

PUBLIC COMMENT: Chris Attardo of Affordable Pools Nashua - Feedback to FTC Workshops on Testing Efficiency of Customer Disclosures

From: Chris Attardo of Affordable Pools Nashua

TO: FTC.GOV, It is a given that the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) is mandated to guard internet-based Americans when it comes to clear-cut criteria and sound enforcement measures for any unscrupulous or deceptive methods on the net. Likewise, I realize that the FTC is reckoned to be the lead govt consumer protection agency for our confidentiality. Is it so that the "law of unintended consequences," has given rise to the FTC having its administrative "rug pulled from under its feet" with regard to the thin vertical market of broadband providers, as an outcome of adjustments included in 2015's new "Open Internet" rules, that were successfully passed in 2015?

In response, it seems that the FCC is attempting to enhance its jurisdiction, by cobbling together some specific standards that specifically apply to broadband providers, whilst exempting all others. I will advocate that all rule makers in this course of action to think prudently. Be careful of "jumping out of the fry pan into the fire". As this would certainly be a giant backward step for individuals, by frustrating them and escalating the possibility of offensive, discriminatory or intrusive use of our personal information.

It's simply not practical to rely upon users to interpret multiple and diverse approaches to their online privacy or to work out how their information is going to be used when the standards transform for the plethora internet businesses they might be working together with. The national authorities are meant to be helping make things plain for consumers, not causing complexity.

Instead of an incoherent jumble of rules, formed on false assumptions and a misreading of the internet privacy threat, the FCC can and should step back and set individuals in front of its jurisdictional imperialism and follow the successes of the FTC's approach that set people in control rather than in a maze.

Respectfully,
Chris Attardo
Affordable Pools Nashua
July 6 - 2016