

STATE TELEMARKETING LAWS

Pennsylvania

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/pennsylvania/>

01. Telemarketer Registration Act

73 P.S. §§ 2241 TO 2249

Registration, a \$50,000 bond, a state do-not-call list, calling hours, disclosures, signed contracts and caller ID rules.

02. Consumer protection law

73 P.S. § 201-1 ET SEQ.

Every TRA violation is a UTPCPL violation. Telephone sellers must state who they are and that the call is a sales call.

AT A GLANCE

Pennsylvania at a glance

WHY PENNSYLVANIA MATTERS

Act 47 of 2026, effective on or about October 18, 2026, limits sales calls and texts to 9 a.m. to 7 p.m., bans Sundays and legal holidays, and requires written consent for robocalls.



Who and what is covered

A "telephone solicitation" is a call, voicemail, ringless voicemail or text to a residential, business or wireless subscriber to sell consumer goods or services.

Inbound and outbound

The TRA reaches calls into Pennsylvania and callers located in the state, including inbound telemarketing.

Aa. **Business**

Business lines are protected, not only homes and cell phones.

Bb. **Excluded**

Written consent, existing debts, charities and political calls.

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Cc. **Customers**

Relationships count only within the past 12 months.





Signed written contracts

Most sales made during a telephone solicitation must be reduced to a written contract signed by the consumer, with the price and a description matching the call (TRA § 5(a)(7), (c)).

Required statement

"You are not obligated to pay any money unless you sign this contract and return it to the seller."

Refund alternative

A disclosed 10-day goods or 5-day services refund policy, with refunds within 30 days.

01. State do-not-call list

73 P.S. § 2245.2(a), (b)

Buy the list quarterly; it applies 30 days after a number first appears. Listings last until the number is invalid or removed.

02. Affirmative defense

73 P.S. § 2245.2(e)

Written procedures, staff training, recorded lists and a call made in error defeat a violation.

DO-NOT-CALL

Do-not-call and opt-outs

IN PRACTICE

Texts may opt out with "stop," "quit," "end," "revoke," "opt out," "cancel" or "unsubscribe."
Calls must end when the person asks.



Hours, Sundays and holidays

Under Act 47, no telephone solicitation may be made before 9 a.m., after 7 p.m., on a Sunday or on a legal holiday.

Before Act 47, the window was 8 a.m. to 9 p.m.

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P.M. cutoff

Two hours earlier than the federal 9 p.m. limit, Monday to Saturday.



Pennsylvania time

No time zone is set; the safe reading is local time.



Prompt disclosures

Purpose, telemarketer name and what is sold, at once.

Robocalls and AI messages

Robocalls to any line need prior express written consent naming the seller and the number, with notice that consent is not a condition of purchase (TRA § 5(a)(11)).

Two-second opt-out

An automated opt-out within two seconds of identification, available all call; toll-free on voicemail.

Aa. **Consent**

No unfair or deceptive tactics to obtain consent.

Bb. **Synthetic**

No synthetic or computer-generated messages that deceive.

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Cc. **Caller ID**

No blocking or falsifying caller ID or bypassing screening.



Registration and bonding

Telemarketers must register with the Attorney General at least 30 days before selling. Vendors under the same ownership for less than five years must register (TRA § 3).

\$50,000

Surety bond

Indemnifies anyone who suffers a loss from fraud or a violation.



Biennial filing

\$500 fee every two years; exemptions must be proven.



Unregistered calls

Failure to register is a second-degree misdemeanor.



Lawsuits and penalties



\$100

Or actual damages if greater under the UTPCPL, after a purchase and an ascertainable loss.

\$1,000

Per willful violation in public actions, or \$3,000 if the victim is 60 or older.

None

The TRA gives consumers no direct right to sue; the Attorney General enforces it.





Pennsylvania vs. the TCPA

Pennsylvania is stricter on hours, Sundays, holidays, registration, signed contracts, business lines and the 12-month relationship limit, but gives consumers no per-call damages.

Pennsylvania

9 a.m. to 7 p.m., no Sundays, \$50,000 bond, UTPCPL loss required.

Federal TCPA

8 a.m. to 9 p.m. every day, no registration, \$500 per violation.

Key court rulings

Federal courts in Pennsylvania hold that the TRA gives consumers no private right of action. A TRA violation can support a UTPCPL claim when there is an ascertainable loss.

Loss must be alleged

Garcia (E.D. Pa. 2026) denied class certification without prejudice for lack of loss allegations.

Aa. **Shelton**

TRA claim barred; TCPA damages awarded (2019).

Bb. **Bower**

A purchase after calls kept UTPCPL claims alive (2022).

2026

Cc. **Garcia**

Supplemental briefing ordered (2026).



Amendment history

1996

TRA enacted

Act 147 created registration and the core telemarketing rules.



2003

Act 22

Added wireless numbers and amended the do-not-call list.



2019

Act 73

Added business lines and robocall opt-out rules.



2026

Act 47

Texts, new hours, robocall consent; effective about Oct. 18.

01. Calls, texts and consent

TRA §§ 2, 5, 5.2

- Call or text 9 a.m. to 7 p.m., Monday to Saturday.
- Skip legal holidays; buy the state list quarterly.
- Honor the seven text opt-out keywords.
- Get written consent naming the seller and number.

02. Registration and sales

TRA §§ 3, 4, 5(a)(7)

- Register, pay \$500 and post the \$50,000 bond.
- Get a signed contract or offer the refund policy.
- Send accurate caller ID; review AI content.

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

PENNSYLVANIA LAW

[Telemarketer Registration Act](#) 73 P.S. §§ 2241 to 2249

[SB 992 \(Act 47 of 2026\)](#) bill information

[SB 992, Printer's No. 1649](#) final text

[UTPCPL](#) 73 P.S. § 201-1 et seq.

COURT DECISIONS

[Shelton v. FCS Capital LLC](#) (E.D. Pa. 2019)

[Bower v. National Administrative Service](#) (M.D. Pa. 2022)

[Garcia v. Star Power Marketing Group](#) (E.D. Pa. 2026)

FEDERAL LAW

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

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

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

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

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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 Pennsylvania guide on TCPA.com

The guide covers Act 47, hours, Sundays and holidays, the state list, robocall consent, registration, signed contracts, remedies, key rulings and a checklist, with official links.



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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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