Affairs (202) 514-2007
<i>United States v. Aakash Kalpesh Gandhi</i>	Criminal Case	<p>Aakash Kalpesh Gandhi pleaded guilty to conspiracy to commit mail fraud and was sentenced to 51 months in federal prison. Gandhi and his co-conspirators operated a scheme designed to defraud victims throughout the United States. Co-conspirators from call centers based in India would target unsuspecting victims claiming that those victims would suffer financial ruin or criminal liability if they did not immediately send money to correct fictional problems often involving the victim's social security benefits. Co-conspirators fraudulently identified themselves as government agents to their unsuspecting victims. Gandhi tracked currency shipments for the conspiracy and recovered packages of United States currency shipped by those who had been victimized by the scheme. Gandhi would receive a fee from a portion of the contents of those packages and deliver the remaining currency to co-conspirators.</p> <p>August 2, 2022: Sentencing.</p> <p>August 2, 2022: <i>Washington State Man Sentenced in Fictitious Social Security Scheme Targeting East Texas Elderly</i></p>	United States Attorney's Office for the Eastern District of Texas	DOJ Office of Public Affairs (202) 514-2007

Matter Name Action Location	Type of Action	Date/Matter Information	Responsible Agency	Press Contact Staff Contact
		https://www.justice.gov/usao-edtx/pr/washington-state-man-sentenced-fictitious-social-security-scheme-targeting-east-texas		
<i>United States v. Romario Mark Anthony Murray</i>	Criminal Case	<p>Jamaican national Romario Mark Anthony Murray was sentenced to 51 months in federal prison after pleading guilty to one count of conspiracy to commit wire fraud and mail fraud, four counts of wire fraud, and three counts of mail fraud. The convictions stemmed from activities designed to defraud victims of their money through false promises of sweepstakes prizes.</p> <p>July 22, 2022: Sentencing.</p> <p>July 22, 2022: <i>Jamaican Man Sentenced to 51 Months in Federal Prison for Operating Sweepstakes Scam Targeting Elderly Victims</i></p> <p>https://www.justice.gov/usao-ndfl/pr/jamaican-man-sentenced-51-months-federal-prison-operating-sweepstakes-scam-targeting</p>	United States Attorney’s Office for the Northern District of Florida	DOJ Office of Public Affairs (202) 514-2007
<i>United States v. Johnny Ray Thomas, et al.</i>	Criminal Case	<p>South Florida resident Johnny Ray Thomas and his Indian co-conspirators, Saher Mash Uppal and Prateek Uppal, operated several fraudulent Information Technology (IT) companies), which falsely and fraudulently convinced victims to make payments to the defendants’ companies for purported IT services and software when, in truth, and in fact, the victims received no legitimate services or software from the defendants’ businesses. Defendants and their co-conspirators “cold called” victims to inform them their computers had been hacked or otherwise compromised and convinced the victims to pay thousands for worthless “anti-virus” software and other services. Defendants and their co-conspirators installed remote access software on the victims’ computers in order to install the worthless software, which often consisted of nothing more than “scripts” that generated pop-ups on the victims’ computers notifying them their computers were infected with viruses. Defendants diverted the victims’ funds to corporate and personal bank accounts they controlled for their personal use and benefit and to carry out the conspiracy by paying for Internet marketing and other “leads.”</p> <p>July 26, 2022: Charges filed.</p>	United States Attorney’s Office for the Southern District of Florida	DOJ Office of Public Affairs (202) 514-2007
<i>United States v. Vinoth Ponmaran, et al.</i>	Criminal Case	<p>Vinoth Ponmaran was indicted for participating in a conspiracy that exploited victims by remotely accessing their computers and convincing victims to pay for computer support services they did not need, and which were never actually provided. Ponmaran was a member of a criminal fraud ring (the “Fraud Ring”) based in the United States and India that committed a technical support fraud. The Fraud Ring caused pop-up windows to appear on victims’ computers. The pop-up windows claimed, falsely, that a virus had infected the victim’s computer. The pop-up window directed the victim to call a particular telephone number to obtain technical support. Two of Ponmaran’s co-defendants have also been convicted and sentenced.</p>	United States Attorney’s Office for the Southern District of New York	DOJ Office of Public Affairs (202) 514-2007

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		<p>July 20, 2022: Indictment.</p> <p>July 20, 2022: <i>Man Arrested for Leading Role in \$10 Million Tech Support Fraud Scheme That Exploited Elderly Victims</i></p> <p>https://www.justice.gov/usao-sdny/pr/man-arrested-leading-role-10-million-tech-support-fraud-scheme-exploited-elderly</p>		

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION				
Avid Telecom LLC	Cease-and-Desist Letter	<p>The FCC’s Enforcement Bureau issued a cease-and-desist letter to Michael D. Lansky, LLC d/b/a Avid Telecom for apparently transmitting illegal robocall traffic.</p> <p>June 7, 2023: <i>FCC Looks to Cut Off Insurance-Related Robocall Campaign</i></p> <p>https://docs.fcc.gov/public/attachments/DOC-394146A1.pdf</p> <p>June 7, 2023: Cease-and-Desist Letter</p> <p>https://docs.fcc.gov/public/attachments/DOC-394134A1.pdf</p>	Federal Communications Commission	<p><i>Staff Contact:</i> Jane van Benten (202) 418-7167 Jane.vanBenten@fcc.gov</p>
Rising Eagle Capital Group LLC, et al.	Memorandum Opinion and Order	<p>The FCC adopted a Memorandum Opinion and Order denying Rising Eagle Capital Group LLC’s Petition for Reconsideration and affirming its prior \$225M Forfeiture Order for illegally spoofing caller ID.</p> <p>June 7, 2023: <i>FCC Reaffirms \$225 Million Spoofed Robocall Fine</i></p> <p>https://docs.fcc.gov/public/attachments/DOC-394144A1.pdf</p> <p>June 7, 2023: Memorandum Opinion and Order</p> <p>https://docs.fcc.gov/public/attachments/FCC-23-46A1.pdf</p> <p>The FCC previously released a Forfeiture Order on March 18, 2021.</p> <p>March 17, 2021: <i>Health Insurance Telemarketer Faces Record FCC Fine of \$225 Million for Spoofed Robocalls</i></p> <p>https://docs.fcc.gov/public/attachments/DOC-370869A1.pdf</p> <p>March 18, 2021: Forfeiture Order</p> <p>https://docs.fcc.gov/public/attachments/FCC-21-35A1.pdf</p>	Federal Communications Commission	<p><i>Staff Contact:</i> Daniel Stepanicich (202) 418-7451 Daniel.Stepanicich@fcc.gov</p>

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John Burkman, Jacob Alexander Wohl, and J.M. Burkman & Associates LLC	Forfeiture Order	<p>The FCC levied a \$5,134,500 penalty against John Burkman, Alexander Wohl, and J.M. Burkman & Associates LLC for illegal robocalling.</p> <p>June 6, 2023: <i>FCC Issues \$5 Million Penalty for Illegal Robocalling Against Jacob Wohl and John Burkman</i></p> <p>https://docs.fcc.gov/public/attachments/DOC-394089A1.pdf</p> <p>June 6, 2023: Forfeiture Order</p> <p>https://docs.fcc.gov/public/attachments/FCC-23-44A1.pdf</p>	Federal Communications Commission	<i>Staff Contact:</i> Raul Rojo (202) 418-1336 Raul.Rojo@fcc.gov
Call Blocking: Report and Order, Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, and Notice of Inquiry	Report and Order, Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, and Notice of Inquiry	<p>Released May 19, 2023: FCC rules will further enlist service providers in the fight against unwanted robocalls by extending our 24-hour traceback requirement to cover all voice service providers. Carriers will be required to support FCC and industry efforts to trace illegal robocalls across various networks and back to their originating sources. The rules will also require providers that originate illegal robocall traffic to block that traffic when notified by the FCC.</p> <p>The FCC will also now require all voice service providers to take reasonable and effective steps to ensure that any immediate upstream provider from which they accept call traffic is not using it to carry or process a high volume of illegal traffic.</p> <p>The Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking also adopted today will seek public comment on a variety of other anti-robocall tools and strategies including requiring providers to adopt analytics-based blocking, requiring providers to block based on do-not-originate lists, whether to require the display of caller name information in certain cases, and increasing forfeitures for voice service providers that fail to comply with the FCC’s rules. Today’s action includes a Notice of Inquiry that will seek input on the tools voice service providers use to combat illegal calls, including an industry tool known as a “honeypot,” and on the current state of call labeling, including the extent of its use and its accuracy.</p>	Federal Communications Commission	<i>Staff Contact:</i> Kristi Thornton (202) 418-2467 Kristi.Thornton@fcc.gov

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One Eye LLC	Final Determination Order	<p>The FCC’s Enforcement Bureau ordered voice service providers to block and cease accepting traffic from international gateway provider One Eye LLC.</p> <p>May 11, 2023: <i>FCC Orders Blocking of Calls from Gateway Facilitator of Illegal Robocalls from Overseas</i></p> <p>https://docs.fcc.gov/public/attachments/DOC-393325A1.pdf</p> <p>May 11, 2023: Final Determination Order</p> <p>https://docs.fcc.gov/public/attachments/DA-23-389A1.pdf</p>	Federal Communications Commission	<p><i>Staff Contact:</i> Daniel Stepanicich (202) 418-7451 Daniel.Stepanicich@fcc.gov</p>
One Eye LLC	Initial Determination Order	<p>The FCC’s Enforcement Bureau issued an Initial Determination Order against One Eye LLC for operating as a gateway provider for illegal robocalls.</p> <p>April 3, 2023: <i>FCC Accelerates Action Against Illegal Robocall Gateway Facilitator</i></p> <p>https://docs.fcc.gov/public/attachments/DOC-392301A1.pdf</p> <p>April 3, 2023: Initial Determination Order</p> <p>https://docs.fcc.gov/public/attachments/DA-23-279A1.pdf</p>	Federal Communications Commission	<p><i>Staff Contact:</i> Daniel Stepanicich (202) 418-7451 Daniel.Stepanicich@fcc.gov</p>
Call Authentication Trust Anchor: Report and Order and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking	Report and Order and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking	<p>The FCC adopted rules to enhance and expand provider obligations to implement the STIR/SHAKEN caller ID authentication framework. In addition, the new rules will expand robocall mitigation requirements for all providers. All providers, regardless of their STIR/SHAKEN implementation status, will now be required to take “reasonable steps” to mitigate illegal robocall traffic and submit a certification and mitigation plan to the FCC’s Robocall Mitigation Database. The FCC also adopted new tools and penalties to hold providers accountable for failing to comply with its rules and sought comment on additional measures that may strengthen and expand the FCC’s caller ID authentication regime.</p> <p>March 16, 2023: <i>FCC Closes Gap in Caller ID Authentication Regime to Combat Illegal Spoofed Robocalls</i></p> <p>https://docs.fcc.gov/public/attachments/DOC-391798A1.pdf</p> <p>March 17, 2023: Sixth Report and Order and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking</p> <p>https://docs.fcc.gov/public/attachments/FCC-23-18A1.pdf</p>	Federal Communications Commission	<p><i>Staff Contact:</i> Zachary Ross (202) 418-1033 Zachary.Ross@fcc.gov</p>

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Targeting and Eliminating Unlawful Text Messages: Report and Order and Notice of Proposed Rulemaking	Report and Order and Notice of Proposed Rulemaking	Released March 17, 2023: The FCC adopted its first regulations specifically targeting the increasing problem of scam text messages sent to consumers. The new rules will require mobile service providers to block certain robotext messages that are highly likely to be illegal. The action also seeks input on further regulatory actions the FCC can take to protect consumers from scam robotexts.	Federal Communications Commission	<i>Staff Contact:</i> Kristi Thornton (202) 418-2467 Kristi.Thornton@fcc.gov
One Eye LLC	Cease-and-Desist Letter	The FCC's Enforcement Bureau released a cease-and-desist letter warning One Eye LLC that it was apparently transmitting illegal robocall traffic. The letter required the company to immediately investigate and mitigate the identified suspected illegal robocalls and implement measures to prevent new and renewing customers from using its network to transmit illegal robocalls. The letter also warned that if the company continued to knowingly or negligently originate illegal robocall traffic then the FCC may remove its Robocall Mitigation Database certification thereby requiring all intermediate and terminating voice service providers to cease accepting its traffic. February 15, 2023: Cease-and-Desist Letter https://docs.fcc.gov/public/attachments/DOC-391103A1.pdf	Federal Communications Commission	<i>Staff Contact:</i> Daniel Stepanicich (202) 418-7451 Daniel.Stepanicich@fcc.gov
Twilio Inc.	Cease-and-Desist Letter	The FCC's Enforcement Bureau released a cease-and-desist letter warning Twilio Inc. that it was apparently transmitting illegal robocall traffic. The letter required the company to immediately investigate and mitigate the identified suspected illegal robocalls and implement measures to prevent new and renewing customers from using its network to transmit illegal robocalls. The letter also warned that if the company continued to knowingly or negligently originate illegal robocall traffic then the FCC may remove its Robocall Mitigation Database certification thereby requiring all intermediate and terminating voice service providers to cease accepting its traffic. January 24, 2023: <i>FCC Takes on Mortgage Scam Robocall Campaign Targeting Homeowners</i> https://docs.fcc.gov/public/attachments/DOC-390813A1.pdf January 24, 2023: Cease-and-Desist Letter https://docs.fcc.gov/public/attachments/DOC-390811A1.pdf	Federal Communications Commission	<i>Staff Contact:</i> Raul Rojo (202) 418-1336 Raul.Rojo@fcc.gov

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Bureau-Level Declaratory Ruling Regarding Robocalls by Health and Human Services	Declaratory Ruling	Released January 23, 2023: The FCC’s Enforcement Bureau granted in significant part the request of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services to confirm that federal and state governmental agencies working in conjunction with local governments, governmental contractors, and managed care entities acting under contract with state governments may, under certain circumstances, make autodialed and prerecorded or artificial voice calls or send autodialed text messages to raise awareness of the eligibility and enrollment requirements for these governmental health care programs without violating the Telephone Consumer Protection Act.	Federal Communications Commission	<i>Staff Contact:</i> Kristi Thornton (202) 418-2467 Kristi.Thornton@fcc.gov
SIPphony LLC	Cease-and-Desist Letter	The FCC’s Enforcement Bureau released a cease-and-desist letter warning SIPphony LLC that it was apparently transmitting illegal robocall traffic. The letter required the company to immediately investigate and mitigate the identified suspected illegal robocalls and implement measures to prevent new and renewing customers from using its network to transmit illegal robocalls. The letter also warned that if the company continued to knowingly or negligently originate illegal robocall traffic then the FCC may remove its Robocall Mitigation Database certification thereby requiring all intermediate and terminating voice service providers to cease accepting its traffic. January 11, 2023: Cease-and-Desist Letter https://docs.fcc.gov/public/attachments/DOC-390624A1.pdf	Federal Communications Commission	<i>Staff Contact:</i> Daniel Stepanicich (202) 418-7451 Daniel.Stepanicich@fcc.gov
Vultik Inc.	Cease-and-Desist Letter	The FCC’s Enforcement Bureau released a cease-and-desist letter warning Vultik Inc. that it was apparently transmitting illegal robocall traffic. The letter required the company to immediately investigate and mitigate the identified suspected illegal robocalls and implement measures to prevent new and renewing customers from using its network to transmit illegal robocalls. The letter also warned that if the company continued to knowingly or negligently originate illegal robocall traffic then the FCC may remove its Robocall Mitigation Database certification thereby requiring all intermediate and terminating voice service providers to cease accepting its traffic. January 11, 2023: Cease-and-Desist Letter https://docs.fcc.gov/public/attachments/DOC-390625A1.pdf	Federal Communications Commission	<i>Staff Contact:</i> Daniel Stepanicich (202) 418-7451 Daniel.Stepanicich@fcc.gov
Telephone Consumer Protection Act: Order on Reconsideration and Declaratory Ruling	Order and Declaratory Ruling	Released December 27, 2022: The FCC’s decision allows exempted callers the option of obtaining either oral or written consent if they wish to make more calls than the numerical limits; however, the FCC denied requests to reconsider the numerical limits on exempted calls as well as the expanded opt-out requirements. Additionally, the FCC granted a request that an earlier FCC ruling on “prior express consent” for calls made by utility companies to wireless phones applies equally to residential landlines.	Federal Communications Commission	<i>Staff Contact:</i> Kristi Thornton (202) 418-2467 Kristi.Thornton@fcc.gov

