

Media Contact:

Will Wiquist will.wiquist@fcc.gov

For Immediate Release

FCC SEEKS TO CUT OFF REPEAT ROBOCALL OFFENDER'S ATTEMPTS TO EVADE ENFORCEMENT

WASHINGTON, February 15, 2023—The FCC's Enforcement Bureau today sought to cut off scam robocalls facilitated by One Eye LLC, whose robocall practices have previously been a target of the Bureau. The Bureau called on voice service providers to no longer accept traffic from One Eye and demanded that the company cease and desist their support for illegal robocalls.

FCC Leadership:

Chairwoman Jessica Rosenworcel: "Illegal robocallers cannot hide. So we're cutting them off at the source. We have an all hands-on-deck approach to combatting this problem with teams across the agency and partnerships in states across the country."

Enforcement Bureau:

Chief Loyaan Egal: "Our investigators are not fooled by rebranding and figurehead ownership tricks. We are not going to allow serial robocallers to simply start up 'new' companies to continue scamming American consumers. Repeat offenders will face stiffer penalties."

How We Got Here

FCC investigators have found that One Eye LLC transmitted multiple illegal robocall campaigns. These calls pertained to bank impersonation including claims of "preauthorized orders" placed on the recipient's "account". During autumn of 2022, the Traceback Consortium investigated prerecorded voice message calls that Bank of America and customers of Verizon had flagged as illegal robocalls made without consent. The consortium conducted tracebacks and determined that One Eye acted as the gateway provider for the calls.

One Eye is a successor entity to PZ/Illum Telecommunication, which received an Enforcement Bureau cease-and-desist letter on October 21, 2021. One Eye's owner, Prince Anand, explained that he shut down PZ/Illum Telecommunication due to the FCC's letter but that he then launched One Eye LLC to originate calls, leaving his name off the paperwork while remaining the only owner. Today's FCC letter targets this "new" company with heightened enforcement powers including the use of the "K4 Notice" to encourage other providers to refraining from carrying this traffic.

The Bigger Picture:

Chairwoman Rosenworcel established the FCC's Robocall Response Team to serve as an FCC staff working group to combat the unyielding menace of illegal spoofed, scam, robocalls. The team pulls together expertise from across the agency to leverage the talents of enforcers, attorneys, policy makers, engineers, economists, and outreach experts.

Getting Results:

- Blocking active robocall scam campaigns by issuing first-of-their-kind actions resulting, in the case of a massive auto warranty robocall scam campaign, in a 99% drop in the volume of such calls;
- Numerous record-breaking spoofing and robocall fines;
- Closing gateways used by international robocallers to reach Americans' phones;
- Widespread implementation of STIR/SHAKEN caller ID authentication standards to help traceback illegal calls and improve blocking tools to protect consumers;
- Cutting voice service providers off from other networks for failing to meet the FCC's requirements for protecting consumers against scam robocalls and malicious spoofing;
- Signing robocall investigation partnerships with <u>43 states</u> plus the District of Columbia and Guam as well as international partnerships with Australia, Canada, Brazil, Romania, and the European Union;
- Launching a proceeding proposing to combat the rising threat of bogus robotexts.

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Media Relations: (202) 418-0500 / ASL: (844) 432-2275 / Twitter: @FCC / www.fcc.gov

This is an unofficial announcement of Commission action. Release of the full text of a Commission order constitutes official action. See MCI v. FCC, 515 F.2d 385 (D.C. Cir. 1974).