

Federal Communications Commission 445 12th Street, S.W. Washington, D. C. 20554

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STATEMENT OF FCC ACTING CHAIRMAN MICHAEL J. COPPS ON U.S. CIRCUIT COURT OF APPEALS DECISION ON CONSUMER PRIVACY

In response to today's decision by the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit upholding the Commission's rules concerning how carriers obtain customer approval for the use of customer information, Acting Chairman Michael J. Copps said:

"I am pleased by today's D.C. Circuit decision upholding the Commission's efforts to strengthen individual privacy protections. Telephone carriers today handle vast amounts of their customers' personal information, and in light of documented abuses of consumers' privacy, the Commission appropriately required carriers to institute additional safeguards to protect customers' personal information. Today's court decision upholding those safeguards should be a welcome development for all consumers, and the Commission will continue to be vigilant to ensure that their privacy is protected."