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Time's Up on 1-to-1 Consumer Consent

Telecom Wise Guys - Ask our voice & messaging experts!

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Commio Voice & SMS www.commio.com



1-to-1 Consumer Consent is Here!



(Okay, almost-1/27/25)

Consumers are inundated with marketing...much of it fraudulent. The FCC is giving back some control.

(Businesses are less happy.)



But What IS It?!

The Telephone Consumer Protection Act (TCPA) states you must have:

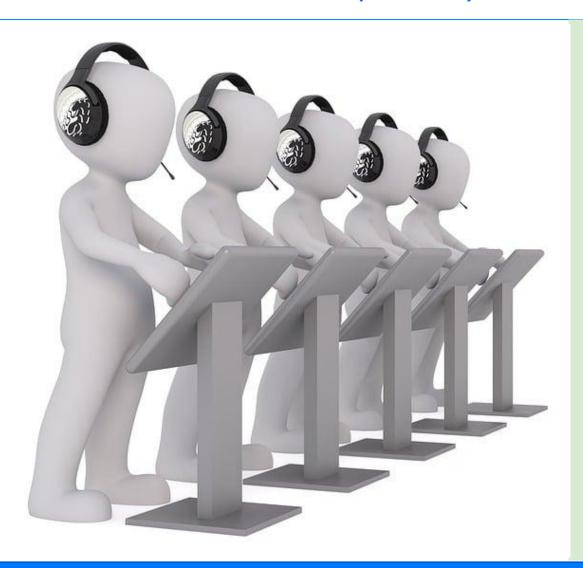
- 1. Prior,
- 2. Express, and
- 3. Written/digital (e-sign) consent

...from a consumer **before** marketing to them.

This consent must clearly identify the brand and the type(s) of communication they're consenting to receive, and include the consumer's signature in compliance with the E-sign Act.



But What IS It? (cont'd)



Consent applies to:

- Telemarketing / robocalling
- Messaging campaigns / robotexting
- Consumers only—not B2B
 (but a big question mark if it's the same cell phone)
- Exemption: emergency situations

The Penalties

- \$500 \$1500 per violation—

 per person called
- But wait: states have their own laws and penalties!
- Carriers have penalties, as well
- Perhaps worst of all? Damage to your brand's reputation



Who Needs to Care?

- Marketers / other communicators
- Companies that share lists between sister brands
- Lead generators / sellers
- Your legal team (we're not lawyers)
- Compliance officer / internal expert (if you don't have one, you should!)
- Make sure your team is educated



Track Each Consumer's Consent / Opt-in

- In writing
- With explicit details:
 - What they're consenting to (robocalls and/or texts)
 - From whom (the registered brand)
 - The expected frequency
 - Date, time, consumer's name, preferred language
 - Subscriber/consumer's full name
 - Mobile number
 - Date & time stamp



IP Address (if applicable)

- Consent acquisition medium (e.g., cell-submit form, physical sign-up form, SMS keyword, etc.)
- Capture of experience (e.g., language and action) used to secure consent
- Specific campaign for which the opt-in was provided (request for consent must relate to the reason for interacting)
- Web confirmation consent box was checked



Track Each Consumer's Consent / Opt-in (cont'd)

I provide my <u>ESIGN</u> consent to receive SMS/MMS text messages, from an automated dialing system, to my cell number provided above for account notifications and alerts from [COMPANY]. I understand that I am not required to provide my consent as a condition of purchasing any products or services. I understand that I can opt-out of receiving text messages at any time by responding with STOP. I can reply with HELP to get help. I understand that message frequency may vary. I understand that message and data rates may apply depending on my mobile carrier and that T- Mobile and other mobile carriers are not liable for delayed or undelivered messages.

I provide my <u>ESIGN</u> consent to receive SMS/MMS text messages, from an automated dialing system, to my cell number provided above for <u>marketing</u> <u>promotions</u> from [COMPANY]. I understand that I am not required to provide my consent as a condition of purchasing any products or services. I understand that I can opt-out of receiving text messages at any time by responding with STOP. I can reply with HELP to get help. I understand that message frequency may vary. I understand that message and data rates may apply depending on my mobile carrier and that T- Mobile and other mobile carriers are not liable for delayed or undelivered messages.

