

January 26, 1908

Gentlemen

I heartily agree
that it would be
of great benefit
to our country
I do not wish to be called by
telegraph

Sincerely,

Anne M. Hamacher

[Redacted]
[Redacted]
[Redacted] NT [Redacted]



COPY

Dear Mr. Markey c/o Mr. Gallagher,

I'd like to endorse fervently the note that my colleague, Paul Horowitz, sent you recently

(From: Paul Horowitz

[REDACTED]
Cambridge, MA 02138

To: Congressman Ed Markey

.c/o Mark Gallagher

Re: Reining in "Telemarketers"....)

I have nothing substantial to add, but let me add the insubstantial point that these telemarketers are training us ALL to be rude: I find myself exhorting wife and children to be rude -- to interrupt the pitch and say "Please take me off your list," -- and it pains me to see that these nice people around me have trouble being so abrupt. They are inclined to treat these robots and humans-who-imitate-robots politely: wife and children are inclined to say, almost apologetically, "Oh, I'm sorry -- we're just having supper now, so it's not a good time...."

The telemarketers are forcing us all to unlearn civility, because they are so monumentally rude -- rude on an industrial scale.

Tom Hayes

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] MA [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

July 28, 2000

February 5, 2002

Federal Trade Commission
Office of The Secretary
Room 159
600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. **20580**

Subject: Telemarketing Sales Rules

Good Morning:

1. Your proposals for the changes in the TSR are all excellent and time for action is now!
2. Please don't be swayed by "the business lobbyists" and let **them** deter from your logical and beneficial course, The denial of free speech is a stalking horse that has been misused on many occasions.
3. The dinner time call zone has now been expanded in to the morning and afternoon hours and recently has been stretched to Saturdays, Good Grief!
4. If my information is correct I understand that Oregon law states that the caller must identify themselves, their company and **product** before asking for a member of **the** household, In my experience **thus** far is that none of them abide by this ruling.
5. Again I respectfully trust that you will take action on this matter in favor of **bothered**, annoyed and frustrated phone users!
6. Also would you please advise the phone company providers stand on this issue? Mine is Quest,

Sincerely,



Robert F. Higgins

[REDACTED]
Or [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Copies Enclosed

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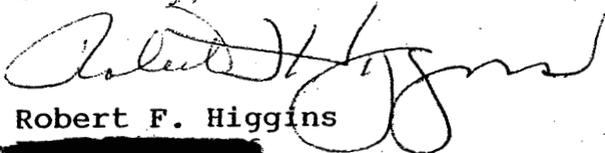
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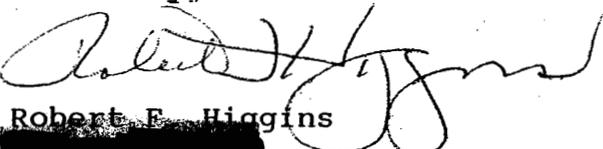
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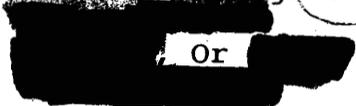
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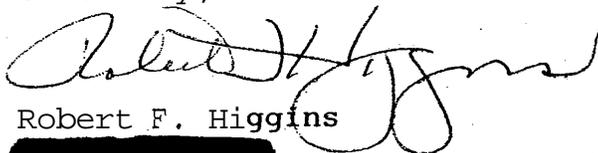
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From: Paul Horowitz
[REDACTED] MA [REDACTED]

To: Congressman Ed Markey
c/o Mark Gallagher

Re: Reining in "Telemarketers"

July 27, 2000

Dear Ed,

I'll keep this as brief as I can.

You may remember me back from the heady days of the nuclear freeze movement, when we folks in Lexington were all activists and you were our hero; my then-spouse Carol Grodzins helped out in a few of your campaigns.

Anyway, to the extent that I've got any activism left, it's to do something useful about the scourge of insistent telemarketers. The current situation, as I understand it, requires each citizen to list himself (by letter, not by phone call!) with DMA, but even that guarantees nothing. Then we've got to tell each caller that leaks through this porous barrier to put us on their do-not-call list. And even so, we get the calls, and more calls, and more calls...

