

Media Contact:

Will Wiquist
will.wiquist@fcc.gov

For Immediate Release

CHAIRWOMAN ROSENWORCEL LAUNCHES NEW ‘PRIVACY AND DATA PROTECTION TASK FORCE’

Will Coordinate Efforts to Protect Against & Respond to Communications Provider Data Breaches, Consumer Privacy Infringements, & More

WASHINGTON, June 14, 2023—FCC Chairwoman Rosenworcel today announced the establishment of a new Privacy and Data Protection Task Force. This FCC staff working group will coordinate across the agency on the rulemaking, enforcement, and public awareness needs in the privacy and data protection sectors. This will include data breaches – such as those involving telecommunications providers and related to cyber intrusions – and supply chain vulnerabilities involving third-party vendors that service regulated communications providers.

“We live in an era of always-on connectivity. Connection is no longer just convenient. It fuels every aspect of modern civic and commercial life. To address the security challenges of this reality head-on, we must protect consumers’ information, ensure data security, and require cyber vigilance from every participant in our communications networks,” said Chairwoman Rosenworcel. “This team of FCC experts will lead our efforts to protect consumer privacy.”

FCC Enforcement Bureau Chief Loyaan A. Egal has been appointed by the Chairwoman to lead the Task Force. The new Task Force is made up of FCC staff from across the agency that handle topics including enforcement, equipment authorization, data breach reporting requirements, and undersea cables. The group met for the first time earlier this week. More information is available at www.fcc.gov/privacy-and-data-protection-task-force.

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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).