☐ General Account Alerts ☐ OTP/2FA (account security) Alerts ☐ Marketing Promotions

I provide my <u>ESIGN</u> consent to receive SMS/MMS text messages from [COMPANY], sent from an automated dialing system, to my cell number provided for each category I selected above. I understand that I am not required to provide my consent as a condition of purchasing any products or services. I understand that I can opt-out of receiving text messages at any time by responding with STOP. I can reply with HELP to get help. I understand that message frequency may vary. I understand that message and data rates may apply depending on my mobile carrier and that T- Mobile and other mobile carriers are not liable for delayed or undelivered messages.

Verbal consent is allowed, but:

- Company agent taking consent must verbally state the mandatory disclosures and ask for a yes before proceeding.
- The company/brand needs to send a double-opt in text message to that subscriber confirming consent.
- Confirmation must be captured and stored.

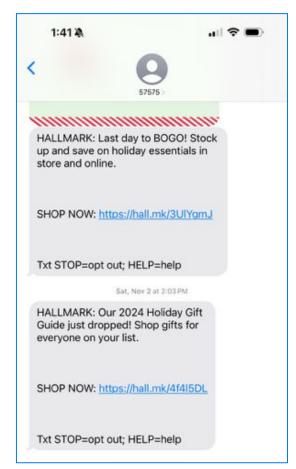
You must maintain the record

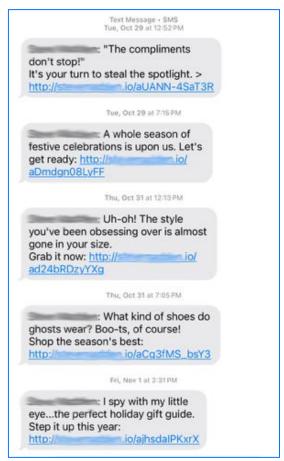
for five (5) years.



After They Opt In

- Every call/message must make it easy to UNsubscribe
- You must be able to show evidence immediately upon request (saying it's with your lead source isn't good enough!)
- Lists should be scrubbed to remove TCPA litigators





Every time!



Text Messages = Calls!



- Subject to the same requirements as calls on the Do Not Call Registry (DNC)
- Neither calls nor texts can go to someone on the DNC list without express consent
- Carriers need to block numbers identified as fraudulent

Your Website Must be Clear

We will not share your opt-in (consent) to an SMS campaign with any third party for marketing and/or promotional purposes.

You must clearly state how you protect consumers' opt-in information and make it easy to find:

- Privacy Policy
- Terms & Conditions

Buying / Selling Leads: Best Practices



You can still buy/sell leads, but...

- Tracking consent should be in your contract
- Both buyer (brand) and seller should track
- If a comparison site is used, brand names must be listed individually for the consumer to choose from
- Again: the brand must be able to show consent when asked
- The onus is on the brand doing the telemarketing / texting!

The brand owns most of the risk

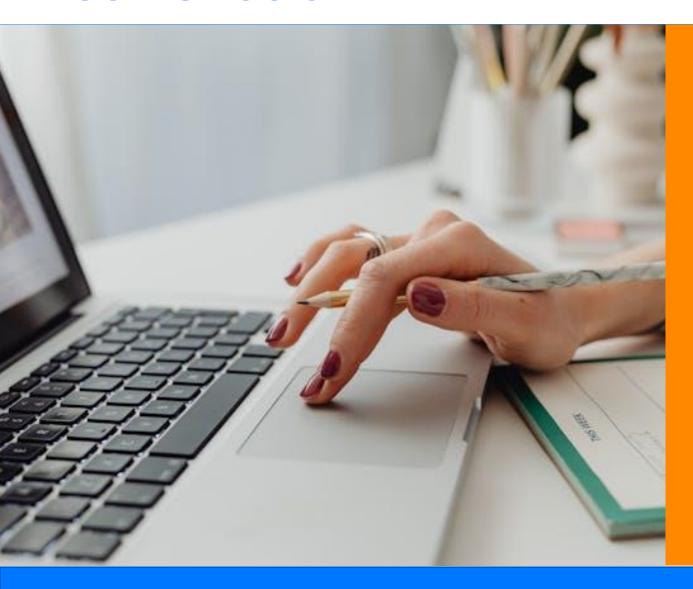
Using 1-2-1 to Your Advantage

- Show customers you respect their privacy
- Demonstrate you're an ethical, reliable company
- Happy consumers become customers...and repeat customers



A bird in the hand...

Some Tools



- Products like ActiveProspect help you track and manage your leads
- Take advantage of Commio's free SmartReview
- Download our Messaging Registration Checklist

Links will be in the email and blog post after the webinar



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Time's Up on 1-to-1 Consumer Consent
Telecom Wise Guys - Ask our voice & messaging experts!

Contact your account manager, email us: support@commio.com