What I'd like to suggest is that some federal legislation be initiated that would switch the burden onto the telemarketers not to insinuate themselves into the lives of those who declare that they do not want unsolicited advertising calls. I heard on NPR last December that Iowa (I think) had new legislation that worked like this: Anyone in the state could list themselves with a single central bureau; telemarketers must check that list before calling, subject to significant fines. It was as simple as that. The legislator they interviewed for the program explained that his constituents were begging for such relief.

I think the folks in Massachusetts feel the same way. I'd personally vote for Atilla the Hun for President, if he'd solve this problem! I average between 2 and 6 such calls per day, even after sending my letter to the DMA. I think this has tremendous grass-roots support.

I'm not sure what the objections to this are. The telemarketers probably wouldn't go on record as objecting -- after all, why waste calls on unreceptive (and even hostile) targets. And I don't think there's any freedom of speech issues involved; that freedom surely doesn't extend to the right to call people at home, who have said they do not want to be called, in order to attempt to sell them something.

Let me finish up with a few recent anecdotes, to add some soul to this note:



1. I had been getting a lot of hangups on my answering machine lately (my message is about 3 seconds long, and comes on after 2 rings; so it catches them by surprise), then in person i got a call, asking for Janet somebody-or-other. I said there wasn't any Janet here, what number are you calling? It was my number, so I told the caller that they had gotten the number they dialed, and by the way please put me on you do-not-call list. The caller said "Well, who are you?" I said, it doesn't matter, this is my phone, and please just take me off your list. She replied that she didn't know if she could, if I wouldn't tell them my name and address. Wow! These telemarketers are getting pretty arrogant, don't you agree?

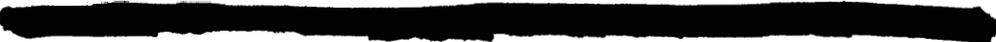
2. Autodialers with recorded messages: I've gotten a few of these, even though they are apparently prohibited by FCC regs. One was from "Balthazar and Pebbles at Jam'n, 94.5 FM"; another was from a bank peddling Visa cards. The latter was impossible to trace (blocked called ID, and they left no contact info). At the end of this letter I'm appending a recent article describing what appears to be prohibited telemarketing by ABC, namely autodialed and prerecorded advertisements aimed at answering machines (it hangs up if a person answers!).

3. Junk FAX: there are also prohibited, as I understand it, without the need to list oneself. But the catch is that you can send them from outside the US. I've gotten three or four from an unidentified number in England, in the form of fake surveys (you call a 900 number to register your reply), or ads for "millennium" diets ("The Yum Yum Millennium Diet").

Ed, can you do something to lift this scourge? Right now the playing field is tilted against the besieged individual. Telemarketers have pushed way beyond the limits of decent behavior, and decisive legislation is sorely needed.

Sincerely yours,
 Paul Horowitz
 (a professor of Physics at Harvard Univ., for identification only)

and here is the recent article from the ZDTV website,



"New Ads Target Answering Machines"
 By Jim Louderback

Now here's a brilliant use of technology: ABC, the network that brought us Regis Philbin and the color yellow has a brilliant new way to promote its fall lineup-- the answering machine.

That's right. In the 10 biggest cities around

the country, ABC will be making automated phone calls to promote its Friday lineup of shows. The technology actually allows ABC to determine whether an answering machine or a human picks up the phone.

-Unlike long-distance companies, which simply want to spoil your dinner, ABC doesn't want to talk to humans. They just want to leave their message on your answering machine.

'First of all, I absolutely do not want anyone leaving ads on my answering machine. I have enough trouble wading through the strident and querulous messages left by my family and friends-- mostly focused on why I haven't called and how could I forget yet another birthday. The mere thought of someone leaving an ad on my home answering machine gives me fits. So if and, when ads start to pop up there, I'll boycott the target of the pitch on principle.

As if the intrusiveness of answering-machine ads weren't bad enough, guess what ABC plans on doing if someone actually does answer the phone? Yup, you guessed it: They'll simply terminate the call. Or in plain English, a hang-up.

Hang-ups are the spooky and scary side effect of our telephone system. A whirl of possibilities always swirls through my mind whenever that happens. "Someone's casing the joint, and they want to rob the house." "Someone's following me, and now they know I'm home, they're going to come over and mess me up." "Gee, my wife's new boyfriend is much more discreet than the last one."

