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For Immediate Release**FCC NOW PARTNERING WITH TEN STATE ATTORNEYS GENERAL
ON PRIVACY PROTECTION*****Privacy & Data Protection Task Force Leading Agency's Coordination Efforts for
Consumer Data & Cybersecurity Protections***

WASHINGTON, October 21, 2024—The FCC's Privacy and Data Protection Task Force today announced additional partnerships between the agency's Enforcement Bureau and state partners on privacy, data protection, and cybersecurity enforcement matters. These formal relationships allow federal and state enforcement leaders to share expertise, resources, and coordinate efforts in conducting investigations to protect consumers.

What's New?

The Attorneys General of Massachusetts, Maine, Vermont, Delaware, and Indiana have joined a growing list of partners alongside Connecticut, Illinois, New York, Oregon, Pennsylvania and the District of Columbia. These Memoranda of Understanding affirm that the FCC and State Attorneys General "share close and common legal interests in working cooperatively to investigate and, where appropriate, prosecute or otherwise take enforcement action in relation to privacy, data protection, or cybersecurity issues." Coordinated action and information sharing will take place pursuant to applicable federal and state laws and privacy protections.

Federal and State Leaders

FCC Chairwoman Jessica Rosenworcel said: "Consumers expect their data will remain private and that any exposure of their personal information will be addressed with urgency and accountability. Success on this front requires strong partnerships between federal enforcement officials and state leaders. I thank our partners for their dedication to protecting consumers' privacy."

FCC Enforcement Bureau Chief Loya A. Egal said: "Our Privacy and Data Protection Task Force continues to investigate data breaches, work with companies to improve their privacy, sensitive data, and cybersecurity protections, and pursue regulatory efforts to further protect consumers who increasingly rely on FCC-regulated services in their everyday lives. Cooperation with state partners is critical to this success, and I welcome our friends in Delaware, Indiana, Maine, Massachusetts, and Vermont to this coalition."

Maine Attorney General Aaron M. Frey said: "Fraud, scams and data breaches steal the hard-earned money of Mainers every day. Our collaboration with the FCC will bring new resources, perspective and expertise to the fight to keep Mainers safe from scams and identity theft."

Massachusetts Attorney General Andrea Joy Campbell said: "In a time when cyber threats are becoming more common, it's critical for federal and state partners to work together to ensure

consumers' personal data is protected from exploitation. I am grateful for the opportunity to partner with the FCC's Privacy and Data Task Force and will continue to fight for consumers both in Massachusetts and across the country."

Vermont Attorney General Charity Clark said: "Protecting data privacy has been one of my top priorities as Vermont's Attorney General. I am proud to join this partnership to work together toward a future that prioritizes our privacy over corporate profits and acknowledges the critical role data plays in the modern marketplace."

Delaware Attorney General Kathy Jennings said: "The FCC and the Delaware DOJ have a successful history of working together combating intrusive robocalls. With this new partnership, we will be better equipped to share resources and work with our federal partners to protect Delawarean's data privacy and security."

Power of Partnerships

During investigations, both the FCC's Enforcement Bureau and state investigators seek records, talk to witnesses, interview targets, examine consumer complaints, confer with experts, and take other critical steps to build a record against possible threat actors. These privacy and data protection partnerships provide critical resources for building cases and coordinating efforts to protect consumers and businesses nationwide.

The state agencies and attorney general offices leverage years of expertise, both investigative and technical. The FCC offers partner states not only the expertise of its enforcement staff, but also important resources and remedies to support state investigations. For example, the MOUs facilitate relationships with other authorities in this space including other federal agencies, and support for and expertise with critical investigative tools including subpoenas and confidential response letters from suspected targets. The FCC's unique position and authorities have allowed the Commission to work with state partners to obtain measurable results in the robocalling space to scale efforts to protect consumers.

FCC's Privacy and Data Protection Task Force

To lead and coordinate this important work, Chairwoman Rosenworcel created the [Privacy and Data Protection Task Force](#) to work on privacy and data protection issues subject to the Commission's authority under the Communications Act. The Task Force coordinates across the agency on the rulemaking, enforcement, and public awareness needs regarding privacy and data protection activities, including threats like SIM swapping scams, port-out fraud, and data breaches, which can increase the risk posed by these scams by exposing consumers' information that can make it easier for scammers to steal consumers cell phone accounts. The FCC also secured "Consumer Privacy Upgrades" covering beneficial data protection, cybersecurity, and consumer privacy terms with all of the largest wireless carriers, including September 2024 settlements with [T-Mobile](#) and [AT&T](#), and a July 2024 settlement with [Verizon on behalf of TracFone](#).

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*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).*