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Sumco Panama SA, et al.	Notice of Apparent Liability for Forfeiture	<p>The FCC issued a Notice of Apparent Liability proposing a record \$299,997,000 fine against an auto warranty scam robocall operation run by Roy Cox, Jr. and Michael Aaron Jones via their company Sumco Panama SA, and other companies and associates.</p> <p>December 21, 2022: <i>FCC Proposes Largest Fine Ever Against Auto Warranty Scam Robocaller</i></p> <p>https://docs.fcc.gov/public/attachments/DOC-390362A1.pdf</p> <p>December 23, 2022: Notice of Apparent Liability for Forfeiture</p> <p>https://docs.fcc.gov/public/attachments/FCC-22-99A1.pdf</p>	Federal Communications Commission	<p><i>Staff Contact:</i> Jessica Manuel (202) 418-1305 Jessica.Manuel@fcc.gov</p>
Reassigned Numbers Database (RND)	Notices of Apparent Liability for Forfeiture	<p>The FCC issued Notices of Apparent Liability to each of the following 12 companies for non-compliance with the requirements of the Reassigned Numbers Database: BendTel, Inc.; Puerto Rico Telephone Company, Inc. d/b/a Claro Puerto Rico; Communications Plus, Inc.; Business Automation Technologies, Inc. d/b/a Data Network Solutions; Fort Mojave Telecommunications, Inc.; Integrated Path Communications, LLC; Local Access LLC; Palo Cooperative Telephone Association d/b/a Palo Communications; Point Broadband Fiber Holding, LLC d/b/a Point Broadband; Salsgiver Telecom, Inc.; Stratford Mutual Telephone Company; Swayzee Telephone Company, Inc. d/b/a Swayzee Communications Corp., Swayzee Communications Corp., and FiberHawk.</p> <p>December 12, 2022: <i>FCC Proposes Fines for Noncompliance with Reassigned Numbers Database Rules</i></p> <p>https://docs.fcc.gov/public/attachments/DOC-390040A1.pdf</p> <p>December 12, 2022: Notices of Apparent Liability for Forfeiture</p> <p>BendTel, Inc. NAL https://docs.fcc.gov/public/attachments/DA-22-1294A1.pdf</p> <p>Claro Puerto Rico NAL https://docs.fcc.gov/public/attachments/DA-22-1298A1.pdf</p> <p>Communications Plus, Inc. NAL https://docs.fcc.gov/public/attachments/DA-22-1296A1.pdf</p> <p>Data Network Solutions NAL https://docs.fcc.gov/public/attachments/DA-22-1295A1.pdf</p>	Federal Communications Commission	<p><i>Staff Contact:</i> Mary Romano (202) 418-1336 Mary.Romano@fcc.gov</p>

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		<p>Fort Mojave Telecommunications, Inc. NAL https://docs.fcc.gov/public/attachments/DA-22-1293A1.pdf</p> <p>Integrated Path Communications, LLC NAL https://docs.fcc.gov/public/attachments/DA-22-1288A1.pdf</p> <p>Local Access LLC NAL https://docs.fcc.gov/public/attachments/DA-22-1287A1.pdf</p> <p>Palo Communications NAL https://docs.fcc.gov/public/attachments/DA-22-1297A1.pdf</p> <p>Point Broadband NAL https://docs.fcc.gov/public/attachments/DA-22-1292A1.pdf</p> <p>Salsgiver Telecom, Inc. NAL https://docs.fcc.gov/public/attachments/DA-22-1291A1.pdf</p> <p>Stratford Mutual Telephone Company NAL https://docs.fcc.gov/public/attachments/DA-22-1289A1.pdf</p> <p>Swayzee Communications Corp., FiberHawk NAL https://docs.fcc.gov/public/attachments/DA-22-1290A1.pdf</p>		
Urth Access, LLC	Effective Mitigation Order	<p>The FCC’s Enforcement Bureau issued an order directing all U.S.-based voice service providers to take immediate steps to mitigate suspected illegal student loan-related robocall traffic from Urth Access, LLC.</p> <p>December 8, 2022: <i>FCC Orders Blocking of Student Loan Scam Robocall Campaign</i> https://docs.fcc.gov/public/attachments/DOC-389923A1.pdf</p> <p>December 8, 2022: Order https://docs.fcc.gov/public/attachments/DA-22-1271A1.pdf</p>	Federal Communications Commission	<p><i>Staff Contact:</i> Daniel Stepanicich (202) 418-7451 Daniel.Stepanicich@fcc.gov</p>

Matter Name Action Location	Type of Action	Date/Matter Information	Responsible Agency	Press Contact Staff Contact
Global UC Inc.	Robocall Mitigation Database (RMD) Removal	<p>The FCC removed Global UC Inc. from the Robocall Mitigation Database for non-compliance with anti-robocall rules.</p> <p>November 22, 2022: <i>FCC Cuts Off Provider From Network Access for Failing to Meet Robocall Mitigation Requirements</i></p> <p>https://docs.fcc.gov/public/attachments/DOC-389419A1.pdf</p> <p>November 22, 2022: October 2022 Robocall Mitigation Database Compliance/Removal Actions</p> <p>https://docs.fcc.gov/public/attachments/DA-22-1220A1.pdf</p>	Federal Communications Commission	<p><i>Staff Contact:</i> Daniel Stepanicich (202) 418-7451 Daniel.Stepanicich@fcc.gov</p>
All About the Message: Declaratory Ruling and Order	Declaratory Ruling and Order	<p>Released November 21, 2022: The FCC adopted an order finding that “ringless voicemail” to wireless phones requires consumer consent. Prior to this decision, callers could make such ringless voicemail calls to consumers without first getting their consent.</p>	Federal Communications Commission	<p><i>Staff Contact:</i> Kristi Thornton (202) 418-2467 Kristi.Thornton@fcc.gov</p>
Urth Access, LLC	Cease-and-Desist Letter	<p>The FCC’s Enforcement Bureau released a cease-and-desist letter warning Urth Access, LLC that it was apparently transmitting illegal robocall traffic. The letter required the company to immediately investigate and mitigate the identified suspected illegal robocalls and implement measures to prevent new and renewing customers from using its network to transmit illegal robocalls. The letter also warned that if the company continued to knowingly or negligently originate illegal robocall traffic then the FCC may remove its Robocall Mitigation Database certification thereby requiring all intermediate and terminating voice service providers to cease accepting its traffic.</p> <p>November 10, 2022: Cease-and-Desist Letter</p> <p>https://docs.fcc.gov/public/attachments/DOC-389066A1.pdf</p>	Federal Communications Commission	<p><i>Staff Contact:</i> Daniel Stepanicich (202) 418-7451 Daniel.Stepanicich@fcc.gov</p>

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Non-IP Caller ID Authentication: Notice of Inquiry	Notice of Inquiry	<p>The FCC began a proceeding to consider ways to combat illegally spoofed robocalls that pass through non-IP networks. The FCC sought comment on the prevalence of non-IP technology in the country's phone networks and the impact this technology has on the problem of illegal robocalls. It also sought input on alternative technological or policy solutions to enable caller ID authentication over non-IP networks, and on specific steps the FCC can take to encourage the industry's transition to IP.</p> <p>October 27, 2022: <i>FCC Seeks to Fill Challenging Gap in STIR/SHAKEN Robocall Defenses</i></p> <p>https://docs.fcc.gov/public/attachments/DOC-388709A1.pdf</p> <p>October 28, 2022: Notice of Inquiry</p> <p>https://docs.fcc.gov/public/attachments/FCC-22-81A1.pdf</p>	Federal Communications Commission	<p><i>Staff Contact:</i> Zachary Ross (202) 418-1033 Zachary.Ross@fcc.gov</p>
Robocall Mitigation Database (RMD)	Show Cause Orders	<p>The FCC issued a Show Cause Order to each of the following companies: Akabis, Cloud4, Global UC, Horizon Technology Group, Morse Communications, Sharon Telephone Company, and SW Arkansas Telecommunications and Technology. The Show Cause Orders required each company to demonstrate why they should not be removed from the Robocall Mitigation Database for non-compliance with anti-robocall rules.</p> <p>October 3, 2022: <i>FCC Plans to Remove Companies from Key Database for Non-Compliance with Anti-Robocall Rules</i></p> <p>https://docs.fcc.gov/public/attachments/DOC-387840A1.pdf</p>	Federal Communications Commission	<p><i>Staff Contact:</i> Daniel Stepanicich (202) 418-7451 Daniel.Stepanicich@fcc.gov</p>
Targeting and Eliminating Unlawful Text Messages: Notice of Proposed Rulemaking	Notice of Proposed Rulemaking	<p>Released September 27, 2022: The FCC proposed to require mobile wireless providers to block illegal text messages, building on its ongoing work to stop illegal and unwanted robocalls. Specifically, the FCC proposed to require mobile wireless providers to block texts, at the network level, that purport to be from invalid, unallocated, or unused numbers, and numbers on a Do-Not-Originate (DNO) list. It also sought comment on the extent to which spoofing is a problem with regard to text messaging today and whether there are measures the FCC can take to encourage providers to identify and block texts that appear to come from spoofed numbers. In addition, it sought comment on applying caller ID authentication standards to text messaging.</p>	Federal Communications Commission	<p><i>Staff Contact:</i> Kristi Thornton (202) 418-2467 Kristi.Thornton@fcc.gov</p>

Matter Name Action Location	Type of Action	Date/Matter Information	Responsible Agency	Press Contact Staff Contact
Thomas Dorsher, ChariTel Inc, OnTel Inc, and ScammerBlaster Inc	Notice of Apparent Liability for Forfeiture	<p>The FCC proposed a \$116,156,250 fine against Thomas Dorsher, ChariTel Inc, Ontel Inc, and ScammerBlaster Inc for apparently willfully and repeatedly engaging in conduct that apparently violated the Telephone Consumer Protection Act and the FCC's rules.</p> <p>July 14, 2022: <i>FCC Proposes \$116 Million Fine for Toll-Free Traffic Pumping Robocall Scheme</i></p> <p>https://docs.fcc.gov/public/attachments/DOC-385270A1.pdf</p> <p>July 14, 2022: Notice of Apparent Liability for Forfeiture</p> <p>https://docs.fcc.gov/public/attachments/FCC-22-57A1.pdf</p>	Federal Communications Commission	<i>Staff Contact:</i> Daniel Stepanicich (202) 418-7451 Daniel.Stepanicich@fcc.gov
Call Pipe, Fugle Telecom, Geist Telecom, Global Lynks, Mobi Telecom, SipKonnnect, South Dakota Telecom, Virtual Telecom	Cease-and-Desist Letters	<p>The FCC issued cease-and-desist letters against eight entities authorizing phone companies to cut off likely auto warranty scam robocall campaigns.</p> <p>July 7, 2022: <i>FCC Authorizes Phone Companies to Cut Off Likely Auto Warranty Scam Robocall Campaign</i></p> <p>https://docs.fcc.gov/public/attachments/DOC-385038A1.pdf</p> <p>July 7, 2022: Robocall Enforcement Notice to All U.S.-Based Voice Service Providers</p> <p>https://docs.fcc.gov/public/attachments/DA-22-727A1.pdf</p>	Federal Communications Commission	<i>Staff Contact:</i> Daniel Stepanicich (202) 418-7451 Daniel.Stepanicich@fcc.gov
Gateway Provider: Report and Order, Order on Reconsideration, Order, and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking	Report and Order, Order on Reconsideration, Order, and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking	<p>The FCC adopted rules to extend its protections against unlawful robocalls by placing new obligations on the gateway providers that are the entry point for foreign calls into the United States and requiring them to play a more active role in the fight against illegal robocalls.</p> <p>May 19, 2022: <i>FCC Closes Door on International Robocall Scammers</i></p> <p>https://docs.fcc.gov/public/attachments/DOC-383499A1.pdf</p> <p>May 20, 2022: Report and Order</p> <p>https://docs.fcc.gov/public/attachments/FCC-22-37A1.pdf</p>	Federal Communications Commission	<i>Staff Contacts:</i> Kristi Thornton (202) 418-2467 Kristi.Thornton@fcc.gov Zachary Ross (202) 418-1033 Zachary.Ross@fcc.gov

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Airespring, Inc., Hello Hello Miami, LLC, thinQ Technologies, Inc.	Cease-and-Desist Letters	<p>The FCC’s Enforcement Bureau released cease-and-desist letters warning Airespring, Inc.; Hello Hello Miami, LLC; and thinQ Technologies, Inc. that they were apparently transmitting illegal robocall traffic. The letters required the companies to immediately investigate and mitigate the identified suspected illegal robocalls and implement measures to prevent new and renewing customers from using their networks to transmit illegal robocalls.</p> <p>March 22, 2022: Airespring Inc. Letter https://docs.fcc.gov/public/attachments/DOC-381499A1.pdf</p> <p>March 22, 2022: Hello Hello Miami, LLC Letter https://docs.fcc.gov/public/attachments/DOC-381500A1.pdf</p> <p>March 22, 2022: thinQ Technologies, Inc. Letter https://docs.fcc.gov/public/attachments/DOC-381498A1.pdf</p>	Federal Communications Commission	<i>Staff Contact:</i> Daniel Stepanicich (202) 418-7451 Daniel.Stepanicich@fcc.gov
Telecom Carrier Access, Inc. and Great Choice Telecom LLC	Cease-and-Desist Letters	<p>The FCC’s Enforcement Bureau released cease-and-desist letters warning Telecom Carrier Access, Inc. and Great Choice Telecom LLC that they were apparently transmitting illegal robocall traffic. The letters required the companies to immediately investigate and mitigate the identified suspected illegal robocalls and implement measures to prevent new and renewing customers from using their networks to transmit illegal robocalls.</p> <p>February 10, 2022: Telecom Carrier Access, Inc. Letter https://docs.fcc.gov/public/attachments/DOC-380157A1.pdf</p> <p>February 10, 2022: Great Choice Telecom LLC Letter https://docs.fcc.gov/public/attachments/DOC-380158A1.pdf</p>	Federal Communications Commission	<i>Staff Contact:</i> Daniel Stepanicich (202) 418-7451 Daniel.Stepanicich@fcc.gov

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SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL				
Operation Upstream Carrier Without a Paddle		<p>The Social Security Administration, Office of the Inspector General (SSA OIG), initiated Operation Upstream Carrier Without A Paddle to protect consumers from SSA-related scam calls. The SSA OIG has been seeking penalties authorized under the consumer protection provisions of Section 1140 of the Social Security Act against U.S. telecommunications companies, acting as gateway carriers, who profited by accepting scam calls into the U.S. telecommunications system and passing them on to unsuspecting consumers.</p> <p>To date, SSA OIG has initiated 31 cases against gateway carriers. Penalties have been imposed against 20 companies via settlement agreement and one company via a default action, with penalties totaling more than \$392,000. For more information about the SSA OIG and Section 1140, please visit SSA OIG’s website at https://oig.ssa.gov/.</p>		
Paul Talbott (d/b/a Articul8)	Civil Monetary Penalty Action under Section 1140 of the Social Security Act against Paul Talbott (d/b/a Articul8).	<p>January 7, 2022: Notice of Proposed Penalty under Section 1140 of the Social Security Act issued.</p> <p>April 26, 2022: Notice of Imposition of Civil Monetary Penalty imposing a \$66,000 Civil Monetary Penalty via Default</p> <p>\$66,000 penalty imposed via default on April 26, 2022.</p>	Social Security Administration Office of the Inspector General	<p>Rebecca Rose <i>SSA OIG Press Officer</i> OIG.DCOM@ ssa.gov</p> <p>Jessica Stubbs <i>Deputy Counsel</i> OIG.1140@ssa.gov</p>
HFA Services LLC (d/b/a Call 48)	Civil Monetary Penalty Action under Section 1140 of the Social Security Act against HFA Services LLC (d/b/a Call 48).	<p>April 12, 2022: Notice of Section 1140 of the Social Security Act Inquiry and Subpoena issued.</p> <p>August 31, 2022: SSA OIG and HFA Services LLC enter into a Settlement Agreement; HFA Services LLC to pay a Civil Monetary Penalty in the amount of \$18,000.</p> <p>\$18,000 penalty imposed via Settlement Agreement on August 31, 2022.</p>	Social Security Administration Office of the Inspector General	<p>Rebecca Rose <i>SSA OIG Press Officer</i> OIG.DCOM@ ssa.gov</p> <p>Jessica Stubbs <i>Deputy Counsel</i> OIG.1140@ssa.gov</p>