Now I can add another possibility to that list. Those numb-nuts over at ABC are trying to leave another ad on my answering machine. I 'guess I'll just forgo watching "America's Network" tonight.

ABC's new slogan is "ABC... definitely." Well if ABC follows through with this misguided advertising campaign, I'll be rewriting it as "ABC... definitely NOT."

(Disclaimer: I currently do a twice-weekly product review on the San Francisco ABC affiliate, KGO. How long that will last now is another question.)

****end***

To: Federal Trade Commission
Washington, DC

From: Paul Horowitz

MA

January 25, 2002

Re: Proposed National Registry

Dear Sir/Madam,

I read in yesterday's New York Times that you are proposing a national registry, by which one can prevent unwanted telemarketing telephone calls.

Hooray!! I've been trying to promote precisely this idea for nearly two years, and have met with a deafening silence. I am enclosing a copy of a letter I wrote to Congressman Markey in the summer of 2000, which expresses my view as clearly as I know how; also-enclosed (with his permission) is a follow-on note to the congressman, written by a colleague of mine.

I enthusiastically endorse this proposal, and I hope it will become law. It is important also that there not be exemptions for broad classes such as "common carriers" who, though apparently belonging to a different breed of telemarketer, can make one's life just as miserable.

Sincerely yours,



Paul Horowitz

(Professor of Physics and of Electrical Engineering,
Harvard University -- for identification only)

A note from
Mrs. Arlene Hurst

Telemarketing Rulemaking
- Comment FTC File
No R11001

I support the plan
to prevent telemarketers
from calling private
homes. If
implemented, we
wish to be put
on the do-not-
call list for
telemarketers.

Thank you
Arlene Hurst

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Pa. [REDACTED]



April 24, 2001

Mr. Richard Irwin
Bonded Accounts Svc. DBA/National Recovery Inc.

RECEIVED
APR 27 2001
BAS/CR, INC.

Dear Sir:

This is to request that you correct errors in your debt reporting that is resulting in unwarranted financial loss and embarrassment to my family and me.

When applying recently for home equity and other credit purchase loans I was refused based on erroneous information that you provided to credit bureaus. I have received reports from EQUIFAX and CSC Credit Services that indicate that you have reported to them that I am delinquent on the following debt:

Collection Reported 11/96 Assigned 9/96 to Bonded Accounts
Client - Amount \$47 Balance \$47
Individual Account Number
item: Unpaid

I informed CSC Credit Services in writing that this information was incorrect and asked for corrections. CSC advised that they validated this debt with you.

I have not done business with the company that you indicate that I am indebted to and I am now demanding that you correct this immediately. If you check the supporting documentation for these transactions I am certain that you will find that you reported this information in error. My full name is:

Robert Vincent Domzalski

I believe that you confused information with my son whose name is "Robert Brian Domzalski" and until four months ago lived in my household.

As mandated by the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, section 809, Validation of debts, I am officially disputing this debt and am requesting that you provide written verification of the debt and the judgment against me. In accordance with the act you must respond within 5 days after receiving this communication.

My lawyer has recommended that I take legal action for loss of funds and also to seek punitive damages. However, I would like to resolve this without having to sue your company.

To me the solution is simple. If you actually check out the supporting documents for these bills you will find out that my name and social security are not attached to this activity.

I am hoping that you respond to this request immediately and in a positive way. If not I assure you that if I have to go the legal route it will be for legal as well as civil damages. I am also advising the Federal Trade Commission in writing regarding this issue and will escalate to the FTC if this is not resolved.

Sincerely,
Robert V. Domzalski
Robert Vincent Domzalski

Minnesota

We show the account was listed under Robert B Domalski we reported as. See attached deletion.
BAS/NIL

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] KS [REDACTED]
February 1, 2000

I am writing in favor of the Do Not Call registry to prevent invasion of the privacy of one's home by rude aggressive telemarketers.

During the 16 years I have worked the third shift and slept from 9 am-5 pm, I have been infuriated and frustrated by these phone calls.

In this time I have been awaiting the births of grandchildren and have had an elderly mother in a nursing home. My choice was to turn off my phone and miss emergency calls or spend most of my time off work trying to get enough sleep to return that night. It is impossible to be polite to these people so you must loudly interrupt their scripts or just hang up.

