

Protecting American Children



A Workshop to Explore Age Verification Technologies • January 28, 2026

BIOGRAPHIES

Diana Chang (event co-organizer) is an Attorney in the Division of Privacy and Identity Protection at the FTC, where she works on enforcement matters in consumer privacy and data security. She has also represented the Commission in consumer protection matters concerning fraud and deceptive advertising and competition matters involving mergers and anticompetitive conduct. Prior to joining the FTC, Ms. Chang practiced at Fenwick & West and Kirkland & Ellis. She received her B.A. from Duke University and J.D. from Northwestern University School of Law.

Jamie Hine (event co-organizer) is a Senior Attorney in the Division of Privacy and Identity Protection at the FTC. He investigates and prosecutes violations of consumer privacy and information security under Section 5 of the FTC Act, the FCRA, the FTC's Health Breach Notification Rule, and the GLB Act. He is also active in bankruptcy matters involving the transfer of consumer information, notably *In re RadioShack Corporation et al.* Jamie previously served as an Attorney Advisor to FTC Commissioner Pamela Jones Harbour. He received his B.A. from the University of Pennsylvania and his J.D., M.S.I., and M.P.P. from the University of Michigan.

Gorana Neskovic (event co-organizer) is an Attorney in the Division of Privacy and Identity Protection at the FTC, where she works on enforcement matters involving consumer privacy and data security. She joined the FTC from Willkie Farr & Gallagher LLP's Washington office, where her practice focused on government investigations and complex commercial litigation. Gorana is a graduate of the University of Pennsylvania and the Catholic University of America Columbus School of Law.

Andrew N. Ferguson is Chairman of the Federal Trade Commission. Ferguson most recently served as solicitor general of the Commonwealth of Virginia. Prior to that position, he served as chief counsel to U.S. Sen. Mitch McConnell of Kentucky, the Republican leader, and as a Republican counsel on the U.S. Senate Judiciary Committee. He also practiced law at several Washington, D.C. law firms. He earned his undergraduate degree and law degree from the University of Virginia. After law school, Ferguson clerked for Judge Karen L. Henderson on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit and U.S. Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas.

Mark R. Meador was sworn in April 16, 2025 as a Commissioner of the Federal Trade Commission. Meador most recently worked in private practice and as a visiting fellow at the Heritage Foundation Tech Policy Center. Prior to that, he served as Deputy Chief Counsel for Antitrust and Competition Policy for Sen. Mike Lee, R-Utah. During the first Trump Administration, Meador worked as a trial attorney in the Department of Justice's Antitrust Division. He began his career as an attorney in the FTC's Bureau of Competition. Meador earned his law degree from the University of Houston Law Center and his undergraduate degree in philosophy from the University of Chicago.

Christopher Mufarrige is the Director of the Bureau of Consumer Protection at the Federal Trade Commission. Chris served in the first Trump Administration as a Senior Adviser to the Director and Deputy Director of the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, advising on enforcement, rulemaking, and supervisory exams relating to the country's largest banks and nonbank financial institutions. Most recently, he was Commissioner Melissa Holyoak's Chief of Staff and Attorney Adviser. He has also worked at private law firms and as an in-house lawyer. In his free time, Mufarrige taught a class on financial services and consumer protection at George Mason University's Antonin Scalia Law School.

Panel 1: Understanding the Landscape: Why Age Verification Matters

Michael Murray is Head of Regulatory Policy at the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO), the United Kingdom's data protection regulator. Michael leads on policy development related to the Children's code (formally known as the Age appropriate design code), edtech, and age assurance. He chairs the International Age Assurance Working Group, and leads on engagement with age assurance providers and regulators related to age assurance and children's privacy matters.

Mark Smith is Senior Privacy and Data Policy Manager at Hunton Andrews Kurth LLP's Centre for Information Policy Leadership (CIPL), a preeminent global privacy and data policy think tank with offices in Washington, London, and Brussels. Based in Washington, Mark develops strategies and implements project plans that advance CIPL's U.S. and global policy agenda on a wide range of issues, including cross-border data transfers, children's privacy and safety, and organizational accountability for data privacy and AI governance programs. Mark is a graduate of Loyola University Maryland and the University of Maryland School of Law, and he holds three certifications (CIPP/US, CIPP/C, CIPM) from the International Association of Privacy Professionals.

Rep. Bethany Soye is a South Dakota State Representative serving as Majority Whip and Vice Chair of the House Judiciary Committee. She is an attorney by trade and holds a J.D. and Master of Public Policy from the College of William and Mary. As a mother of three young boys, Bethany is passionate about protecting children and in 2025 she passed HB1053: the nation's strongest state age verification law for explicit websites.