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Smartzbiz Telecom	Civil Monetary Penalty Action under Section 1140 of the Social Security Act against Smartzbiz Telecom.	<p>April 19, 2022: Notice of Proposed Penalty under Section 1140 of the Social Security Act issued.</p> <p>June 15, 2022: Request for Hearing filed by Respondent with the Departmental Appeals Board, Civil Remedies Division.</p> <p>October 5, 2022: SSA OIG and Smartzbiz Telecom enter into a Settlement Agreement; Smartzbiz Telecom to pay a Civil Monetary Penalty in the amount of \$18,000.</p> <p>October 12, 2022: Joint Motion to Dismiss Request for Hearing filed.</p> <p>October 13, 2022: Order Dismissing Case.</p> <p>\$18,000 penalty imposed via Settlement Agreement on October 12, 2022.</p>	Social Security Administration Office of the Inspector General	<p>Rebecca Rose <i>SSA OIG Press Officer</i> OIG.DCOM@ssa.gov</p> <p>Jessica Stubbs <i>Deputy Counsel</i> OIG.1140@ssa.gov</p>
KWK Communications, Inc.	Civil Monetary Penalty Action under Section 1140 of the Social Security Act against KWK Communications, Inc.	<p>April 12, 2022: Notice of Section 1140 of the Social Security Act Inquiry and Subpoena issued.</p> <p>November 18, 2022: SSA OIG and KWK Communications, Inc. enter into a Settlement Agreement; KWK Communications, Inc. to pay a Civil Monetary Penalty in the amount of \$7,500.</p> <p>\$7,500 penalty imposed via Settlement Agreement on November 18, 2022.</p>	Social Security Administration Office of the Inspector General	<p>Rebecca Rose <i>SSA OIG Press Officer</i> OIG.DCOM@ssa.gov</p> <p>Jessica Stubbs <i>Deputy Counsel</i> OIG.1140@ssa.gov</p>
Range, Inc. (d/b/a Range Telecom)	Civil Monetary Penalty Action under Section 1140 of the Social Security Act against Range, Inc. (d/b/a Range Telecom).	<p>April 12, 2022: Notice of Section 1140 of the Social Security Act Inquiry and Subpoena issued.</p> <p>November 29, 2022: SSA OIG and Range Telecom enter into a Settlement Agreement; Range Telecom to pay a Civil Monetary Penalty in the amount of \$16,000.</p> <p>\$16,000 penalty imposed via Settlement Agreement on November 29, 2022.</p>	Social Security Administration Office of the Inspector General	<p>Rebecca Rose <i>SSA OIG Press Officer</i> OIG.DCOM@ssa.gov</p> <p>Jessica Stubbs <i>Deputy Counsel</i> OIG.1140@ssa.gov</p>

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Dominic Bohnett (d/b/a TCA VoIP)	Civil Monetary Penalty Action under Section 1140 of the Social Security Act against Dominic Bohnett (d/b/a TCA VoIP).	<p>April 19, 2022: Notice of Proposed Penalty under Section 1140 of the Social Security Act issued.</p> <p>June 17, 2022: Request for Hearing filed by Respondent with the Departmental Appeals Board, Civil Remedies Division.</p> <p>November 30, 2022: SSA OIG and Dominic Bohnett enter into a Settlement Agreement; Dominic Bohnett to pay a Civil Monetary Penalty in the amount of \$12,500.</p> <p>December 1, 2022: Joint Motion to Dismiss Request for Hearing filed.</p> <p>December 2, 2022: Order Dismissing Case.</p> <p>\$12,500 penalty imposed via Settlement Agreement on November 30, 2022.</p>	Social Security Administration Office of the Inspector General	<p>Rebecca Rose <i>SSA OIG Press Officer</i> OIG.DCOM@ssa.gov</p> <p>Jessica Stubbs <i>Deputy Counsel</i> OIG.1140@ssa.gov</p>
iBasis, Inc.	Civil Monetary Penalty Action under Section 1140 of the Social Security Act against iBasis, Inc.	<p>July 19, 2022: Notice of Section 1140 of the Social Security Act Inquiry and Subpoena issued.</p> <p>December 2, 2022: SSA OIG and iBasis, Inc. enter into a Settlement Agreement; iBasis, Inc. to pay a Civil Monetary Penalty in the amount of \$20,000.</p> <p>\$20,000 penalty imposed via Settlement Agreement on December 2, 2022.</p>	Social Security Administration Office of the Inspector General	<p>Rebecca Rose <i>SSA OIG Press Officer</i> OIG.DCOM@ssa.gov</p> <p>Jessica Stubbs <i>Deputy Counsel</i> OIG.1140@ssa.gov</p>
IDT Corporation	Civil Monetary Penalty Action under Section 1140 of the Social Security Act against IDT Corporation.	<p>April 26, 2022: Notice of Section 1140 of the Social Security Act Inquiry and Subpoena issued.</p> <p>December 20, 2022: SSA OIG and IDT Corporation enter into a Settlement Agreement; IDT Corporation to pay a Civil Monetary Penalty in the amount of \$50,000.</p> <p>\$50,000 penalty imposed via Settlement Agreement on December 20, 2022.</p>	Social Security Administration Office of the Inspector General	<p>Rebecca Rose <i>SSA OIG Press Officer</i> OIG.DCOM@ssa.gov</p> <p>Jessica Stubbs <i>Deputy Counsel</i> OIG.1140@ssa.gov</p>

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Teleonus/Whisl Telecom, LLC	Civil Monetary Penalty Action under Section 1140 of the Social Security Act against Teleonus/Whisl Telecom, LLC.	April 12, 2022: Notice of Section 1140 of the Social Security Act Inquiry and Subpoena issued. January 13, 2023: SSA OIG and Teleonus enter into a Settlement Agreement; Teleonus to pay a Civil Monetary Penalty in the amount of \$18,000. \$18,000 penalty imposed via Settlement Agreement on January 13, 2023.	Social Security Administration Office of the Inspector General	Rebecca Rose <i>SSA OIG Press Officer</i> OIG.DCOM@ssa.gov Jessica Stubbs <i>Deputy Counsel</i> OIG.1140@ssa.gov
Hello Hello Miami, LLC	Civil Monetary Penalty Action under Section 1140 of the Social Security Act against Hello Hello Miami, LLC.	April 15, 2022: Notice of Section 1140 of the Social Security Act Inquiry and Subpoena issued. January 19, 2023: SSA OIG and Hello Hello Miami, LLC enter into a Settlement Agreement; Hello Hello Miami, LLC to pay a Civil Monetary Penalty in the amount of \$18,000. \$18,000 penalty imposed via Settlement Agreement on January 19, 2023.	Social Security Administration Office of the Inspector General	Rebecca Rose <i>SSA OIG Press Officer</i> OIG.DCOM@ssa.gov Jessica Stubbs <i>Deputy Counsel</i> OIG.1140@ssa.gov
Peerless Network	Civil Monetary Penalty Action under Section 1140 of the Social Security Act against Peerless Network.	July 19, 2022: Notice of Section 1140 of the Social Security Act Inquiry and Subpoena issued. January 24, 2023: SSA OIG and Peerless Network enter into a Settlement Agreement; Peerless Network to pay a Civil Monetary Penalty in the amount of \$12,000. \$12,000 penalty imposed via Settlement Agreement on January 24, 2023.	Social Security Administration Office of the Inspector General	Rebecca Rose <i>SSA OIG Press Officer</i> OIG.DCOM@ssa.gov Jessica Stubbs <i>Deputy Counsel</i> OIG.1140@ssa.gov
Impact Telecom/Matrix Telecom LLC d/b/a Vartec Telecom/Lingo (Impact Telecom)	Civil Monetary Penalty Action under Section 1140 of the Social Security Act against Impact Telecom/Matrix Telecom LLC d/b/a Vartec Telecom/Lingo (Impact Telecom).	April 12, 2022: Notice of Section 1140 of the Social Security Act Inquiry and Subpoena issued. January 31, 2023: SSA OIG and Impact Telecom enter into a Settlement Agreement; Impact Telecom to pay a Civil Monetary Penalty in the amount of \$20,000. \$20,000 penalty imposed via Settlement Agreement on January 31, 2023.	Social Security Administration Office of the Inspector General	Rebecca Rose <i>SSA OIG Press Officer</i> OIG.DCOM@ssa.gov Jessica Stubbs <i>Deputy Counsel</i> OIG.1140@ssa.gov

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Inteliquent, Inc.	Civil Monetary Penalty Action under Section 1140 of the Social Security Act against Inteliquent, Inc.	<p>April 12, 2022: Notice of Section 1140 of the Social Security Act Inquiry and Subpoena issued.</p> <p>January 31, 2023: SSA OIG and Inteliquent, Inc. enter into a Settlement Agreement; Inteliquent, Inc. to pay a Civil Monetary Penalty in the amount of \$20,184.</p> <p>\$20,184 penalty imposed via Settlement Agreement on January 31, 2023.</p>	Social Security Administration Office of the Inspector General	<p>Rebecca Rose SSA OIG Press Officer OIG.DCOM@ssa.gov</p> <p>Jessica Stubbs Deputy Counsel OIG.1140@ssa.gov</p>
All Access Telecom, Inc.	Civil Monetary Penalty Action under Section 1140 of the Social Security Act against All Access Telecom, Inc.	<p>August 1, 2022: Notice of Section 1140 of the Social Security Act Inquiry and Subpoena issued.</p> <p>February 2, 2023: SSA OIG and All Access Telecom, Inc. enter into a Settlement Agreement; All Access Telecom, Inc. to pay a Civil Monetary Penalty in the amount of \$4,000.</p> <p>\$4,000 penalty imposed via Settlement Agreement on February 2, 2023.</p>	Social Security Administration Office of the Inspector General	<p>Rebecca Rose SSA OIG Press Officer OIG.DCOM@ssa.gov</p> <p>Jessica Stubbs Deputy Counsel OIG.1140@ssa.gov</p>
NTC International, Inc.	Civil Monetary Penalty Action under Section 1140 of the Social Security Act against NTC International, Inc.	<p>April 12, 2022: Notice of Section 1140 of the Social Security Act Inquiry and Subpoena issued.</p> <p>February 6, 2023: SSA OIG and NTC International, Inc. enter into a Settlement Agreement; NTC International, Inc. to pay a Civil Monetary Penalty in the amount of \$8,300.</p> <p>\$8,300 penalty imposed via Settlement Agreement on February 6, 2023.</p>	Social Security Administration Office of the Inspector General	<p>Rebecca Rose SSA OIG Press Officer OIG.DCOM@ssa.gov</p> <p>Jessica Stubbs Deputy Counsel OIG.1140@ssa.gov</p>
Vodafone US	Civil Monetary Penalty Action under Section 1140 of the Social Security Act against Vodafone US.	<p>August 5, 2022: Notice of Section 1140 of the Social Security Act Inquiry and Subpoena issued.</p> <p>February 23, 2023: SSA OIG and Vodafone US enter into a Settlement Agreement; Vodafone US to pay a Civil Monetary Penalty in the amount of \$10,000.</p> <p>\$10,000 penalty imposed via Settlement Agreement on February 23, 2023.</p>	Social Security Administration Office of the Inspector General	<p>Rebecca Rose SSA OIG Press Officer OIG.DCOM@ssa.gov</p> <p>Jessica Stubbs Deputy Counsel OIG.1140@ssa.gov</p>

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Tellza Inc./Phonetime Inc./Matchcom Telecommunications Inc. (Tellza)	Civil Monetary Penalty Action under Section 1140 of the Social Security Act against Tellza Inc./Phonetime Inc./Matchcom Telecommunications Inc. (Tellza).	November 15, 2022: Notice of Section 1140 of the Social Security Act Inquiry and Subpoena issued. February 23, 2023: SSA OIG and Tellza enter into a Settlement Agreement; Tellza to pay a Civil Monetary Penalty in the amount of \$16,000. \$16,000 penalty imposed via Settlement Agreement on February 23, 2023.	Social Security Administration Office of the Inspector General	Rebecca Rose <i>SSA OIG Press Officer</i> OIG.DCOM@ssa.gov Jessica Stubbs <i>Deputy Counsel</i> OIG.1140@ssa.gov
AlkaIP Telecom LLC	Civil Monetary Penalty Action under Section 1140 of the Social Security Act against AlkaIP Telecom LLC.	November 2, 2022: Notice of Section 1140 of the Social Security Act Inquiry and Subpoena issued. March 21, 2023: SSA OIG and AlkaIP Telecom LLC enter into a Settlement Agreement; AlkaIP Telecom LLC to pay a Civil Monetary Penalty in the amount of \$19,000. \$19,000 penalty imposed via Settlement Agreement on March 21, 2023.	Social Security Administration Office of the Inspector General	Rebecca Rose <i>SSA OIG Press Officer</i> OIG.DCOM@ssa.gov Jessica Stubbs <i>Deputy Counsel</i> OIG.1140@ssa.gov
RSCoM Ltd./NGP Telecom LLC (RSCoM)	Civil Monetary Penalty Action under Section 1140 of the Social Security Act against RSCoM Ltd./NGP Telecom LLC (RSCoM).	November 2, 2022: Notice of Section 1140 of the Social Security Act Inquiry and Subpoena issued. April 6, 2023: SSA OIG and RSCoM Ltd. enter into a Settlement Agreement; RSCoM Ltd. to pay a Civil Monetary Penalty in the amount of \$16,000. \$16,000 penalty imposed via Settlement Agreement on April 6, 2023.	Social Security Administration Office of the Inspector General	Rebecca Rose <i>SSA OIG Press Officer</i> OIG.DCOM@ssa.gov Jessica Stubbs <i>Deputy Counsel</i> OIG.1140@ssa.gov
ComputerTel, Inc.	Civil Monetary Penalty Action under Section 1140 of the Social Security Act against ComputerTel, Inc.	August 1, 2022: Notice of Section 1140 of the Social Security Act Inquiry and Subpoena issued. April 3, 2023: SSA OIG and ComputerTel, Inc. enter into a Settlement Agreement; ComputerTel, Inc. to pay a Civil Monetary Penalty in the amount of \$8,000. \$8,000 penalty imposed via Settlement Agreement on April 3, 2023.	Social Security Administration Office of the Inspector General	Rebecca Rose <i>SSA OIG Press Officer</i> OIG.DCOM@ssa.gov Jessica Stubbs <i>Deputy Counsel</i> OIG.1140@ssa.gov

Matter Name Action Location	Type of Action	Date/Matter Information	Responsible Agency	Press Contact Staff Contact
VoIPStreet, Inc./VoIP Innovations	Civil Monetary Penalty Action under Section 1140 of the Social Security Act against VoIPStreet, Inc./VoIP Innovations.	<p>November 2, 2022: Notice of Section 1140 of the Social Security Act Inquiry and Subpoena issued.</p> <p>April 17, 2023: SSA OIG and VoIPStreet, Inc./VoIP Innovations enter into a Settlement Agreement; VoIPStreet, Inc./VoIP Innovations to pay a Civil Monetary Penalty in the amount of \$15,000.</p> <p>\$15,000 penalty imposed via Settlement Agreement on April 17, 2023.</p>	Social Security Administration Office of the Inspector General	<p>Rebecca Rose SSA OIG Press Officer OIG.DCOM@ssa.gov</p> <p>Jessica Stubbs Deputy Counsel OIG.1140@ssa.gov</p>

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UNITED STATES POSTAL INSPECTION SERVICE				
<i>United States Postal Inspection Service</i>	During the past year, the United States Postal Inspection Service continued to maintain a robust program issuing warning letters to unlicensed money transmitters (“money mules”) who facilitated telemarketing fraud with thousands of warning letters issued.			