Telemarketers should be helped to get constructive jobs, which, I'm sure, would be more satisfying.

Judith Johnson

I would like for the FTC to continue their
preposal for a national telemarketing do not call law.

Please note my name is present on that do not call
list of non answered before 8 am and all day long
she latest call said me I was calling collect from
as weekly person caller and do not enjoy being
annoyed and frustrated with these calls.

I believe having my name there not of the
phone book in one my address in family member
my number, she would not have called, but
not enough thank you!

Sincerely

MR FRANK KOCHANSKI

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Dear Sam

I support your proposal for a National
telemarketing to not call list. This would be of
great benefit to the person who
needs your services but not the abuse you deal
with being annoyed and publicly exposed from
paper and can be avoided by the existing
coverage of cell providers by telemarketers.
Please remember that cell phones will
be on that list. Thank you
Caroline Rose

MARILENE ROSE

CAROLINE ROSE

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Ref: Telemarketing Rulemaking Comment FTC File No: R11001

To Whom It May Concern:

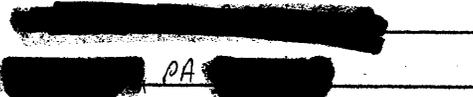
I support the proposed changes in the Telemarketing Sales Rules that provide for a national "Do Not Call List" and fines for businesses that violate it. I pay for my telephone for my own and my family's private use. I do not fund it as a convenience for intrusive businesses.

Thank you for helping to preserve privacy and protection from intrusion in our homes.

Sincerely,



My Address:



PA

1/21/02

To whom it may concern,

Please Please pass any laws governing the telemarket calls.

We need peace to eat our dinners, TV watching, reading, sleeping etc. The proposal for national do not call list is a must!

Thank You

Sharon & Kevin Langley

[REDACTED] PA [REDACTED]



2/10/02

I hate Telemarketers.
They should have to
Show Their NAME & Number
When I get AN UNKNOWN
CALLER, I ANSWER REAL
NASTY. Sometimes it's A
CALL I WANT FROM A BANK
OR SOMETHING & I SCARE
THEM. I ASK WHO IT IS
FIRST THING. IF IT'S A TELEMAR-
KER I HANGUP. WASTING MY
TIME. NOW THEY HAVE
MY NAME ON SOME
COMPUTER. I SAY HELLO ABOUT
4 X'S BEFORE THEY ANSWER.
NOW I JUST HANGUP BUT WANT
MY NAME OFF THIS COMPUTER
Sue Lepper

Jan 28, 2002

Henrietta Marcinko
██████████
██████████ P██████████

Dear Sid,

I am writing you on the FTC's proposal for a national telemarketing do-not-call list.

It is very annoyance and takes up so much of your time answering the phone to find out it is no one you want to talk to. They are constantly calling.

I am paying for the phone for my use not for every telemarketing to annoy me.

I also think banks, credit cards and any government office should ^{not} be allowed to sell your name and address and information without the person's consent. A person should be allowed to some privacy.

I do hope this FTC file # R411001 is passed into a fact in the right direction.

Thank you,

Henrietta Marcinko

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] PA.
Feb 4, 2002

Statement:

I agree with the proposal
for a national telemarketing
do not-call list.
This would be helpful for
senior citizens especially
those who are ill.

Alberta Martin

We favor the proposal!

Stop calls from telemarketers: Tell it to the FTC

By DON OLDENBURG

The Washington Post

The telephone rings. You reach for it with one hand while holding the diaper with the other. Or you get up from the dinner table knowing it's probably somebody you don't know, selling something you don't want. Maybe it wakes you from a deep doze.

When you answer, yet another telemarketer who can't pronounce your name, who reads from a script and who won't take no for an answer, invades the privacy of your home.

Americans who have had it up to here with unsolicited sales calls have been slamming the receiver on insistent telemarketers for years now. A week ago, the Federal Trade Commission announced that it, too, might be ready to hang up on telemarketers. But before it decides, it wants to hear your comments about telemarketing problems and your thoughts about its newly proposed solution — a centralized, national "Do Not Call" registry — a centralized, national "Do Not Call" registry.