Amelia Vance is the Founder and President of the Public Interest Privacy Center, a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization focused exclusively on child and student privacy. For over a decade, Amelia has partnered with youth, parents, schools, government agencies, companies, policymakers, and advocates to ensure the responsible use of child and student data. Amelia has taught privacy law and EU data protection at William & Mary Law School since 2022, testified before Congress and state legislatures, served on advisory councils such as the Maryland Student Privacy Council, and published over 50 articles on child and student privacy.

Peder Magee (moderator) is a senior attorney in the FTC's Division of Advertising Practices. He works on a variety of policy and litigation matters related to children's online privacy and safety issues, online behavioral advertising, and the Internet of Things. Mr. Magee has worked on numerous COPPA enforcement cases and was the principal author of the FTC's March 2012 comprehensive privacy report.

Panel 2: From Biometrics to Behavioral Signals: Age Verification Tools

Iain Corby has served as Executive Director of the Age Verification Providers Association, the global trade body representing 35 suppliers of age verification and estimation technologies, since 2019. Prior to this, he worked for a leading UK gambling charity, ran a political research team in the UK Parliament and was a management consultant for Deloitte. Iain was educated at Balliol College, Oxford and has an MBA from UCLA.

Sarah Scheffler is an assistant professor at Carnegie Mellon University at CyLab, the CMU Security & Privacy Institute. She is an applied cryptographer working at the intersection of cryptography, privacy, and policy. Her interdisciplinary research topics include end-to-end encryption, content moderation, compelled decryption, ID authentication, and age verification.

Jim Siegl, CIPT, is a Senior Fellow with the Future of Privacy Forum (FPF). For nearly two decades prior to joining FPF, Jim was a Technology Architect for the Fairfax County Public School District with a focus on privacy, security, identity management, interoperability, and learning management systems. He was a co-author of the CoSN Privacy Toolkit and the Trusted Learning Environment (TLE) seal program and holds a Master of Science in the Management of Information Technology from the University of Virginia.

Rick Song is the co-founder and CEO of Persona, a global identity and age assurance platform. An engineer with over a decade of experience in identity, fraud, and risk, he believes the future of identity lies in modular, privacy-preserving infrastructure that adapts to the unique intricacies of every use case and minimizes personal data collection and exposure.

Denise G. Tayloe is the co-founder and CEO of PRIVO, an FTC-approved COPPA Safe Harbor organization and a recognized industry leader in the global minors' online identity and privacy space. Under Denise's leadership, PRIVO has delivered more than two decades of innovation at the intersection of minors' digital privacy compliance and privacy tech, serving as a global privacy and identity partner for some of the world's most well-loved brands. Denise is a frequent invited speaker on children's privacy, identity and age assurance and holds three U.S. patents related to device-level age verification technologies designed to protect vulnerable populations.

Elizabeth Averill (moderator) is an attorney in the FTC's Division of Privacy and Identity Protection, where she has worked on the recent COPPA Rule amendments as well as various enforcement matters related to consumer privacy and data security. She previously worked on litigation matters in the FTC's Division of Enforcement and served as Counsel to the former Director of the Bureau of Consumer Protection, Samuel Levine. She received her B.A. from Yale University and her J.D. from New York University School of Law.

Panel 3: Navigating the Regulatory Maze of Age Verification

Katherine Hass, Director of the Utah Division of Consumer Protection, works on developing pragmatic policies and safeguarding consumer rights. Her efforts are directed toward ensuring a level playing field

for businesses and fostering trust in Utah's commercial activities by upholding key laws, such as the state's Consumer Sales Practices Act and the Consumer Privacy Act. She was instrumental in establishing Utah's social media laws, including the creation of administrative rules for age assurance for both the Utah Minor Protection in Social Media Act and the Utah App Store Accountability Act.

Jennifer Huddleston is a senior fellow in technology policy at the Cato Institute and an adjunct professor at George Mason University's Antonin Scalia Law School. Her research focuses on the intersection of emerging technology and law with a particular interest in the interactions between technology and the administrative state. She has testified before Congress and state legislatures concerning a range of technology policy topics and her work has appeared in a range of outlets including popular media like *USA Today*, *National Review*, the *Los Angeles Times*, and *CNN*, and law journals including *Liberty University Law Review*, *Berkeley Technology Law Journal*, and *Oklahoma Law Review*.