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STATE ATTORNEYS GENERAL				
Anti-Robocall Multistate Litigation Task Force	Task Force Formation	<p>The Anti-Robocall Multistate Litigation Task Force is a 51-state-member collective, led by the Attorneys General of Indiana, North Carolina, and Ohio, which is focused on actively investigating and pursuing enforcement actions against various entities—currently, VoIP providers—in the robocall ecosystem that are identified as being responsible for significant volumes of illegal and fraudulent robocall traffic routed into and across the country.</p> <p>The Anti-Robocall Multistate Litigation Task Force consists of the 51 Attorneys General of Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia, Wisconsin, and Wyoming.</p> <p>August 2, 2022: Task Force formation announced.</p> <p>August 2, 2022 (sample state press release – Indiana): <i>Attorney General Todd Rokita Announces the Formation of a Nationwide Bipartisan Anti-Robocall Litigation Task Force</i></p> <p>https://events.in.gov/event/attorney_general_todd_rokita_announces_the_formation_of_a_nationwide_bipartisan_anti-robocall_litigation_task_force</p> <p>August 2, 2022 (sample state press release – North Carolina): <i>Attorney General Josh Stein Leads New Nationwide Anti-Robocall Litigation Task Force</i></p> <p>https://ncdoj.gov/attorney-general-josh-stein-leads-new-nationwide-anti-robocall-litigation-task-force/</p> <p>August 2, 2022 (sample state press release – Ohio): <i>Attorney General Yost Announces the Formation of National Anti-Robocall Litigation Task Force</i></p> <p>https://www.ohioattorneygeneral.gov/Media/News-Releases/August-2022/Attorney-General-Yost-Announces-the-Formation-of-N</p> <p>August 3, 2022 (sample national press): <i>US State Attorneys General Form Nationwide Anti-Robocalling Task Force</i></p>	<p>The Attorneys General of Indiana, North Carolina, and Ohio.</p>	<p>For Indiana: <i>Press Contact:</i> Benjamin Fearnow (317) 941-4355 benjamin.fearnow@atg.in.gov</p> <p><i>Staff Contact:</i> Joseph Yeoman (317) 234-1912 joseph.yeoman@atg.in.gov</p> <p>For North Carolina: <i>Press Contact:</i> Nazneen Ahmed (919) 716-0060 nahmed@ncdoj.gov</p> <p><i>Staff Contact:</i> Tracy Nayer (919) 716-6000 tnayer@ncdoj.gov</p> <p>For Ohio: <i>Press Contact:</i> Bethany McCorkle (614) 466-1339 Bethany.McCorkle@OhioAGO.gov</p> <p>Hannah Hundley (614) 728-7275 Hannah.Hundley@OhioAGO.gov</p> <p><i>Staff Contact:</i> For Ohio: Erin Leahy (614) 752-4730 Erin.Leahy@OhioAGO.gov</p>

Matter Name Action Location	Type of Action	Date/Matter Information	Responsible Agency	Press Contact Staff Contact
<p><i>Todd Rokita, Indiana Attorney General v. One Eye, LLC</i></p> <p>Marion County Superior Court, State of Indiana</p> <p>Cause No. 49D03-2211-MI-037723</p>	<p>Petition to Enforce Civil Investigative Demand on behalf of the Anti-Robocall Multistate Litigation Task Force</p>	<p>https://www.pcmag.com/news/us-state-attorneys-general-form-nationwide-anti-robocalling-task-force</p> <p>On behalf of the Anti-Robocall Multistate Litigation Task Force, the Attorney General of Indiana filed a petition to enforce the Civil Investigative Demand issued in August 2022 to One Eye, LLC.</p> <p>November 1, 2022: Verified Petition to Enforce Civil Investigative Demand</p> <p>https://content.govdelivery.com/attachments/INAG/2022/11/01/file_attachments/2315944/One%20Eye-%20Petition%20to%20Enforce%20-%201.pdf</p> <p>May 31, 2023: The Court ordered that One Eye, LLC, its ownership group, and its successive company One Owl Telecom Inc. stop transmitting calls to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Phone numbers on the National Do Not Call Registry; • Phone numbers on the Indiana Do Not Call List. • Phone numbers with an Indiana Area Code; and • Indiana Residents. <p>Copy of Court Order:</p> <p>https://ncdoj.sharefile.com/d-s18b04f3f99de4f5780d19665127e876c</p>	<p>The Attorney General of Indiana on behalf of the Anti-Robocall Multistate Litigation Task Force.</p>	<p>For Indiana: <i>Press Contact:</i> Benjamin Fearnow (317) 941-4355 benjamin.fearnow@atg.in.gov</p> <p><i>Staff Contact:</i> Joseph Yeoman (317) 234-1912 joseph.yeoman@atg.in.gov</p>
<p><i>Todd Rokita, Indiana Attorney General v. Michael D. Lansky, LLC d/b/a Avid Telecom</i></p> <p>Marion County Superior Court, State of Indiana</p> <p>Cause No. 49D02-2211-MI-037726</p>	<p>Petition to Enforce Civil Investigative Demand on behalf of the Anti-Robocall Multistate Litigation Task Force</p>	<p>On behalf of the Anti-Robocall Multistate Litigation Task Force, the Attorney General of Indiana filed a petition to enforce the Civil Investigative Demand issued in August 2022 to Michael D. Lansky, LLC d/b/a Avid Telecom.</p> <p>November 1, 2022: Verified Petition to Enforce Civil Investigative Demand</p> <p>https://content.govdelivery.com/attachments/INAG/2022/11/01/file_attachments/2315945/Avid-%20Petition%20to%20Enforce%20-%2011-1.pdf</p> <p>March 2023: Petition against Avid Telecom voluntarily withdrawn. (See multistate enforcement action against Michael D. Lansky, LLC d/b/a Avid Telecom for continued action on this target below.)</p>	<p>The Attorney General of Indiana on behalf of the Anti-Robocall Multistate Litigation Task Force.</p>	<p>For Indiana: <i>Press Contact:</i> Benjamin Fearnow (317) 941-4355 benjamin.fearnow@atg.in.gov</p> <p><i>Staff Contact:</i> Joseph Yeoman (317) 234-1912 joseph.yeoman@atg.in.gov</p>

<p><i>State of Texas, et. al. v Rising Eagle Capital Group, LLC, et al.</i></p> <p>United States District Court Southern District of Texas Case No. 4:20-cv-2021</p>	<p>Civil Lawsuit</p>	<p>Multistate civil lawsuit filed in U.S. District Court in the Southern District of Texas by the eight Attorneys General of Texas, Arkansas, Indiana, Michigan, Missouri, North Carolina, North Dakota, and Ohio.</p> <p>Complaint alleged violations of the Telephone Consumer Protection Act, the Telemarketing Sales Rule and certain state laws.</p> <p>The case has been resolved as to 5 of 8 defendants; the case remains pending against the following three remaining defendants: Health Advisors of America, Inc., Michael T. Smith, and Scott Shapiro.</p> <p>The matter is currently calendared for trial in August 2023.</p> <p>June 9, 2020: Complaint filed.</p> <p>March 6, 2023: Stipulated Order for Permanent Injunction and Monetary Judgment Against John C. Spiller, II entered.</p> <p>https://www.ohioattorneygeneral.gov/Files/Briefing-Room/News-Releases/Consumer-Protection/Spiller.aspx</p> <p>March 6, 2023: Stipulated Order for Permanent Injunction and Monetary Judgment Against Jakob A. Mears entered.</p> <p>https://www.ohioattorneygeneral.gov/Files/Briefing-Room/News-Releases/Consumer-Protection/mears.aspx</p> <p>March 8, 2023 (sample national press): <i>Court-Ordered Plan Raises Guardrails to Prevent Robocalls</i></p> <p>https://transnexus.com/blog/2023/court-ordered-robocall-mitigation-plan/</p> <p>August 2023: Case against remaining defendants calendared for August 2023.</p>	<p>The Attorneys General of Texas, Arkansas, Indiana, Michigan, Missouri, North Carolina, North Dakota, and Ohio.</p>	<p>For Arkansas: <i>Press Contact:</i> Jeff LeMaster (501) 683-1532 jeff.lemaster@arkansasag.gov</p> <p>Ryan James (501) 682-8206 ryan.james@arkansasag.gov</p> <p><i>Staff Contact:</i> Amanda Wentz (501) 682-1178 Amanda.Wentz@ArkansasAG.gov</p> <p>For Indiana: <i>Press Contact:</i> Benjamin Fearnow (317) 941-4355 benjamin.fearnow@atg.in.gov</p> <p><i>Staff Contact:</i> Joseph Yeoman (317) 234-1912 joseph.yeoman@atg.in.gov</p> <p>For Michigan: <i>Press Contact:</i> Danny Wimmer (517) 335-7666 wimmerd2@michigan.gov</p> <p><i>Staff Contact:</i> Kathy Fitzgerald (517) 335-7632 fitzgeraldk@michigan.gov</p>
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				<p>For Texas: <i>Press Contact:</i> Paige Willey (512) 463-2100 Paige.willey@oag.texas.gov</p> <p><i>Staff Contact:</i> Wade Johnson (512) 463-2100 Wade.Johnson@oag.texas.gov</p>
<p>NAAG Robocall Technologies Working Group</p>	<p>Ongoing Working Group</p>	<p>The Robocall Technologies Working Group is a collective of 49 states, led by the Attorney General of North Carolina, formed through the National Association of Attorneys General, which is focused on learning and sharing information about the logistics, players, and processes in and of the robocall ecosystem, identifying and sharing resources and tools to analyze and understand the same concerning investigations of entities in this ecosystem, and focusing on collective efforts and opportunities for advocacy.</p> <p>The NAAG Robocall Technologies Working Group consists of the 49 Attorneys General of Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Connecticut, District of Columbia, Delaware, Florida, Hawaii, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia, Wisconsin, and Wyoming.</p>	<p>The Attorney General of North Carolina.</p>	<p>For North Carolina: <i>Press Contact:</i> Nazneen Ahmed, (919) 716-0060 nahmed@ncdoj.gov</p> <p><i>Staff Contact:</i> Tracy Nayer (919) 716-6000 tnayer@ncdoj.gov</p>
<p><i>State of Arizona, et al., v. Michael D. Lansky, L.L.C., dba Avid Telecom, et al.</i></p> <p>United States District Court District of Arizona Case No. 4:23-cv-233-EJM</p>	<p>Civil Lawsuit</p>	<p>Multistate Civil Lawsuit filed in U.S. District Court in Arizona by 49 Attorneys General.</p> <p>Plaintiffs led by the Attorneys General of Arizona, Indiana, North Carolina, and Ohio.</p> <p>Complaint alleged violations of the Telephone Consumer Protection Act, the Telemarketing Sales Rule and various state telephone privacy and telemarketing laws.</p> <p>This was the first enforcement action that arose out of the investigative efforts of the 51-member Anti-Robocall Multistate Litigation Task Force.</p> <p>May 23, 2023: Complaint and Demand for Jury Trial filed.</p> <p>https://ncdoj.sharefile.com/share/view/sa41853ef76854db08d736e01aacb18a5</p>	<p>The Attorneys General of Arizona, Indiana, North Carolina, and Ohio.</p>	<p>For Arizona: <i>Press Contact:</i> Richie Taylor (602) 542-7080 richie.taylor@azag.gov</p> <p><i>Staff Contact:</i> Laura Dilweg (602) 542-3725 laura.dilweg@azag.gov</p>

May 24, 2023 (sample national press): *Telecom Company Sued by Nearly Every State Over Billions of Robocalls*

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/business/2023/05/24/avid-telecom-robocalls-lawsuit/>

Nearly Every State and D.C. Sue Telecom Company Over Billions of Robocalls

<https://www.cbsnews.com/news/robocalls-lawsuit-avid-telecom-nearly-every-us-state-sues/>

Company That Allegedly Sent Billions of Robocalls Sued by 49 Attorneys General

<https://www.cnn.com/2023/05/23/business/robocall-lawsuit/index.html>

Nearly 50 State AGs Sue Company That Allegedly Facilitated Billions of Spam Calls

<https://www.cnbc.com/2023/05/23/avid-telecom-facilitated-billions-of-spam-calls-state-ags-allege.html>

Plaintiffs are the 49 Attorneys General of Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Connecticut, District of Columbia, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia, Wisconsin, and Wyoming.

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<p>Reply Comments of Fifty-One (51) State Attorneys General, <i>Advanced Methods to Target and Eliminate Unlawful Robocalls</i>, CG Docket No. 17-59, <i>Call Authentication Trust Anchor</i>, WC Docket No. 17-97 (Sept. 16, 2022)</p>	<p>Reply Comments</p>	<p>Reply Comments supporting the Federal Communication Commission’s proposals to expand obligations to implement STIR/SHAKEN authentication protocols and specific mitigation efforts to all domestic intermediate providers.</p> <p>September 16, 2022: Reply Comments of Fifty-One (51) State Attorneys General</p> <p>https://www.fcc.gov/ecfs/document/10916815405552/1</p> <p>Signatories are the 51 Attorneys General of Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia, Wisconsin, and Wyoming.</p>	<p>The Attorneys General of Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia, Wisconsin, and</p>	<p>For North Carolina: <i>Press Contact:</i> Nazneen Ahmed (919) 716-0060 nahmed@ncdoj.gov</p> <p><i>Staff Contact:</i> Tracy Nayer (919) 716-6000 tnayer@ncdoj.gov</p>
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<p>Reply Comments of Fifty-One (51) State Attorneys General, Targeting and Eliminating Unlawful Text Messages, CG Docket No. 21-402 (Dec. 9, 2022)</p>	<p>Reply Comments</p>	<p>Reply Comments supporting the Federal Communication Commission’s proposals to require mobile wireless providers to block illegal text messages at the network level for those messages that purport to be from invalid, unallocated, or unused numbers, or from numbers on a Do-Not-Originate list.</p> <p>December 9, 2022: Reply Comments of Fifty-One (51) State Attorneys General</p> <p>https://www.fcc.gov/ecfs/document/1209491030675/1</p> <p>Signatories are the 51 Attorneys General of Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia, Wisconsin, and Wyoming.</p>	<p>Wyoming.</p> <p>The Attorneys General of Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, Washington,</p>	<p>For Arkansas: <i>Press Contact:</i> Jeff LeMaster (501) 683-1532 jeff.lemaster@ArkansasAG.gov</p> <p>Ryan James (501) 682-8206 ryan.james@ArkansasAG.gov</p> <p><i>Staff Contact:</i> Amanda Wentz (501) 682-1178 Amanda.Wentz@ArkansasAG.gov</p> <p>For North Carolina: <i>Press Contact:</i> Nazneen Ahmed (919) 716-0060 nahmed@ncdoj.gov</p> <p><i>Staff Contact:</i> Tracy Nayer (919) 716-6000 tnayer@ncdoj.gov</p> <p>For Pennsylvania: <i>Press Contact:</i> Brett Hambright (717) 772-2995 bhambright@attorneygeneral.gov</p> <p><i>Staff Contact:</i> Brandon Bingle (814) 878-5858 bbingle@attorneygeneral.gov</p>
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			West Virginia, Wisconsin, and Wyoming.	
<p>Reply Comments of 28 State Attorneys General, Targeting and Eliminating Unlawful Text Messages, CG Docket No. 21-402, Rules and Regulations Implementing the Telephone Consumer Protection Act of 1991, CG Docket No. 02-278 (June 6, 2023)</p>	<p>Reply Comments</p>	<p>Reply comments to the Federal Communications Commission recommending the clarification of rules concerning “prior express written consent” and supporting the improvement of consumer protections against unwanted text messages.</p> <p>June 6, 2023: Reply Comments of 28 State Attorneys General</p> <p>https://www.fcc.gov/ecfs/document/10606132348343/1</p> <p>Signatories are the Attorneys General of Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Connecticut, District of Columbia, Illinois, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, New Hampshire (added after filing), New Jersey, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Tennessee, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, Wisconsin, and Wyoming.</p>	<p>The Attorneys General of Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Connecticut, District of Columbia, Illinois, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, New Hampshire (added after filing), New Jersey, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Tennessee, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, Wisconsin, and Wyoming.</p>	<p>For Ohio: <i>Press Contact:</i> Bethany McCorkle (614) 466-1339 Bethany.McCorkle@OhioAGO.gov</p> <p>Hannah Hundley (614) 728-7275 Hannah.Hundley@OhioAGO.gov</p> <p><i>Staff Contact:</i> Erin Leahy (614) 752-4730 Erin.Leahy@OhioAGO.gov</p> <p>For Pennsylvania: <i>Press Contact:</i> Brett Hambright (717) 772-2995 bhambright@attorneygeneral.gov</p> <p><i>Staff Contact:</i> Brandon Bingle (814) 878-5858 bbingle@attorneygeneral.gov</p>

