

HTC Settlement Twitter Chat

On February 22, 2013, FTC staff hosted a Twitter Chat on the Commission's settlement with HTC America. FTC staff attorneys worked with the Office of Public Affairs to answer questions from the @FTC Twitter account. The chat hashtag was #FTCpriv.

Note: These tweets only include tweets from the @FTC account and are listed in order for ease of reading. Tweets in their original order and without handles redacted remain publicly available on Twitter.

Thanks for joining our Chat! Nithan Sannappa & Jonathan Zimmerman here, attorneys in Division of Privacy & Identity Protection. #FTCpriv

Q1 MT [REDACTED] Any evidence that sensitive consumer data was lost, or are these potential exposures due to HTC software? #FTCpriv

A1 FTC brought case based on risk of substantial harm to consumers b/c of types of info & functionality implicated, plus deception. #FTCpriv

In addition to HTC settlement, today FTC announced workshop June 4 on mobile threats. More info: <http://go.usa.gov/4SGw> #FTCpriv

Q2 RT [REDACTED] Do you foresee an increase in enforcement in 2013 re: online privacy? #FTCpriv

A2 Can't discuss specific enforcement, but consumer #privacy continues to be top priority for FTC. #FTCpriv

Q3 MT [REDACTED] Do HTC vulnerabilities only exist on Android phones, or also Windows Mobile? Incl recording of voice calls? #FTCpriv

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A3 Correction Complaint details flaws on HTC Android & Windows devices. HTC Android=potential 4 recording b/c of permission re-del #FTCpriv

Q4 RT [REDACTED] @FTC Is this 1st case you've brought that alleges that security vulnerabilities are an "unfair act or practice"?#FTCpriv

A4 No, see e.g. <http://go.usa.gov/4haT> for other data security unfairness, but HTC first to deal with software security #FTCpriv

Thanks all for sending in Qs about HTC settlement. We'll be here for about 30 more minutes if you have any others. #FTCpriv

From our Business Center Blog: Device Squad: The story behind FTC's 1st case against a mobile device maker: <http://go.usa.gov/4hYP> #FTCpriv

Q5 MT [REDACTED] How important is it that consumers get reg security updates for phones? Can consumers id phones that get updates? #FTCpriv

A5 We will have a blog post up on our Tech@FTC blog from @TechFTC that answers this soon. Will tweet link shortly. #FTCpriv

Q6 RT [REDACTED] Is there a requirement that the mobile carriers push out the patches HTC provides to them? How? #FTCpriv

A6 HTC working with the mobile carriers to push out the patches. Many consumers already received and other should receive soon. #FTCpriv

Q7 MT [REDACTED] #FTCpriv To reasonably put in place security to protect personal data is HTC's issue. Why is Craigslist or eBay exempt?

A7 Can't comment on specific companies, but all businesses should have reasonable and appropriate data security for consumer info. #FTCpriv

A5 @TechFTC talks abt reg security updates: <http://wp.me/p2iaHr-4M>. Will discuss @ mobile threats forum too: <http://go.usa.gov/4SGw> #FTCpriv

Q8 RT [REDACTED] Will the FTC be doing any consumer education on device specific settings for privacy and security? #FTCpriv

A8 See Understanding Mobile Apps from @FTC: <http://go.usa.gov/4hT5> & @FCC's Smartphone Security Checker: <http://go.usa.gov/4hTh> #FTCpriv

That is all the time we have. Thanks everyone for participating in our Twitter Chat today. #FTCpriv