If approved, the registry would give consumers the option of eliminating most telemarketing calls with a single call to the FTC. It would be illegal for telemarketers to call anyone who has added his phone number to the list. It may even give consumers flexibility to block telemarketing calls by industry or company. The details won't be worked out until after the comments are considered.

"We're interested in comments from everybody," says Howard Beales, director of the FTC's consumer protection bureau.

The FTC received 4,000 comment letters or e-mails in the first week, the overwhelming majority of them favoring the proposal. Beales expects to receive a lot more between now and the March 29 deadline.

The FTC is also encouraging comment from the telemarketing industry, which argues that taxpayer dollars shouldn't be spent to restrict the telemarketing industry, which argues that taxpayer dollars shouldn't be spent to restrict communication protected by the First Amendment. The Direct Marketing Association estimates

that a registry could jeopardize more than 6 million jobs and \$668 billion in sales.

Chances of the proposal passing? Beales is optimistic. "The commissioners don't make a proposal like this lightly," he says. "They could change their minds or make refinements based on information that comes in during the comment period."

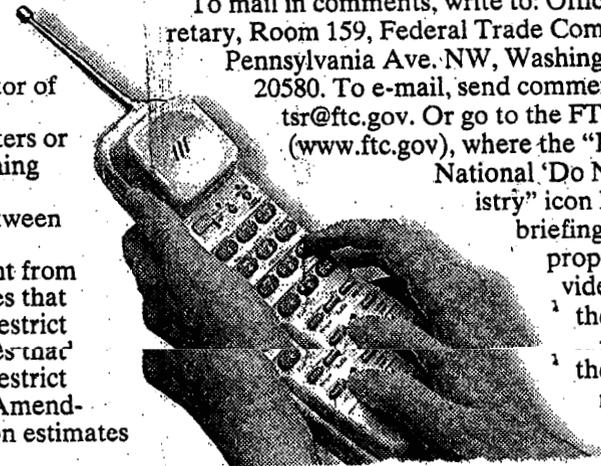
To mail in comments, write to: Office of the Secretary, Room 159, Federal Trade Commission, 600 Pennsylvania Ave. NW, Washington, D.C.

20580. To e-mail, send comments to tsr@ftc.gov. Or go to the FTC Web site (www.ftc.gov), where the "Proposed

National 'Do Not Call' Registry" icon links to a

briefing on the new proposal and provides a link to the FTC com-

ments page and the FTC comment e-mail address.



"He hath made every thing beautiful in his time."

ECCLESIASTES 3:11

Jan. 23, 2002

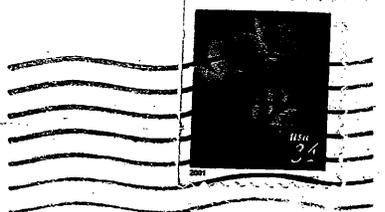
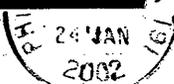
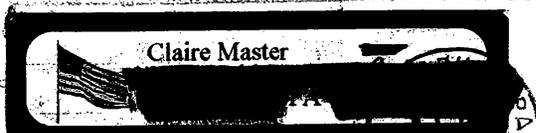
Dear Sir:

I had complained about receiving unwanted calls quite awhile ago and still receive those annoying calls.

Please do something about these calls. We want to preserve our privacy.

Sincerely,
Claire Master

F.I.C. File No. R411001



F.I.C.
Office of Secretary
Room 159

594

Executive Club Suites

[REDACTED] VA [REDACTED]

4 February 2002

Office of the Secretary, Rm 159
Federal Trade Commission
600 Pennsylvania Ave N.
Washington DC 20580

Dear Sir or Madam :

Yes, I want my privacy respected; Yes, I want you to establish a list of phone numbers to be excluded from telemarketers. I will put my number on that list as soon as you set it up, and, Yes, I hope to see fines and other penalties levied against telemarketers who violate the ban.

Please remind telemarketers that such a move would be in their own self interest. I do all my purchasing on my own initiative, and do not need anyone to tell me what I might want. Any company that has the gall to phone me without invitation earns a place on my list of firms never to deal with, and becomes an example of the sort of egregious behavior that evokes government intervention when business people cannot control themselves.

Keep the free market free, and keep my phone free from pests! Let my freedom of commercial choice be real freedom!

Sincerely,

Michael J. Mates

Michael J. Mates