<p>Comments of 43 State Attorneys General, Telemarketing Sales Rule (16 C.F.R. Part 310—NPRM), Project No. R411001, Comment ID FTC-2022-0034-0020</p>	<p>Comments</p>	<p>Comments supporting the Federal Trade Commission’s proposals to amend the Telemarketing Sales Rule in order to protect consumers and small businesses from abusive and/or deceptive telemarketing practices by requiring telemarketers and sellers to, among other things, maintain additional records of their telemarketing activities.</p> <p>August 2, 2022: Comments</p> <p>https://downloads.regulations.gov/FTC-2022-0034-0020/attachment_1.pdf</p> <p>Signatories are the 43 Attorneys General of Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Connecticut, District of Columbia, Delaware, Georgia, Hawaii, Idaho, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, Wisconsin, and Wyoming.</p>	<p>The Attorneys General of Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Connecticut, District of Columbia, Delaware, Georgia, Hawaii, Idaho, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, Wisconsin, and Wyoming.</p>	<p>For North Carolina: <i>Press Contact:</i> Nazneen Ahmed (919) 716-0060 nahmed@ncdoj.gov</p> <p><i>Staff Contact:</i> Tracy Nayer (919) 716-6000 tnayer@ncdoj.gov</p> <p>For Ohio: <i>Press Contact:</i> Bethany McCorkle (614) 466-1339 Bethany.McCorkle@OhioAGO.gov</p> <p>Hannah Hundley (614) 728-7275 Hannah.Hundley@OhioAGO.gov</p> <p><i>Staff Contact:</i> Erin Leahy (614) 752-4730 Erin.Leahy@OhioAGO.gov</p> <p>For Pennsylvania: <i>Press Contact:</i> Brett Hambright (717) 772-2995 bhambright@attorneygeneral.gov</p> <p><i>Staff Contact:</i> Brandon Bingle (814) 878-5858 bbingle@attorneygeneral.gov</p>
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Matter Name Action Location	Type of Action	Date/Matter Information	Responsible Agency	Press Contact Staff Contact
ADDITIONAL STATE ACTIONS AND EVENTS				
ALABAMA				
Alabama Attorney General's Office Non-public matter.	Non-public Investigation	Investigation into potentially illegal robocalls being routed into the State of Alabama.	Alabama Attorney General's Office	<i>Press Contact:</i> Amanda Priest <i>Communications Director</i> (334) 322-5694 Amanda.Priest@AlabamaAG.gov <i>Consumer Education:</i> Bryan Hilton (334) 242-7320 Bryan.Hilton@AlabamaAG.gov <i>Staff Contact:</i> Lindsay S. Dawson (334) 353-2609 Lindsay.Dawson@AlabamaAG.gov
ARIZONA				
<i>United States and State of Arizona v. Vision Solar LLC, et al.</i> United States District Court District of Arizona Case No. 2:23-cv-01387-DGC	Civil Lawsuit	July 14, 2023: Complaint for Permanent Injunction, Civil Penalties, and Other Relief and Demand for Jury Trial filed. July 14, 2023: Joint Motion for Entry of Stipulated Order for Permanent Injunction, Civil Penalty Judgment, and Other Relief as to Defendants Solar Xchange LLC and Mark Getts and Stipulated Order for Permanent Injunction, Civil Penalty Judgment, and Other Relief as to Defendants Solar Xchange LLC and Mark Getts filed. Case pending (as to Defendant Vision Solar LLC).	Arizona Attorney General's Office, Federal Trade Commission, and U.S. Department of Justice	<i>Press Contact:</i> Richie Taylor (602) 542-7080 richie.taylor@azag.gov <i>Staff Contact:</i> Laura Dilweg (602) 542-3725 laura.dilweg@azag.gov

Matter Name Action Location	Type of Action	Date/Matter Information	Responsible Agency	Press Contact Staff Contact
CALIFORNIA				
<p><i>People v. Zovio, Inc. et al.</i></p> <p>Superior Court of the State of California, County of San Diego</p> <p>Case No. 37-2018-00046134-CU-MC-CTL</p> <p>San Diego, California</p>	<p>Appeal of civil enforcement action.</p>	<p>Following a five-week trial, a state court sided with California finding that sales agents from the fraudulent, for-profit Ashford University (now, The University of Arizona Global Campus) made hundreds of thousands of false and misleading telemarketing statements to prospective students. The court’s judgment imposes over \$22 million in civil penalties for violations of California’s Unfair Competition Law. On June 8, 2022, Defendants appealed.</p> <p>March 7, 2022: <i>Attorney General Bonta: Ashford University Must Pay \$22 Million in Penalties for Defrauding California Students</i></p> <p>http://oag.ca.gov/news/press-releases/attorney-general-bonta-ashford-university-must-pay-22-million-penalties</p> <p>Appeal currently pending.</p>	<p>California Attorney General’s Office</p>	<p>Walter Garcia <i>Media Relations Manager</i> California Department of Justice (213) 269-6134 Walter.Garcia@doj.ca.gov</p>
<p><i>People v. Four Individuals Associated with Student Loan Relief Department</i></p> <p>Los Angeles, California</p>	<p>Criminal prosecution and plea.</p>	<p>California criminally charged four individuals with running a boiler room that preyed on borrowers struggling to repay their student loans. Defendants’ scheme relied on repeated telephonic solicitations to distressed borrowers to convince them to sign up for costly, but worthless, loan-payment reduction plans. Defendants pleaded guilty to various felony charges, including grand theft and unauthorized computer access, each serving custody and felony probation terms.</p> <p>December 6, 2021: <i>Attorney General Bonta Announces Sentencing for Student Loan Scam and Computer Crimes</i></p> <p>http://oag.ca.gov/news/press-releases/attorney-general-bonta-announces-sentencing-student-loan-scam-and-computer</p> <p>Formal probation completed May 8, 2023.</p>	<p>California Attorney General’s Office</p>	<p>Walter Garcia <i>Media Relations Manager</i> California Department of Justice (213) 269-6134 Walter.Garcia@doj.ca.gov</p>
<p><i>People v. Curacao, et al.</i></p> <p>Superior Court of the State of California, County of Los Angeles</p> <p>Case No. BC680425</p> <p>Los Angeles, California</p>	<p>Judgment in civil enforcement action.</p>	<p>Following a four-week trial, a state court sided with California finding that a Southern California retailer and its owner solicited and telemarketed illegal insurance through unlicensed, unqualified salespeople. The court’s judgment imposes nearly \$8 million in civil penalties for violations of California’s Unfair Competition Law.</p> <p>February 1, 2023: <i>Attorney General Bonta Secures Court Decision Against Los Angeles Retail Chain for Defrauding Customers</i></p> <p>http://oag.ca.gov/news/press-releases/attorney-general-bonta-secures-court-decision-against-los-angeles-retail-chain</p> <p>Judgment entered January 30, 2023.</p>	<p>California Attorney General’s Office</p>	<p>Walter Garcia <i>Media Relations Manager</i> California Department of Justice (213) 269-6134 Walter.Garcia@doj.ca.gov</p>

Matter Name Action Location	Type of Action	Date/Matter Information	Responsible Agency	Press Contact Staff Contact
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA				
District of Columbia Office of the Attorney General (OAG) Consumer Mediation Program	Consumer Mediation Program	<p>OAG’s Consumer Mediation Program is a free service that helps consumers that have been taken advantage of by a business or landlord. OAG’s Office of Consumer Protection (OCP) mediates consumer complaints when the consumer is a DC resident, or when the business or landlord is located or headquartered in DC. The program can help mediate a wide variety of consumer issues—ranging from billing disputes, to disputes with landlords about security deposits and building amenities, to disputes with home improvement contractors about prices and performance, as well as financial scams and identity theft. OCP has been mediating consumer complaints since 2006.</p> <p>OAG helps consumers that have been scammed by unwanted calls, text messages, and emails through its Consumer Mediation Program. OAG helps consumers try to recover money that was fraudulently transferred to scammers, helps consumers sign up for the Do Not Call Registry, and provides community education about spotting scams, stopping scams, and reporting scams.</p> <p>Consumers interested in submitting a complaint with the mediation program can do so by submitting a complaint online at https://oag.dc.gov/consumer-protection. If you are unable to file your complaint online, or need assistance, please call OAG’s Consumer Complaint Hotline at (202) 442-9828.</p>	District of Columbia Attorney General’s Office	<p><i>Press Secretaries:</i> Gabriel Showglow-Rubenstein gabriel.showglow-rubenstein@dc.gov</p> <p>Marrisa Geller marrisa.geller@dc.gov</p> <p><i>Staff Contact:</i> Emily Barth (202) 741-0764 emily.barth@dc.gov</p> <p>OAG Comms OAGcomms@dc.gov</p>
FLORIDA				
Office of the Attorney General, State of Florida, Department of Legal Affairs v. Smartbiz Telecom LLC United States District Court Southern District of Florida Case No. 1:22-cv-23945	Civil Lawsuit: Alleged violations of the Telemarketing Sales Rule, Telephone Consumer Protection Act, and Florida’s Deceptive and Unfair Trade Practice Act.	Smartbiz, operating as a Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP) telephone service, transmitted obviously fraudulent phone traffic, such as calls purporting to be from 911, and profited from illegal scam messages. December 5, 2022: Complaint filed. https://www.myfloridalegal.com/files/pdf/page/DE8589ADA8B9DB738525890F0055D5DA/Web+Link.pdf December 5, 2022: <i>Court Action Against Company Sending Robocalls</i> https://www.myfloridalegal.com/newsrelease/court-action-against-company-sending-robocalls	Florida Attorney General’s Office	<p><i>Press Contact:</i> Whitney Ray (850) 245-0150 Whitney.Ray@myfloridalegal.com</p> <p>Kylie Mason (850) 245-0150, Kylie.Mason@myfloridalegal.com</p> <p><i>Staff Contact:</i> Patrick Crotty <i>Senior Assistant Attorney General</i> (813) 287-7950 Patrick.Crotty@MyFloridaLegal.com</p>

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GEORGIA				
Georgia Attorney General's Office, Consumer Protection Division	Consumer Education and Outreach	September 20, 2021: <i>Attorney General Chris Carr Provides Update on Fight Against Robocalls</i> https://law.georgia.gov/press-releases/2021-09-20/attorney-general-chris-carr-provides-update-fight-against-robocalls	Georgia Attorney General's Office, Consumer Protection Division	Press Contact: Kara Richardson (404) 458-3225 kmrichardson@law.ga.gov
Georgia Attorney General's Office, Consumer Protection Division	Consumer Education and Outreach	November 16, 2022: <i>CONSUMER ALERT: AG Carr and the Better Business Bureau Warn Georgians Not to Fall for a Utility Scam</i> https://consumer.georgia.gov/press-releases/2022-11-16/consumer-alert-ag-carr-and-better-business-bureau-warn-georgians-not-fall	Georgia Attorney General's Office, Consumer Protection Division	Press Contact: Kara Richardson (404) 458-3225 kmrichardson@law.ga.gov
Georgia Attorney General's Office, Consumer Protection Division	Consumer Education and Outreach	January 31, 2022: <i>Governor Kemp, Attorney General Carr, and the Georgia Department of Revenue Highlight Identity Theft Awareness Week</i> https://consumer.georgia.gov/press-releases/2022-01-31/governor-kemp-attorney-general-carr-and-georgia-department-revenue	Georgia Attorney General's Office, Consumer Protection Division	Press Contact: Kara Richardson (404) 458-3225 kmrichardson@law.ga.gov
Georgia Attorney General's Office, Consumer Protection Division	Consumer Education and Outreach	Web Article: <i>What to Do if You've Lost Money in a Scam</i> https://consumer.georgia.gov/scams-what-do-if-youve-lost-money-scam	Georgia Attorney General's Office, Consumer Protection Division	Press Contact: Kara Richardson (404) 458-3225 kmrichardson@law.ga.gov
Evergreen Publishing Group LLC, Readers Services, Inc. and, Chris Sidhilall	Settlement	March 8, 2022: <i>Carr Announces Settlement with Former Telemarketing Companies and Owner</i> https://consumer.georgia.gov/press-releases/2022-03-08/carr-announces-settlement-former-telemarketing-companies-and-owner	Georgia Attorney General's Office, Consumer Protection Division	Press Contact: Kara Richardson (404) 458-3225 kmrichardson@law.ga.gov

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IDAHO				
Idaho Attorney General's Office	Consumer Education and Outreach	<p>Attorney General warns Idahoans about robocalls regarding the federal Employee Retention Credit.</p> <p>April 10, 2023: <i>Consumer Alert: Tax Scams and Related Robocalls</i></p> <p>https://www.ag.idaho.gov/newsroom/consumer-alert-tax-scams-and-related-robocalls/</p>	Idaho Attorney General's Office	<p><i>Press Contact:</i> Emily Kleinworth (208) 334-2400 emily.kleinworth@ag.idaho.gov</p> <p><i>Staff Contact:</i> Stephanie N. Guyon Deputy Attorney General (208) 334-4135 stephanie.guyon@ag.idaho.gov</p>
INDIANA				
<i>State of Indiana v. Greg Sheppard d/b/a Allstate, et al.</i>	Civil Lawsuit	<p>February 25, 2020: The State of Indiana filed action against Greg Sheppard regarding robocalls sent to Hoosiers on the Indiana Do Not Call List.</p> <p>In April of 2023, the parties settled the matter via a consent decree. The settlement included a judgment of \$30,000 and other injunctive terms.</p> <p>April 25, 2023: Settlement entered and case closed.</p>	Indiana Attorney General's Office	<p><i>Press Contact:</i> Benjamin Fearnow (317) 941-4355 benjamin.fearnow@atg.in.gov</p> <p><i>Staff Contact:</i> Joseph Yeoman (317) 234-1912 joseph.yeoman@atg.in.gov</p>
<i>State of Indiana v. Startel Communication LLC, et al.</i> United States District Court Southern District of Indiana Case No. 3:21-cv-00150	Civil Lawsuit	<p>October 14, 2021: The State of Indiana filed an action against Startel Communication LLC, Wanda Hall, Abhijit Chowdhury, Piratel LLC, and Rapid Eagle Inc. dba VoIP Essential Inc. for allegedly violating the Telemarketing Sales Rule and various Indiana telephone privacy laws.</p> <p>As of April 2023, Indiana has settled with Startel Communication LLC, Wanda Hall, Piratel LLC, and Rapid Eagle Inc. dba VoIP Essential Inc. These settlements included a civil penalty and injunctive terms.</p> <p>All settlements filed before April 25, 2023. Sample press releases:</p> <p>October 14, 2021: <i>Attorney General Todd Rokita Files Lawsuit Against Alleged Robocalling Scammers</i></p>		<p><i>Press Contact:</i> Benjamin Fearnow (317) 941-4355 benjamin.fearnow@atg.in.gov</p> <p><i>Staff Contact:</i> Joseph Yeoman (317) 234-1912 joseph.yeoman@atg.in.gov</p>

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		<p>https://events.in.gov/event/attorney_general_todd_rokita_files_lawsuit_against_alleged_robotcalling_scammers</p> <p>March 30, 2022: Attorney General Todd Rokita Wins Historic Settlement to Combat Robocalls (Piratel Settlement)</p> <p>https://events.in.gov/event/attorney_general_todd_rokita_wins_historic_settlement_to_combat_robotcalls</p> <p>September 22, 2022: Attorney General Todd Rokita Wins Significant Victory as He Continues Fight Against Robocallers (Motion to Dismiss win)</p> <p>https://events.in.gov/event/attorney_general_todd_rokita_wins_significant_victory_as_he_continues_fight_against_robotcallers</p> <p>March 30, 2022: Attorney General Todd Rokita Wins Historic Settlement to Combat Robocalls (Startel Settlement)</p> <p>https://events.in.gov/event/attorney_general_todd_rokita_wins_historic_settlement_to_combat_robotcalls</p>		
MAINE				
<p>LD 396, An Act to Preserve the 207 Area Code and Impede So-called Robocalling</p>	<p>Implementation of LD 396</p>	<p>June 8, 2023: Approved LD 396, An Act to Preserve the 207 Area Code and Impede So-called Robocalling</p> <p>http://www.mainelegislature.org/legis/bills/getPDF.asp?paper=HP0247&item=3&snum=131</p> <p>June 27, 2023: Maine Law to Reduce Robocalling and Help Preserve Single Area Code</p> <p>https://www.maine.gov/tools/whatsnew/index.php?topic=puc-pressreleases&id=11346505&v=article088</p> <p>Implementation of LD 396 will take effect 90 days following the end of the 131st Maine Legislature. (Expected early October 2023.)</p>	<p>Maine Public Utilities Commission</p>	<p>Press Contact: Harry Lanphear Administrative Director (207) 557-3704 harry.lanphear@maine.gov</p> <p>Staff Contact: Michael Johnson (207) 287-1572 Michael.r.johnson@maine.gov</p>

