

STATE TELEMARKETING LAWS

Ohio

Telemarketing and Robocall Laws

Statutes, rules, and how they differ from the TCPA



By Adam Young and Harrison Gevirtz

<https://tcpa.com/state-telemarketing-laws/ohio/>

01. Telephone Solicitation Sales Act

R.C. CHAPTER 4719

Registration, a \$50,000 bond, 60-second disclosures, a signed written confirmation for phone sales, and no caller ID blocking.

02. Federal law as Ohio law

R.C. 109.87

TCPA, TSR and Telemarketing Act violations are Ohio violations, with liability for knowing assisters and \$500 to \$1,500 penalties.

AT A GLANCE

Ohio at a glance

WHY OHIO MATTERS

Non-exempt telephone solicitors register yearly and post a \$50,000 bond, and most violations are fifth degree felonies. Under R.C. 109.87, every TCPA or TSR violation is also an Ohio violation the Attorney General can enforce.



Who and what is covered

A "telephone solicitation" is a communication by or for a telephone solicitor that states a price or the quality of goods or services, or is used to induce a purchase, including by a prize.

Inbound sales from ads

Mail, broadcast or online ads that invite a call, during which the solicitor tries to sell, are covered. A bare phone number is not.

Aa. **Solicitors**

Anyone soliciting from Ohio or into Ohio, including owners and managers.

Bb. **Exemptions**

Charities, insurers, banks, utilities, retailers and more; some require TSR compliance.

Cc. **Burden**

The person claiming an exemption must prove it applies.

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Signed confirmation

A verbal agreement from a telephone solicitation is not valid or binding unless the solicitor receives a signed, written confirmation that discloses the full terms (R.C. 4719.07(A)).

No charge before it

Goods sent without it are free to the buyer. It must say, in 12-point bold, you need not pay unless you sign.

Cancellation alternative

No prizes or investments, TSR compliance, a 7-day full refund and two copies of the statutory notice.

01. No state list

R.C. 109.87(B)(1)

Ohio has no separate do-not-call list. The national registry and entity-specific list rules apply and are enforceable as Ohio law.

02. Attorney General enforcement

R.C. 109.87(C), (D)

Subpoenas, assurances and suits in state or federal court, but not both, within five years. No private action under § 109.87.

DO-NOT-CALL

Do-not-call and opt-outs

IN PRACTICE

Through R.C. 109.87, FCC and FTC rule changes flow automatically into Ohio law. "Text message" includes SMS and MMS.



Disclosures in 60 seconds

Ohio has no state calling-hour rule; federal hours apply through R.C. 109.87. Every sales call must open with set disclosures (R.C. 4719.06(A)).

60

Seconds to disclose

True name, the company, that the purpose is a sale, and the goods or services sold.



Before any data

Before asking for financial information or describing a prize or product.



Before payment

Address, phone, total cost, restrictions, refund policy, prize terms and rights.

Caller ID and assisters

Ohio relies on federal rules for robocall consent, do-not-call and hours, but makes each federal violation a state violation and adds its own caller ID ban.

Substantial assistance

No knowing or consciously blind support of a violator. Some voice providers are excluded (R.C. 109.87(B)(2)).

Aa. **Blocking**

Solicitors may not block the calling number (R.C. 4719.08(I)).

Bb. **Everyone**

R.C. 4719.21 reaches exempt solicitors too, with CSPA remedies.

\$500

Cc. **Penalties**

\$500 per federal violation, or \$1,500 if willful or knowing.



Registration and bonding

No one may act as a telephone solicitor without an Attorney General registration (R.C. 4719.02(A)). The application covers principals, history, locations, numbers and scripts.

\$50,000

Surety bond

Kept at least two years after solicitations stop. Injured persons may sue on the bond.



Annual renewal

Certificates expire after one year; report changes and new scripts on time.



Prize filings

File prize details at least 14 days before the first offer (R.C. 4719.05).



Lawsuits and penalties



\$25,000

Maximum mandatory civil penalty per Chapter 4719 violation; the minimum is \$1,000.

Felony

Most Chapter 4719 violations are fifth degree felonies and CSPA deceptive acts.

2 years

For purchaser suits: at least the amount paid, plus mandatory fees; punitive if knowing.





