Already today I have received 11 telemarketing calls (10 of them prerecorded robocalls). I received these calls divided between two different mobile phones. I received these despite the fact that both of these numbers have been on the National Do Not Call list for many years. While receiving these 11 annoying, distracting, and productivity ruining telemarketing calls, I received only one other call—the only call of the day that I wanted to receive. Telemarketers have caused my phone to lose much of its value, as it is now more an annoyance than a tool. I have missed important calls because I usually force all calls to voice mail.

All of the telemarketing calls showed “neighborhood spoofed” CIDs. None of them identified the caller, the calling company, or any other information relevant to reaching the calling party. My experience is similar to Ms. Mey’s, whose comment I just read. Today I’ve had calls wanting to lower my interest rates, give me business loan, sign me up for medical insurance, sell me counterfeit drugs, etc.

I worked for some years as a VP of Engineering and Technology at a firm that designed, built, and sold systems capable of making these calls. To my knowledge and experience, all of the variations on this equipment are based on general purpose computers underneath (perhaps with additional equipment). Any piece of equipment that contains these “standard” CPUs inherently has the ***potential and present capability*** to generate random numbers and to dial from any list of numbers (random or not). Could your cell phone do this? Absolutely! Anyone who used a cellphone to annoy and steal the privacy and productivity of thousands or millions or billions of consumers who don’t want telemarketing calls should similarly be severely punished. It makes no difference to the injured party whether the telemarketer was using a herd of cell phones, a personal computer, or Watson. In fact, to the injured parties, it makes no difference whether the calls are fully autodialed or whether the computer is “just” used to pop up number 1 at a time and a monkey (or call center employee) clicks on each number as the computer produces it.

If we take one step back, we all know when we are getting an autodialed or autodialed and prerecorded call. None of us wants to receive such calls. The only comments supporting such calls are from those Trolls who make such calls. I didn’t see a single comment that asked that the Commission to relax any of these rules except by those that want to bombard us with more unwanted calls. Nobody said, “Please relax these rules so I can get more robocalls”. I also noted and agree with all of Mr. Reo’s comments

So I firmly believe that virtually all consumers would request that the Commission instead focus on how to make the NDNCL actually do what it says, drastically increase the penalties on TCPA offenders, and make it easier for us to actually identify these miscreants.

Jimmy Sutton