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MICHIGAN				
<p><i>People of the State of Michigan v. John Macauley Burkman and Jacob Alexander Wohl</i></p> <p>Wayne County Circuit Court No. 20-004636-01-FH Michigan Supreme Court No. 164638</p>	<p>Criminal Felony Charges</p>	<p>Defendants Burkman and Wohl are charged with using a robocall message in an attempt to deter persons of color from voting in the 2020 General Election; in violation of the Michigan voter-suppression law, MCL 168.932(a); a five-year felony, and other related charges.</p> <p>In June 2022, the Michigan Court of Appeals denied Defendants’ efforts to dismiss the charges on the bases that their robocall message was outside the scope of the voter suppression statute and their recorded message was constitutionally protected by the First Amendment; affirming the lower court ruling in favor of the People of the State of Michigan.</p> <p>October 1, 2020: <i>AG Nessel Files Felony Charges Against Jack Burkman, Jacob Wohl in Voter-Suppression Robocalls Investigation</i></p> <p>https://www.michigan.gov/ag/news/press-releases/2020/10/01/ag-nessel-files-felony-charges-against-jack-burkman-jacob-wohl</p> <p>November 2, 2022: The Michigan Supreme Court granted Defendants’ application for leave to appeal. A date for oral argument has not been set.</p>	<p>Michigan Attorney General’s Office</p>	<p><i>Press Contact:</i> Danny Wimmer (517) 335-7666</p> <p><i>Staff Contact:</i> Danielle Hagaman-Clark (313) 456-0204</p>
<p>Michigan Attorney General’s Office</p>	<p>Education (Conference)</p> <p>2022 Robocall Summit in Detroit</p> <p>Conference on combatting robocalling co-hosted by Michigan Attorney General Nessel and Ohio Attorney General Yost for law enforcement and industry/public.</p>	<p>The second annual Robocall Summit was held in Detroit in July 2022. The conference provided educational materials to law enforcement and a separate public session addressing law enforcement/industry collaboration in combating robocalls.</p> <p>June 29, 2022: <i>AG Nessel, AG Yost to Host Second Robocall Summit with NAAG</i></p> <p>https://www.michigan.gov/ag/news/press-releases/2022/06/29/ag-nessel-ag-yost-to-host-second-robocall-summit-with-naag</p>	<p>Michigan Attorney General’s Office</p>	<p><i>Press Contact:</i> Danny Wimmer (517) 335-7666</p> <p><i>Staff Contact:</i> Kathy Fitzgerald (517) 335-7632</p>

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MINNESOTA				
Minnesota Attorney General's Office Scam Robocall Tracking and Tracing Initiative	Ongoing Project	The Office of the Minnesota Attorney General is engaged in an ongoing effort to track scam robocalls placed to Minnesotans and trace the calls back to their source in order to undertake and assist in anti-scam robocall law enforcement actions.	Minnesota Attorney General's Office	<i>Press Contact:</i> John Stiles (651) 296-2069 john.stiles@ag.state.mn.us <i>Staff Contact:</i> Bennett Hartz (651) 757-1235 bennett.hartz@ag.state.mn.us
NORTH CAROLINA				
North Carolina v. Articul8, LLC, and Paul K. Talbot United States District Court Middle District of North Carolina Case No. 1:22-cv-00058	Civil Lawsuit	Complaint filed in North Carolina federal court against Texas-based Gateway and Intermediate VoIP and its owner, claiming that Defendants assisted and facilitated violations of the federal Telemarketing Sales Rule and violated North Carolina's Unfair or Deceptive Trade Practices Act. January 25, 2022: Complaint for Injunctive Relief and Civil Penalties https://ncdoj.gov/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/FILED-Complaint_NC-v-Articul8_22-cv-00058-MDNC-2022.pdf January 25, 2022: <i>Attorney General Josh Stein Sues "Gateway" Phone Company for Facilitating Illegal International Scam Calls</i> https://ncdoj.gov/attorney-general-josh-stein-sues-gateway-phone-company-for-facilitating-illegal-international-scam-calls/ January 25, 2022: <i>Millions of Scams a Day: NC Robocalls Lawsuit Could Win Money for Victims</i> https://www.newsobserver.com/news/politics-government/article257705623.html February 28, 2022: Entry of Default. Matter is ongoing.	North Carolina Attorney General's Office	<i>Press Contact:</i> Nazneen Ahmed (919) 716-0060 nahmed@ncdoj.gov <i>Staff Contact:</i> Tracy Nayer (919) 716-6000 tnayer@ncdoj.gov

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OHIO				
<p><i>State of Ohio, ex rel. Attorney General Dave Yost v. Aaron Michael Jones; Roy Melvin Cox Jr.; Stacey Eunjin Yim; Julie Kathryn Bridge; June Ann Batista; Jovita Migdaris Ceden Luna; Livia Szuromi; Andrea Horvath; Technologic USA, Inc.; Technologic, Inc.; Connective MGMT Inc.; Virtual Telecom Inc.; Virtual Telecom Kft; Davis Telecom, Inc.; Davis Telecom, Inc.; Tech Direct LLC; Posting Express, Inc.; Sumco Panama USA; Sumco Panama SA.; Mobi Telecom LLC; Geist Telecom LLC; and Fugle Telecom LLC</i></p> <p>United States District Court Southern District of Ohio Case No. 2:22-cv-2700</p>	<p>Civil Lawsuit</p>	<p>July 7, 2022: Complaint filed alleging violations of Telephone Consumer Protection Act, Telemarketing Sales Rule, the Ohio Consumer Sales Practices Act and Ohio Telephone Solicitation Sales Act.</p> <p>Defendants include: Aaron Michael Jones, Roy M. Cox, Stacey Yim</p> <p>July 7, 2022: Complaint for Permanent Injunction, Damages and Other Equitable Relief</p> <p>https://www.ohioattorneygeneral.gov/Files/Briefing-Room/News-Releases/Time-Stamped-Complaint-22-CV-2700-State-of-Ohio-v.aspx</p> <p>July 7, 2022: <i>Yost Files Suit Alleging Massive Robocall Scheme - FCC Joins Fight in Related Action</i></p> <p>https://www.ohioattorneygeneral.gov/Media/News-Releases/July-2022/Yost-Files-Suit-Alleging-Massive-Robocall-Scheme-F</p> <p>Sampling of news coverage:</p> <p>July 25, 2022: <i>What Happens When Providers Don't Stop Robocalls</i></p> <p>https://transnexus.com/blog/2022/fcc-shuts-down-robocaller-and-providers/</p> <p>August 18, 2022: <i>A Monumental Case Looks to Crack Open the World of Auto-Warranty Robocalls</i></p> <p>https://www.cnn.com/2022/08/18/tech/auto-warranty-robocalls-case/index.html</p> <p>Case is pending.</p>	<p>Ohio Attorney General's Office, Consumer Protection Section</p>	<p><i>Press Contacts:</i> Bethany McCorkle (614) 466-1339 Bethany.McCorkle@OhioAGO.gov</p> <p>Hannah Hundley (614) 728-7275 Hannah.Hundley@OhioAGO.gov</p> <p><i>Staff Contacts:</i> Erin Leahy (614) 752-4730 Erin.Leahy@OhioAGO.gov</p> <p>Christopher Belmarez (614) 466-4455 Christopher.Belmarez@OhioAGO.gov</p>

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<p><i>In the Matter of: G4 Telecom, Inc., and Joe Putegnat</i></p> <p>Docket No. 599793</p>	<p>Assurance of Voluntary Compliance</p>	<p>Resolved alleged violations of the Telephone Consumer Protection Act, Telemarketing Sales Rule, the Ohio Consumer Sales Practices Act and R.C. 109.87 against a voice service provider and its owner.</p> <p>June 28, 2022: Assurance of Voluntary Compliance</p> <p>https://www.ohioattorneygeneral.gov/Files/Briefing-Room/News-Releases/Consumer-Protection/G4-Telecom-Inc-Assurance-Of-Voluntary-Compliance-(.aspx</p>	<p>Ohio Attorney General's Office, Consumer Protection Section</p>	<p><i>Press Contacts:</i> Bethany McCorkle (614) 466-1339 Bethany.McCorkle@OhioAGO.gov</p> <p>Hannah Hundley (614) 728-7275 Hannah.Hundley@OhioAGO.gov</p> <p><i>Staff Contacts:</i> Kevin Walsh (216) 787-3447 Kevin.Walsh@OhioAGO.gov</p> <p>Christopher Belmarez (614) 466-4455 Christopher.Belmarez@OhioAGO.gov</p>
<p><i>In the Matter of: Smithkey Auto Industries, LLC and Trevor Smith</i></p> <p>Docket No. 603845</p>	<p>Assurance of Voluntary Compliance</p>	<p>Resolved alleged violations of the Ohio Consumer Sales Practices Act, its substantive rules, Ohio Administrative Code, Telephone Solicitation Sales Act and the Telemarketing Sales Rule against a seller/administrator of vehicle service contracts and its owner.</p> <p>March 10, 2023: Assurance of Voluntary Compliance</p>	<p>Ohio Attorney General's Office, Consumer Protection Section</p>	<p><i>Press Contacts:</i> Bethany McCorkle (614) 466-1339 Bethany.McCorkle@OhioAGO.gov</p> <p>Hannah Hundley (614) 728-7275 Hannah.Hundley@OhioAGO.gov</p> <p><i>Staff Contact:</i> Lisa Treleven (513) 852-1527 Lisa.Treleven@OhioAGO.gov</p>

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<p><i>State of Ohio, ex rel. Attorney General Dave Yost v. Affordable Car Cure, Inc.</i></p> <p>Franklin County Court of Common Pleas Case No. 21-cv-6712</p>	<p>Civil Lawsuit</p>	<p>Complaint filed against seller of vehicle service contracts alleging violations of the Ohio Consumer Sales Practices Act, its substantive rules, the Ohio Administrative Code, and the Ohio Telephone Solicitation Sales Act.</p> <p>October 21, 2021: Complaint filed.</p> <p>June 9, 2023: Final Judgment filed.</p>	<p>Ohio Attorney General's Office, Consumer Protection Section</p>	<p><i>Press Contacts:</i> Bethany McCorkle (614) 466-1339 Bethany.McCorkle@OhioAGO.gov</p> <p>Hannah Hundley (614) 728-7275 Hannah.Hundley@OhioAGO.gov</p> <p><i>Staff Contact:</i> Christopher Ramdeen (614) 995-1577 Christopher.Ramdeen@OhioAGO.gov</p>
<p><i>State of Ohio, ex rel. Attorney General Dave Yost v Vehicle Protection Specialists, LLC d/b/a Vehicle Services Center</i></p> <p>Franklin County Court of Common Pleas Case No. 21-cv-6713</p>	<p>Civil Lawsuit</p>	<p>Complaint filed against seller of vehicle service contracts alleging violations of the Ohio Consumer Sales Practices Act, its substantive rules, the Ohio Administrative Code, and the Ohio Telephone Solicitation Sales Act.</p> <p>October 21, 2021: Complaint filed.</p> <p>May 16, 2023: Final Judgment filed.</p>	<p>Ohio Attorney General's Office, Consumer Protection Section</p>	<p><i>Press Contacts:</i> Bethany McCorkle (614) 466-1339 Bethany.McCorkle@OhioAGO.gov</p> <p>Hannah Hundley (614) 728-7275 Hannah.Hundley@OhioAGO.gov</p> <p><i>Staff Contact:</i> Christopher Ramdeen (614) 995-1577 Christopher.Ramdeen@OhioAGO.gov</p>

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<p><i>State of Ohio, ex rel. Attorney General Dave Yost v American Auto Repair Coverage, LLC.</i></p> <p>Franklin County Court of Common Pleas Case No. 21-cv-6716</p>	<p>Civil Lawsuit</p>	<p>Complaint filed against seller of vehicle service contracts alleging violations of the Ohio Consumer Sales Practices Act, its substantive rules, the Ohio Administrative Code, and the Ohio Telephone Solicitation Sales Act.</p> <p>October 21, 2021: Complaint filed.</p> <p>January 26, 2023: Final Judgment filed.</p>	<p>Ohio Attorney General's Office, Consumer Protection Section</p>	<p><i>Press Contacts:</i> Bethany McCorkle (614) 466-1339 Bethany.McCorkle@OhioAGO.gov</p> <p>Hannah Hundley (614) 728-7275 Hannah.Hundley@OhioAGO.gov</p> <p><i>Staff Contact:</i> Rosemary Rupert (614) 752-5548 Rosemary.Rupert@OhioAGO.gov</p>
<p><i>State of Ohio, ex rel. Attorney General Dave Yost v. Pelican Investment Holdings, LLC, Gustav C. Renny, Vajira Samararatne, Stacey E. Yim, Ronald D. Eddington, Jr., Joseph E. Hill, Jr., Dimension Service Corporation, Haytham H. Elzayn, Autoguard Advantage Corporation, National Administrative Service Co, LLC, Falcon Endeavors, and MB Holdings Group</i></p> <p>Franklin County Court of Common Pleas Case No. 23-cv-0047</p>	<p>Civil Lawsuit</p>	<p>Complaint filed against 12 associated defendants soliciting the sale of vehicle service contracts in violation of the Ohio Consumer Sales Practices Act and Ohio Telephone Solicitation Sales Act.</p> <p>January 4, 2023: Complaint and Request for Declaratory Judgment, Injunctive Relief, Civil Penalties, and Other Appropriate Relief filed.</p> <p>January 5, 2023: <i>AG Yost Slams the Door Shut on 'Car Warranty' Robocallers</i></p> <p>https://www.ohioattorneygeneral.gov/Media/News-Releases/January-2023/AG-Yost-Slams-the-Door-Shut-on-%E2%80%98Car-Warranty%E2%80%99-Robo</p> <p>January 6, 2023: <i>Ohio AG Cracks Down on 'Car Warranty' Robocallers</i></p> <p>https://www.whio.com/news/local/ohio-ag-cracks-down-car-warranty-robocallers/PEGK6DRFL5FALAHOAYT7ORAMHU/</p> <p>https://www.yahoo.com/lifestyle/ohio-ag-cracks-down-car-073406109.html</p> <p>Case is pending.</p>	<p>Ohio Attorney General's Office, Consumer Protection Section</p>	<p><i>Press Contacts:</i> Bethany McCorkle (614) 466-1339 Bethany.McCorkle@OhioAGO.gov</p> <p>Hannah Hundley (614) 728-7275 Hannah.Hundley@OhioAGO.gov</p> <p><i>Staff Contacts:</i> Lisa Treleven (513) 852-1527 Lisa.Treleven@OhioAGO.gov</p> <p>Kevin Walsh (216) 787-3447 Kevin.Walsh@OhioAGO.gov</p>

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<p>The National Association of Attorneys General Robocall Summit</p> <p>July 12-13, 2022 Detroit, Michigan</p>	<p>Education (Conference)</p> <p>2022 Robocall Summit in Detroit</p>	<p>To assist in combatting the scourge of robocalls, Ohio Attorney General Dave Yost and Michigan Attorney General Dana Nessel co-hosted the National Association of Attorneys General 2022 Robocall Summit in Detroit.</p> <p>The July 12-13 Summit included staff from attorneys general, federal agencies, and private sector stakeholders from across the country as well as the Industry Traceback Group and the National Consumer Law Center. The first day was limited to government agencies; and the second was open to public attendees.</p>	<p>National Association of Attorneys General and the Attorneys General for Michigan and Ohio</p>	<p><i>Press Contacts:</i> Bethany McCorkle (614) 466-1339 Bethany.McCorkle@OhioAGO.gov</p> <p>Hannah Hundley (614) 728-7275 Hannah.Hundley@OhioAGO.gov</p> <p><i>Staff Contact:</i> Erin Leahy (614) 752-4730 Erin.Leahy@OhioAGO.gov</p>
<p>REDACTED</p> <p>Owning Mills, Maryland</p>	<p>Warning Letter</p>	<p>Issuance of Warning Letter to a voice service provider facilitating suspected illegal robocalls into the State of Ohio for possible violations of the Telemarketing Sales Rule, Ohio Revised Code 109.87, and Ohio’s Telephone Solicitation Sales Act.</p> <p>June 28, 2022: <i>AG Yost Issues Warning to Companies Facilitating Potentially Illegal Robocalls</i></p> <p>https://www.ohioattorneygeneral.gov/Media/News-Releases/June-2022/AG-Yost-Issues-Warning-to-Companies-Facilitating-P</p>	<p>Ohio Attorney General’s Office, Consumer Protection Section</p>	<p><i>Press Contacts:</i> Bethany McCorkle (614) 466-1339 Bethany.McCorkle@OhioAGO.gov</p> <p>Hannah Hundley (614) 728-7275 Hannah.Hundley@OhioAGO.gov</p> <p><i>Staff Contact:</i> Erin Leahy (614) 752-4730 Erin.Leahy@OhioAGO.gov</p>