Sara Kloek is the Vice President of Education and Youth Policy at Software & Information Industry Association (SIIA), where she bridges the gap between cutting-edge software and the policies that keep children and teens safe online. Her career is rooted in public service, including high-impact roles at the U.S. Department of Education and on Capitol Hill. Sara is a Certified Information Privacy Professional (CIPP/US) and a published expert on youth privacy and safety online. When she isn't decoding privacy regulations, she can be found championing the vital role of bees in our ecosystem.

Clare Morell is a fellow at the Ethics and Public Policy Center in the Bioethics, Technology and Human Flourishing Program, where her work focuses on policy solutions to protect kids from digital harms. Prior to joining EPPC, Ms. Morell worked in both the White House Counsel's Office and the Department of Justice, as well as in the private and non-profit sectors. She is also the author of *The Tech Exit: A Practical Guide to Freeing Kids and Teens from Smartphones*, published by Penguin Random House.

Manmeet Dhindsa (moderator) is an attorney in the Federal Trade Commission's Division of Privacy and Identity Protection. In this role, she engages in investigatory work and policy initiatives related to privacy and data security, with a particular focus on COPPA and other children's privacy and safety issues. Before joining the FTC, Manmeet served as Counsel on the House Energy and Commerce Committee, where she conducted investigations into various consumer protection issues. Prior to that, Manmeet worked in private practice in the privacy and data security field.

Panel 4: Deploying Responsible Age Verification at Scale

Emily Cashman Kirstein leads child safety public policy at Google and is a Board Member of the Family Online Safety Institute, the Technology Coalition, and on the Global Policy Board of the WeProtect Global Alliance. Prior to joining Google, she led the policy team at Thorn and served for seven years in multiple roles as a key aide to U.S. Senator Jeanne Shaheen. She also worked as senior staff on several political campaigns in her home state of New Hampshire.

Antigone Davis is Meta's Vice President and Global Head of Safety, where she oversees safety initiatives and leads engagement with civil society, experts, and policymakers. She has served on the boards of multiple non-profit organizations focused on child safety and victim protection, including the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children and the National Network to End Domestic Violence. Prior to Meta, she served as Senior Advisor to a State Attorney General, where she helped establish the first state attorney general privacy unit. She has a law degree from the University of Chicago.

Graham Dufault is General Counsel of ACT | The App Association, representing small and medium-sized mobile software makers and connected device companies in the app economy. Graham has testified as an expert witness in five Congressional hearings on issues including privacy, cybersecurity, and antitrust. Prior to joining the App Association, Graham was counsel for the House Energy and Commerce Committee, with a portfolio including FTC consumer protection matters.

Amy Lawrence, CIPP US/E, is the Chief Privacy Officer and Head of Legal at SuperAwesome, where she leads global privacy strategy for technology and media products designed for young audiences. An expert in children's privacy, Amy advises on how to build compliant services and responsible advertising in line with COPPA, GDPR, state privacy laws, and age-appropriate design codes. She previously spent a decade in private practice specializing in privacy compliance for the media and entertainment sectors, followed by a role at Epic Games modernizing the global privacy program and managing regulatory engagement.

Nick Rossi leads Apple's federal government affairs team in Washington, DC. Prior to joining Apple, he served in senior staff positions in the U.S. Senate for more than 15 years, including as chief of staff in the Whip Office of Senator John Thune; staff director for both the Commerce, Science & Transportation Committee and the Homeland Security & Governmental Affairs Committee; and chief counsel of the Judiciary Committee. Nick also worked for more than a decade at the Federal Bureau of Investigation as a special agent and unit chief, and is a graduate of the University of Notre Dame and Harvard Law School.

Robin Tombs, CEO and Co-Founder of Yoti, one of the UK's fastest growing technology companies, providing identity and age assurance solutions to many of the world's largest online brands. Before Yoti, Robin was Co-founder and Finance Director at Gamesys, one of the world's leading online gaming operators, which is where he first got involved in checking age and identity compliance with UK regulations.

Diana Chang (moderator) is an Attorney in the Division of Privacy and Identity Protection at the FTC, where she works on enforcement matters in consumer privacy and data security. She has also represented the Commission in consumer protection matters concerning fraud and deceptive advertising and competition matters involving mergers and anticompetitive conduct. Prior to joining the FTC, Ms. Chang practiced at Fenwick & West and Kirkland & Ellis. She received her B.A. from Duke University and J.D. from Northwestern University School of Law.

James Trilling (moderator) is an attorney in the FTC's Bureau of Consumer Protection, where he has led policy initiatives, investigations, and litigation on a variety of issues. He was as an attorney advisor

to former FTC Commissioner Melissa Holyoak and served a detail as counsel to the U.S. Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation. Before joining the FTC, he litigated cases in private practice and clerked for Judge David F. Hamilton.