Comment #: 41



Electronic Equipment Brokering, Recycling & Services

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June 15, 2004

RE: The FACT Act Disposal Rule, R-41107

Federal Trade Commission Office of the Secretary, Room 159-H (Annex H) Donald S. Clark 600 Pennsylvania Ave. N.W. Washington, DC 20580

Dear Mr. Clark:

As an owner of a computer recycling business that specializes in Certified Data Destruction, I feel compelled to comment on the above referenced rule, R-41107.

Identity theft has become a huge problem for our country. In my business, I see confidential data every single day. Some of it is from companies that contract with us for the sanitization of the hard drives. Unfortunately most of it is from companies who have failed to properly sanitize the hard drives prior to recycling. As an insured, bonded company that only hires people free of criminal backgrounds, we work with the companies to help them implement methodology that will prevent the accidental release of electronic data in the future.

In Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, there is an electronics recycling company that is actually owned by a convicted felon currently under indictment for a home improvement scam. The fact that this person comes into possession of the same types of data that I see every day frightens me. I see consumer reports, medical records, credit card information, banking data, employment records and the like. Much of this information, in the wrong hands, can be used for identity theft, fraud, forgery, extortion, and blackmail.

I implore the Federal Trace Commission to expressly forbid the use of prison labor or convicted felons for the purpose of disposal of consumer report information and records, either by the company itself, or through disposal/destruction companies explicitly hired to dispose of this type data, both in hard copy or in electronic media form.

As a member of NAID (National Association for Information Destruction) and a concerned private citizen, I hope that you will consider this recommendation. Please feel free to contact me if you need any further information.

Sincerely,

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Angle Singer Keating Vice President/Co-Owner Reclamere, Inc.