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<p>REDACTED</p> <p>Wilmington, Delaware</p>	<p>Warning Letter</p>	<p>Issuance of Warning Letter to a voice service provider facilitating suspected illegal robocalls into the State of Ohio for possible violations of the Telemarketing Sales Rule, Ohio Revised Code 109.87, and Ohio’s Telephone Solicitation Sales Act.</p> <p>June 28, 2022: <i>AG Yost Issues Warning to Companies Facilitating Potentially Illegal Robocalls</i></p> <p>https://www.ohioattorneygeneral.gov/Media/News-Releases/June-2022/AG-Yost-Issues-Warning-to-Companies-Facilitating-P</p>	<p>Ohio Attorney General’s Office, Consumer Protection Section</p>	<p><i>Press Contacts:</i> Bethany McCorkle (614) 466-1339 Bethany.McCorkle@OhioAGO.gov</p> <p>Hannah Hundley (614) 728-7275 Hannah.Hundley@OhioAGO.gov</p> <p><i>Staff Contact:</i> Erin Leahy (614) 752-4730 Erin.Leahy@OhioAGO.gov</p>
<p>REDACTED</p> <p>Owning Mills, Maryland</p>	<p>Warning Letter</p>	<p>Issuance of Warning Letter to a voice service provider facilitating suspected illegal robocalls into the State of Ohio for possible violations of the Telemarketing Sales Rule, Ohio Revised Code 109.87, and Ohio’s Telephone Solicitation Sales Act.</p> <p>June 28, 2022: <i>AG Yost Issues Warning to Companies Facilitating Potentially Illegal Robocalls</i></p> <p>https://www.ohioattorneygeneral.gov/Media/News-Releases/June-2022/AG-Yost-Issues-Warning-to-Companies-Facilitating-P</p>	<p>Ohio Attorney General’s Office, Consumer Protection Section</p>	<p><i>Press Contacts:</i> Bethany McCorkle (614) 466-1339 Bethany.McCorkle@OhioAGO.gov</p> <p>Hannah Hundley (614) 728-7275 Hannah.Hundley@OhioAGO.gov</p> <p><i>Staff Contact:</i> Erin Leahy (614) 752-4730 Erin.Leahy@OhioAGO.gov</p>

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<p>REDACTED</p> <p>Wilmington, Delaware</p>	<p>Warning Letter</p>	<p>Issuance of Warning Letter to a voice service provider facilitating suspected illegal robocalls into the State of Ohio for possible violations of the Telemarketing Sales Rule, Ohio Revised Code 109.87, and Ohio’s Telephone Solicitation Sales Act.</p> <p>June 28, 2022: <i>AG Yost Issues Warning to Companies Facilitating Potentially Illegal Robocalls</i></p> <p>https://www.ohioattorneygeneral.gov/Media/News-Releases/June-2022/AG-Yost-Issues-Warning-to-Companies-Facilitating-P</p>	<p>Ohio Attorney General’s Office, Consumer Protection Section</p>	<p><i>Press Contacts:</i> Bethany McCorkle (614) 466-1339 Bethany.McCorkle@OhioAGO.gov</p> <p>Hannah Hundley (614) 728-7275 Hannah.Hundley@OhioAGO.gov</p> <p><i>Staff Contact:</i> Erin Leahy (614) 752-4730 Erin.Leahy@OhioAGO.gov</p>
<p>REDACTED</p> <p>Lewes, Delaware</p>	<p>Warning Letter</p>	<p>Issuance of Warning Letter to a voice service provider facilitating suspected illegal robocalls into the State of Ohio for possible violations of the Telemarketing Sales Rule, Ohio Revised Code 109.87, and Ohio’s Telephone Solicitation Sales Act.</p> <p>June 28, 2022: <i>AG Yost Issues Warning to Companies Facilitating Potentially Illegal Robocalls</i></p> <p>https://www.ohioattorneygeneral.gov/Media/News-Releases/June-2022/AG-Yost-Issues-Warning-to-Companies-Facilitating-P</p>	<p>Ohio Attorney General’s Office, Consumer Protection Section</p>	<p><i>Press Contacts:</i> Bethany McCorkle (614) 466-1339 Bethany.McCorkle@OhioAGO.gov</p> <p>Hannah Hundley (614) 728-7275 Hannah.Hundley@OhioAGO.gov</p> <p><i>Staff Contact:</i> Erin Leahy (614) 752-4730 Erin.Leahy@OhioAGO.gov</p>

Matter Name Action Location	Type of Action	Date/Matter Information	Responsible Agency	Press Contact Staff Contact
<p>REDACTED</p> <p>Owning Mills, Maryland</p>	<p>Warning Letter</p>	<p>Issuance of Warning Letter to a voice service provider facilitating suspected illegal robocalls into the State of Ohio for possible violations of the Telemarketing Sales Rule, Ohio Revised Code 109.87, and Ohio’s Telephone Solicitation Sales Act.</p> <p>June 28, 2022: <i>AG Yost Issues Warning to Companies Facilitating Potentially Illegal Robocalls</i></p> <p>https://www.ohioattorneygeneral.gov/Media/News-Releases/June-2022/AG-Yost-Issues-Warning-to-Companies-Facilitating-P</p>	<p>Ohio Attorney General’s Office, Consumer Protection Section</p>	<p><i>Press Contacts:</i> Bethany McCorkle (614) 466-1339 Bethany.McCorkle@OhioAGO.gov</p> <p>Hannah Hundley (614) 728-7275 Hannah.Hundley@OhioAGO.gov</p> <p><i>Staff Contact:</i> Erin Leahy (614) 752-4730 Erin.Leahy@OhioAGO.gov</p>
<p>REDACTED</p> <p>Philadelphia, Pennsylvania</p>	<p>Warning Letter</p>	<p>Issuance of Warning Letter to a voice service provider facilitating suspected illegal robocalls into the State of Ohio for possible violations of the Telemarketing Sales Rule, Ohio Revised Code 109.87, and Ohio’s Telephone Solicitation Sales Act.</p> <p>June 28, 2022: <i>AG Yost Issues Warning to Companies Facilitating Potentially Illegal Robocalls</i></p> <p>https://www.ohioattorneygeneral.gov/Media/News-Releases/June-2022/AG-Yost-Issues-Warning-to-Companies-Facilitating-P</p>	<p>Ohio Attorney General’s Office, Consumer Protection Section</p>	<p><i>Press Contacts:</i> Bethany McCorkle (614) 466-1339 Bethany.McCorkle@OhioAGO.gov</p> <p>Hannah Hundley (614) 728-7275 Hannah.Hundley@OhioAGO.gov</p> <p><i>Staff Contact:</i> Erin Leahy (614) 752-4730 Erin.Leahy@OhioAGO.gov</p>

Matter Name Action Location	Type of Action	Date/Matter Information	Responsible Agency	Press Contact Staff Contact
<p>REDACTED</p> <p>Mililani, Hawaii</p>	<p>Warning Letter</p>	<p>Issuance of Warning Letter to a voice service provider facilitating suspected illegal robocalls into the State of Ohio for possible violations of the Telemarketing Sales Rule, Ohio Revised Code 109.87, and Ohio’s Telephone Solicitation Sales Act.</p> <p>June 28, 2022: <i>AG Yost Issues Warning to Companies Facilitating Potentially Illegal Robocalls</i></p> <p>https://www.ohioattorneygeneral.gov/Media/News-Releases/June-2022/AG-Yost-Issues-Warning-to-Companies-Facilitating-P</p>	<p>Ohio Attorney General’s Office, Consumer Protection Section</p>	<p><i>Press Contacts:</i> Bethany McCorkle (614) 466-1339 Bethany.McCorkle@OhioAGO.gov</p> <p>Hannah Hundley (614) 728-7275 Hannah.Hundley@OhioAGO.gov</p> <p><i>Staff Contact:</i> Erin Leahy (614) 752-4730 Erin.Leahy@OhioAGO.gov</p>
<p>REDACTED</p> <p>Long Beach, California</p>	<p>Warning Letter</p>	<p>Issuance of Warning Letter to a voice service provider facilitating suspected illegal robocalls into the State of Ohio for possible violations of the Telemarketing Sales Rule, Ohio Revised Code 109.87, and Ohio’s Telephone Solicitation Sales Act.</p> <p>June 28, 2022: <i>AG Yost Issues Warning to Companies Facilitating Potentially Illegal Robocalls</i></p> <p>https://www.ohioattorneygeneral.gov/Media/News-Releases/June-2022/AG-Yost-Issues-Warning-to-Companies-Facilitating-P</p>	<p>Ohio Attorney General’s Office, Consumer Protection Section</p>	<p><i>Press Contacts:</i> Bethany McCorkle (614) 466-1339 Bethany.McCorkle@OhioAGO.gov</p> <p>Hannah Hundley (614) 728-7275 Hannah.Hundley@OhioAGO.gov</p> <p><i>Staff Contact:</i> Erin Leahy (614) 752-4730 Erin.Leahy@OhioAGO.gov</p>

Matter Name Action Location	Type of Action	Date/Matter Information	Responsible Agency	Press Contact Staff Contact
<p>REDACTED</p> <p>Sheridan, Wyoming</p>	<p>Warning Letter</p>	<p>Issuance of Warning Letter to a voice service provider facilitating suspected illegal robocalls into the State of Ohio for possible violations of the Telemarketing Sales Rule, Ohio Revised Code 109.87, and Ohio’s Telephone Solicitation Sales Act.</p> <p>June 28, 2022: <i>AG Yost Issues Warning to Companies Facilitating Potentially Illegal Robocalls</i></p> <p>https://www.ohioattorneygeneral.gov/Media/News-Releases/June-2022/AG-Yost-Issues-Warning-to-Companies-Facilitating-P</p>	<p>Ohio Attorney General’s Office, Consumer Protection Section</p>	<p><i>Press Contacts:</i> Bethany McCorkle (614) 466-1339 Bethany.McCorkle@OhioAGO.gov</p> <p>Hannah Hundley (614) 728-7275 Hannah.Hundley@OhioAGO.gov</p> <p><i>Staff Contact:</i> Erin Leahy (614) 752-4730 Erin.Leahy@OhioAGO.gov</p>
<p>REDACTED</p> <p>Tavares, Florida</p>	<p>Warning Letter</p>	<p>April 18, 2023: Issuance of Warning Letter to a voice service provider facilitating suspected illegal robocalls into the State of Ohio for possible violations of the Telemarketing Sales Rule, Ohio Revised Code 109.87, and Ohio’s Telephone Solicitation Sales Act.</p>	<p>Ohio Attorney General’s Office, Consumer Protection Section</p>	<p><i>Press Contacts:</i> Bethany McCorkle (614) 466-1339 Bethany.McCorkle@OhioAGO.gov</p> <p>Hannah Hundley (614) 728-7275 Hannah.Hundley@OhioAGO.gov</p> <p><i>Staff Contact:</i> Kevin Walsh (216) 787-3447 Kevin.Walsh@OhioAGO.gov</p>

Matter Name Action Location	Type of Action	Date/Matter Information	Responsible Agency	Press Contact Staff Contact
<p>REDACTED</p> <p>Carson, California</p>	<p>Warning Letter</p>	<p>April 18, 2023: Issuance of Warning Letter to a voice service provider facilitating suspected illegal robocalls into the State of Ohio for possible violations of the Telemarketing Sales Rule, Ohio Revised Code 109.87, and Ohio’s Telephone Solicitation Sales Act.</p>	<p>Ohio Attorney General’s Office, Consumer Protection Section</p>	<p><i>Press Contacts:</i> Bethany McCorkle (614) 466-1339 Bethany.McCorkle@OhioAGO.gov</p> <p>Hannah Hundley (614) 728-7275 Hannah.Hundley@OhioAGO.gov</p> <p><i>Staff Contact:</i> Kevin Walsh (216) 787-3447 Kevin.Walsh@OhioAGO.gov</p>
<p>REDACTED</p> <p>Marlton, New Jersey</p>	<p>Warning Letter</p>	<p>April 18, 2023: Issuance of Warning Letter to a voice service provider facilitating suspected illegal robocalls into the State of Ohio for possible violations of the Telemarketing Sales Rule, Ohio Revised Code 109.87, and Ohio’s Telephone Solicitation Sales Act.</p>	<p>Ohio Attorney General’s Office, Consumer Protection Section</p>	<p><i>Press Contacts:</i> Bethany McCorkle (614) 466-1339 Bethany.McCorkle@OhioAGO.gov</p> <p>Hannah Hundley (614) 728-7275 Hannah.Hundley@OhioAGO.gov</p> <p><i>Staff Contact:</i> Kevin Walsh (216) 787-3447 Kevin.Walsh@OhioAGO.gov</p>

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<p>REDACTED</p> <p>Keansburg, New York</p>	<p>Warning Letter</p>	<p>April 18, 2023: Issuance of Warning Letter to a voice service provider facilitating suspected illegal robocalls into the State of Ohio for possible violations of the Telemarketing Sales Rule, Ohio Revised Code 109.87, and Ohio’s Telephone Solicitation Sales Act.</p>	<p>Ohio Attorney General’s Office, Consumer Protection Section</p>	<p><i>Press Contacts:</i> Bethany McCorkle (614) 466-1339 Bethany.McCorkle@OhioAGO.gov</p> <p>Hannah Hundley (614) 728-7275 Hannah.Hundley@OhioAGO.gov</p> <p><i>Staff Contact:</i> Kevin Walsh (216) 787-3447 Kevin.Walsh@OhioAGO.gov</p>
<p>REDACTED</p> <p>Washington, District of Columbia</p>	<p>Warning Letter</p>	<p>April 18, 2023: Issuance of Warning Letter to a voice service provider facilitating suspected illegal robocalls into the State of Ohio for possible violations of the Telemarketing Sales Rule, Ohio Revised Code 109.87, and Ohio’s Telephone Solicitation Sales Act.</p>	<p>Ohio Attorney General’s Office, Consumer Protection Section</p>	<p><i>Press Contacts:</i> Bethany McCorkle (614) 466-1339 Bethany.McCorkle@OhioAGO.gov</p> <p>Hannah Hundley (614) 728-7275 Hannah.Hundley@OhioAGO.gov</p> <p><i>Staff Contact:</i> Kevin Walsh (216) 787-3447 Kevin.Walsh@OhioAGO.gov</p>

Matter Name Action Location	Type of Action	Date/Matter Information	Responsible Agency	Press Contact Staff Contact
<p>REDACTED</p> <p>New York, New York</p>	<p>Warning Letter</p>	<p>April 18, 2023: Issuance of Warning Letter to a voice service provider facilitating suspected illegal robocalls into the State of Ohio for possible violations of the Telemarketing Sales Rule, Ohio Revised Code 109.87, and Ohio’s Telephone Solicitation Sales Act.</p>	<p>Ohio Attorney General’s Office, Consumer Protection Section</p>	<p><i>Press Contacts:</i> Bethany McCorkle (614) 466-1339 Bethany.McCorkle@OhioAGO.gov</p> <p>Hannah Hundley (614) 728-7275 Hannah.Hundley@OhioAGO.gov</p> <p><i>Staff Contact:</i> Kevin Walsh (216) 787-3447 Kevin.Walsh@OhioAGO.gov</p>
OREGON				
<p><i>State of Oregon v. US Air Ducts, et al.</i></p> <p>Circuit Court, State of Oregon, Multnomah County Case No. 19CV45061</p>	<p>Civil Lawsuit</p>	<p>Oregon sued a group of related air duct cleaning companies that made over 11.5 million robocalls to Oregon phone numbers in a two-year period, including over 7.7 million calls to numbers on the Do Not Call Registry. Among other violations, the defendants also failed to identify the companies by name in calls - often generically referring to “the air duct company” - and failed to provide a method for consumers to opt out of future calls.</p> <p>The State entered into a stipulated judgment with the companies’ owner and general manager which permanently prohibits them from robocalling Oregonians, or assisting others in doing so.</p> <p>The judgment further required defendants to pay \$50,000 in restitution to Oregon consumers and a penalty of \$5,150,000. The Oregon DOJ agreed not to collect the penalty subject to defendants’ compliance with the other judgment terms and defendants’ agreement not to own or operate a business in Oregon for up to 20 years unless the penalty is paid in full.</p> <p>Settled.</p>	<p>Oregon Department of Justice</p>	<p><i>Press Contact:</i> Roy Kaufmann (503) 378-6002 roy.kaufmann@doj.state.or.us</p> <p><i>Staff Contact:</i> Jordan Roberts (503) 934-4400 jordan.m.roberts@doj.state.or.us</p>