Ohio vs. the TCPA

Ohio adds registration, filed scripts, a bond, felony penalties and a written-confirmation rule, and makes every federal rule state law. On do-not-call, hours and robocall consent it relies on federal rules.

Ohio

\$50,000 bond, 60-second disclosures, signed confirmation, \$1,000 to \$25,000 penalties.

Federal TCPA

No registration or bond, prompt disclosures, \$500 per violation, four years to sue.

Key court rulings

In *Charvat v. Ryan* (2007), the Supreme Court of Ohio set a low bar for "knowing" or "willful" TCPA violations eligible for treble damages.

Ignorance is no defense

"The TCPA is neither a criminal nor a highly technical statute." The same standard applies to CSPA attorney fees.

Aa. **Knowing**

Knew it acted as it did, not that the act was illegal.

Bb. **Willful**

Conscious and deliberate, regardless of intent to break the law.

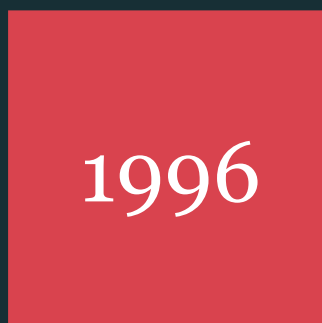
2007

Cc. **Discretion**

The court may, but need not, award treble damages.



Amendment history



1996

Felony penalty

Violations on or after July 1, 1996 are fifth degree felonies.

2021

Chapter 4719

No section has an effective date later than October 9, 2021.

2022

SB 54

Added texts, voice service and substantial assistance to R.C. 109.87.

2025

SB 224 pending

Passed the Senate Nov. 5, 2025; in House committee; not enacted.

01. Registration and sales

R.C. 4719.02 TO 4719.07

- Document exemptions; otherwise register yearly.
- File scripts, post the \$50,000 bond, name an agent.
- Disclose name, company, sale and product in 60 seconds.
- Get a signed confirmation or use the 7-day alternative.

02. Federal rules and vendors

R.C. 109.87; R.C. 4719.21

- Follow the TCPA and TSR in full; each breach is Ohio law.
- Never block caller ID; file prize details 14 days ahead.
- Vet lead and dialing vendors; train staff on the rules.

CHECKLIST

Compliance checklist

PLEASE NOTE

This checklist summarizes state law for general information and is not legal advice. Statutes change; confirm current text with the official source.



Sources behind this deck

OHIO LAW

[R.C. Chapter 4719](#) Telephone Solicitors

[R.C. 109.87](#) federal telemarketing laws

[R.C. Chapter 1345](#) Consumer Sales Practices

[Senate Bill 224 \(136th GA\)](#) as passed by the Senate

[Ohio Attorney General](#): Telemarketing and Do Not Call Registry

COURT DECISIONS

[Charvat v. Ryan](#), 116 Ohio St.3d 394, 2007-Ohio-6833

FEDERAL LAW

[47 U.S.C. § 227](#) Telephone Consumer Protection Act

[47 C.F.R. § 64.1200](#) FCC telemarketing and robocall rules

[47 C.F.R. § 64.1601](#) FCC caller ID rules

[16 C.F.R. Part 310](#) FTC Telemarketing Sales Rule

Read the full Ohio guide: <https://tcpa.com/state-telemarketing-laws/ohio/>

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Full text: <https://tcpa.com/disclaimer/> and <https://tcpa.com/terms/>

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The law changes

Current as of October 15, 2026. Statutes, FCC and FTC rules and court decisions change, and some changes are adopted before they take effect. This deck may not reflect later developments.

Courts disagree. Courts in different places can read the same rule differently. Case summaries are not predictions: any other matter turns on its own facts, court and law.

Check the official source. Verify each point against the statute, rule or opinion on the Sources slide. If an official source and this deck differ, the official source controls.

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Read the full Ohio guide on TCPA.com

The guide covers registration and bonding, disclosures, signed confirmations, R.C. 109.87, caller ID, penalties, a key ruling and a checklist, with links to the official sources.



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Adam Young is a Miami entrepreneur, the CEO of Ringba and the author of The Pay Per Call Revolution, with more than a decade in telecom, call routing and performance marketing. At TCPA.com he writes about the TCPA, robocall enforcement, tech support fraud cases and what DOJ, FTC and FCC actions mean for companies that make calls. His goal is simple: keep good companies compliant and keep scammers off the phone network.

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