Matter Name Action Location	Type of Action	Date/Matter Information	Responsible Agency	Press Contact Staff Contact
PENNSYLVANIA				
<p><i>Commonwealth of Pennsylvania v. PalmCo Energy PA, LLC and PalmCo Power PA, LLC d/b/a Indra Energy</i></p> <p>Court of Common Pleas of Allegheny County, Pennsylvania</p>	<p>Assurance of Voluntary Compliance</p>	<p>The settlement resolved allegations that Respondents placed unwanted calls to consumers registered on the Do Not Call List and used deceptive lead generating methods to obtain consumer consent to be contacted for purposes of telemarketing, in violation of the Telemarketing Sales Rule and Pennsylvania’s Telemarketing Registration Act, and its Unfair Trade Practices and Consumer Protection Law.</p> <p>June 30, 2022: <i>AG Shapiro Secures Settlement with Indra Energy to Stop Telemarketing Violations</i></p> <p>https://www.attorneygeneral.gov/taking-action/ag-shapiro-secures-settlement-with-indra-energy-to-stop-telemarketing-violations/</p>	<p>Pennsylvania Attorney General’s Office</p>	<p><i>Press Contact:</i> press@attorneygeneral.gov</p> <p><i>Staff Contact:</i> Amy L. Schulman Senior Deputy Attorney General (412) 565-3523 aschulman@attorneygeneral.gov</p>
<p><i>Commonwealth of Pennsylvania v. Fluent, Inc., Fluent LLC, d/b/a CAC, American Prize Center, LLC, Rewardzone USA, LLC and Samples & Savings USA, LLC</i></p> <p>United States District Court Western District of Pennsylvania Case No. 2:22-cv-1551</p>	<p>Civil Lawsuit:</p> <p>Seeking permanent injunctive relief, civil penalties and other equitable relief. Alleged violations of Pennsylvania’s Unfair Trade Practices and Consumer Protection Law, 73 P.S. § 201-1, <i>et seq.</i>, Pennsylvania’s Telemarketer Registration Act, 73 P.S. § 2241, <i>et seq.</i>, and the Telemarketing Sales Rule.</p>	<p>Complaint and Consent Petition alleged Defendants assisted and facilitated violations of the TSR, by failing to obtain valid consent from consumers to receive telemarketing calls, including calls delivering prerecorded messages; and engaged in unfair and deceptive practices in order to obtain consumer consent in violation of Pennsylvania’s Unfair Trade Practices and Consumer Protection Law.</p> <p>November 2, 2022: Complaint filed in the United States District Court for the Western District of Pennsylvania.</p> <p>November 3, 2022: <i>PA Attorney General Files Suit Against NY-Based Fluent for Their Role in the Illegal Distribution of Robocalls to PA Consumers</i></p> <p>https://www.attorneygeneral.gov/taking-action/pa-attorney-general-files-suit-against-ny-based-fluent-for-their-role-in-the-illegal-distribution-of-robocalls-to-pa-consumers/</p> <p>May 18, 2023: Consent Petition entered into and approved by the Court.</p> <p>May 19, 2023: <i>AG Reaches Settlement with N.Y.-Based Company for Their Alleged Role in the Illegal Distribution of Millions of Telemarketing Calls to Pennsylvanians</i></p> <p>https://www.attorneygeneral.gov/taking-action/ag-reaches-settlement-with-n-y-based-company-for-their-alleged-role-in-the-illegal-distribution-of-millions-of-telemarketing-calls</p>	<p>Pennsylvania Attorney General’s Office</p>	<p><i>Press Contact:</i> press@attorneygeneral.gov</p> <p><i>Staff Contact:</i> Amy L. Schulman Senior Deputy Attorney General (412) 565-3523 aschulman@attorneygeneral.gov</p>

Matter Name Action Location	Type of Action	Date/Matter Information	Responsible Agency	Press Contact Staff Contact
<p><i>Commonwealth of Pennsylvania v. AGR Group Nevada, LLC and Utilities Marketing Group, LLC</i></p> <p>Court of Common Pleas of Allegheny County, Pennsylvania G.D. No. 23-006823</p>	<p>Assurance of Voluntary Compliance</p>	<p>The settlement resolved allegations that Respondents placed unwanted calls to consumers registered on the Do Not Call List and used deceptive lead generating methods to obtain consumer consent to be contacted for purposes of telemarketing, in violation of the Telemarketing Sales Rule and Pennsylvania’s Telemarketing Registration Act, and its Unfair Trade Practices and Consumer Protection Law.</p> <p>June 6, 2023: <i>Settlement Reached with Telemarketing Groups That Allegedly Trafficked Unwanted Calls</i></p> <p>https://www.attorneygeneral.gov/taking-action/settlement-reached-with-telemarketing-groups-that-allegedly-trafficked-unwanted-calls/</p>	<p>Pennsylvania Attorney General’s Office</p>	<p><i>Press Contact:</i> press@attorneygeneral.gov</p> <p><i>Staff Contact:</i> Amy L. Schulman Senior Deputy Attorney General (412) 565-3523 aschulman@attorneygeneral.gov</p>
<p><i>Commonwealth of Pennsylvania v. American Automotive Alliance, LLC</i></p> <p>Court of Common Pleas of Erie County, Pennsylvania</p>	<p>Assurance of Voluntary Compliance</p>	<p>The settlement resolved allegations that Respondent engaged in deceptive business practices by, including but not limited to, placing unwanted robo-calls to consumers registered on the Do Not Call List without first obtaining consumers’ express consent, in violation of the Telemarketing Sales Rule and Pennsylvania’s Telemarketing Registration Act, and its Unfair Trade Practices and Consumer Protection Law.</p> <p>June 6, 2023: <i>Three Settlements with Telemarketers Who Allegedly Ignored PA “Do-Not-Call” Lists Total Nearly \$100k</i></p> <p>https://www.attorneygeneral.gov/taking-action/three-settlements-with-telemarketers-who-allegedly-ignored-pa-do-not-call-lists-total-nearly-100k/</p>	<p>Pennsylvania Attorney General’s Office</p>	<p><i>Press Contact:</i> press@attorneygeneral.gov</p> <p><i>Staff Contact:</i> Merna Hoffman Deputy Attorney General (717) 497-7159 mhoffman@attorneygeneral.gov</p>
<p><i>Commonwealth of Pennsylvania v. AM Protection, Inc. & Mariam Nasrati</i></p> <p>Court of Common Pleas of Allegheny County, Pennsylvania G.D. No. 23-006976</p>	<p>Assurance of Voluntary Compliance</p>	<p>The settlement resolved allegations that Respondents engaged in deceptive business practices by, including but not limited to, placing unwanted robo-calls to consumers registered on the Do Not Call List without first obtaining consumers’ express consent, in violation of the Telemarketing Sales Rule and Pennsylvania’s Telemarketing Registration Act, and its Unfair Trade Practices and Consumer Protection Law.</p> <p>June 6, 2023: <i>Three Settlements with Telemarketers Who Allegedly Ignored PA “Do-Not-Call” Lists Total Nearly \$100k</i></p> <p>https://www.attorneygeneral.gov/taking-action/three-settlements-with-telemarketers-who-allegedly-ignored-pa-do-not-call-lists-total-nearly-100k/</p>	<p>Pennsylvania Attorney General’s Office</p>	<p><i>Press Contact:</i> press@attorneygeneral.gov</p> <p><i>Staff Contact:</i> Merna Hoffman Deputy Attorney General (717) 497-7159 mhoffman@attorneygeneral.gov</p>

Matter Name Action Location	Type of Action	Date/Matter Information	Responsible Agency	Press Contact Staff Contact
<p><i>Commonwealth of Pennsylvania v. Mammoth Marketing Group, LLC</i></p> <p>Court of Common Pleas of Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania</p>	<p>Assurance of Voluntary Compliance</p>	<p>The settlement resolved allegations that Respondent engaged in deceptive business practices by, including but not limited to, placing unwanted calls to consumers registered on the Do Not Call List without first obtaining consumers’ express consent, in violation of the Telemarketing Sales Rule and Pennsylvania’s Telemarketing Registration Act, and its Unfair Trade Practices and Consumer Protection Law.</p> <p>June 6, 2023: <i>Three Settlements with Telemarketers Who Allegedly Ignored PA “Do-Not-Call” Lists Total Nearly \$100k</i></p> <p>https://www.attorneygeneral.gov/taking-action/three-settlements-with-telemarketers-who-allegedly-ignored-pa-do-not-call-lists-total-nearly-100k/</p>	<p>Pennsylvania Attorney General’s Office</p>	<p><i>Press Contact:</i> press@attorneygeneral.gov</p> <p><i>Staff Contact:</i> Merna Hoffman Deputy Attorney General (717) 497-7159 mhoffman@attorneygeneral.gov</p>
TENNESSEE				
<p>Tennessee Attorney General’s Office</p>	<p>Consumer Education and Outreach</p>	<p>Scams Stop Here Presentations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FiftyForward Knowles Senior Center, Nashville, TN (Aug. 17, 2022) • Meigs County Senior Center, Decatur, TN (Aug. 30, 2022) • J.D. Lewis Senior Center of Houston County, Erin, TN (Aug. 31, 2022) • Ajax Turner Senior Citizen’s Center, Clarksville, TN (Sep. 21, 2022) • Sevier Co. Senior Information Fair, Sevierville, TN (Sep. 23, 2022) • Senior Citizen’s Center of Hendersonville, Hendersonville, TN (Nov. 7, 2022) • St. Clair Street Senior Center, Murfreesboro, TN (Nov. 9, 2022) • APS W/TN Services Cluster Meeting, Jackson, TN (Dec. 6, 2022) <p>Scams Presentation for Older Adults:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adams Place Assisted Living Facility, Murfreesboro, TN (Jan. 4, 2023) • Dyer County Senior Center, Dyersburg, TN (Mar. 22, 2023) 	<p>Tennessee Attorney General’s Office</p>	<p>Claire Marsalis <i>Director, Division of Consumer Affairs</i> claire.marsalis@ag.tn.gov</p> <p>Austin C. Ostiguy <i>Assistant Attorney General</i> (615) 532-7271 austin.ostiguy@ag.tn.gov</p>
UTAH				
<p><i>In the Matter of: Karabell Industries, LLC, and Eli Benjamin Karabel</i></p> <p>Salt Lake City, Utah DCP Legal File No. CP-2022-065</p>	<p>Administrative Action</p>	<p>Alleging unregistered telephone solicitations, unsolicited solicitations to Utah telephone numbers contained in the national Do Not Call Registry, and misrepresentations in connection with a telephone solicitation.</p> <p>Respondent ordered to cease and desist violations of the Telephone and Facsimile Solicitation Act and the Telephone Fraud Prevention Act and pay a fine of \$720,750.00. Utah Code §§ 13-11-25a, <i>et seq.</i>, 13-11-26, <i>et seq.</i></p> <p>February 16, 2023: Order entered.</p>	<p>Utah Division of Consumer Protection</p>	<p><i>Press and Staff Contact:</i> Utah Division of Consumer Protection consumerprotection@utah.gov (801) 530-6601</p>

Matter Name Action Location	Type of Action	Date/Matter Information	Responsible Agency	Press Contact Staff Contact
<p><i>In the Matter of: Salt City Home Buyers, LLC</i></p> <p>Salt Lake City, Utah DCP Legal File No. CP-2023-018</p>	<p>Settlement Agreement</p>	<p>Alleging unregistered telephone solicitations, unsolicited solicitations to Utah telephone numbers contained in the national Do Not Call Registry, and misrepresentations in connection with a telephone solicitation.</p> <p>Settlement agreement requires respondent to cease unregistered telephone solicitations, cease solicitations to Utah telephone numbers in the national Do Not Call Registry, cease violations of any statute enforced by the Utah Division of Consumer Protection, and pay a fine of \$11,400.00. Utah Code §§ 13-2-1, 13-11-25a, <i>et seq.</i>, 13-11-26, <i>et seq.</i></p> <p>April 3, 2023: Settlement executed.</p>	<p>Utah Division of Consumer Protection</p>	<p><i>Press and Staff Contact:</i> Utah Division of Consumer Protection consumerprotection@utah.gov (801) 530-6601</p>
<p><i>In the Matter of: Flash Home Buyers, LLC, and Matthew Sandgren</i></p> <p>Salt Lake City, Utah DCP Legal File No. CP-2022-044</p>	<p>Settlement Agreement</p>	<p>Alleging unregistered telephone solicitations and an unsolicited solicitation to a Utah telephone number contained in the national Do Not Call Registry.</p> <p>Settlement agreement requires respondent to cease unregistered telephone solicitations, cease solicitations to Utah telephone numbers in the national Do Not Call Registry, cease violations of any statute enforced by the Utah Division of Consumer Protection, and pay a fine of \$2,500.00. Utah Code §§ 13-2-1, 13-11-25a, <i>et seq.</i>, 13-11-26, <i>et seq.</i></p> <p>August 31, 2022: Settlement executed.</p>	<p>Utah Division of Consumer Protection</p>	<p><i>Press and Staff Contact:</i> Utah Division of Consumer Protection consumerprotection@utah.gov (801) 530-6601</p>
VERMONT				
<p><i>Strategic IT</i></p>	<p>Assurance of Discontinuance</p>	<p>Assurance of Discontinuance filed.</p> <p>Strategic IT, a host of fraudulent robocalls as identified by ITG (Industry Traceback Group), agreed to prescreen and monitor its robocall traffic.</p>	<p>Vermont Attorney General's Office</p>	<p><i>Press Contact:</i> Lauren Jandl <i>Chief of Staff</i> lauren.jandl@vermont.gov</p> <p><i>Staff Contact:</i> Jamie Renner <i>Assistant Attorney General</i> Jamie.renner@vermont.gov</p>

Matter Name Action Location	Type of Action	Date/Matter Information	Responsible Agency	Press Contact Staff Contact
<p><i>State of Vermont v. Dominic Bohnett, Telecom Carrier Access, LLC d/b/a TCA VOIP, and Telecom Carrier Access, Inc. d/b/a TCA VOIP</i></p> <p>(TCA VOIP)</p> <p>United States District Court District of Vermont Case No. 5:22-cv-00069-gwc</p>	<p>Civil Lawsuit</p>	<p>Action against TCA VOIP and its owner (the fourth largest source of fraudulent calls as measured by ITG tracebacks) under the Telephone Consumer Protection Act, Telemarketing Sale Rule, and Vermont Consumer Protection Act.</p> <p>March 18, 2022: Complaint filed.</p> <p>March 18, 2022: <i>AG Donovan Sues Illegal Robocall Carrier TCA VOIP</i></p> <p>https://ago.vermont.gov/blog/2022/03/18/ag-donovan-sues-illegal-robocall-carrier-tca-voip</p> <p>December 14, 2022: Stipulated Judgment Order filed.</p> <p>Settled. TCA VOIP and its owner agreed to close its business and to stay out of ownership positions in robocall operations.</p>	<p>Vermont Attorney General's Office</p>	<p><i>Press Contact:</i> Lauren Jandl <i>Chief of Staff</i> lauren.jandl@vermont.gov</p> <p><i>Staff Contact:</i> Ted Hobson <i>Assistant Attorney General</i> (802) 863-2000 ted.hobson@vermont.gov</p>
WEST VIRGINIA				
<p>West Virginia Attorney General's Office</p> <p>Charleston, West Virginia</p>	<p>Investigation</p>	<p>August 29, 2022: Issued a Traceback request to USTelecom to gather information on entities alleged to host robocall telephone traffic.</p>	<p>West Virginia Attorney General's Office</p>	<p><i>Staff Contact:</i> Ann Haight (304) 558-8986 Ann.L.Haight@wvago.gov</p> <p>Ashley Wentz (304) 558-8986 Ashley.T.Wentz@wvago.gov</p>
WISCONSIN				
<p>Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP)</p>	<p>Consumer Education and Outreach</p>	<p>Between July 2022 and July 2023, DATCP has given 152 presentations where it specifically educated consumers on the use of robocalls to perpetrate scams and fraud.</p>	<p>Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP)</p>	<p><i>Press Contact:</i> Caleb Kulich (608) 621-1290 caleb.kulich@wisconsin.gov</p> <p><i>Staff Contact:</i> Nicole Raisbeck (608) 224-4991 nicole.raisbeck@wisconsin.gov</p>