

Working From Home and Caller ID

On occasion, I work from home and I'm looking for a way to change the caller ID number that is displayed to show my office phone number when I make phone calls.

Right now, I either block the caller ID on my mobile phone and make the call or use Google Voice through my mac. GV displays a random phone number that google assigned me (an area code from a different county). Both options are not optimal as I would like my office number to show so that people I call know who is calling and can easily call me back if they missed my call.

I'm willing to consider using any reasonably priced product that would accomplish this goal.

Most of the VOIP products should easily accomplish that: 8x8, Ring Central, etc, assuming that you have a good internet connection at home. I haven't had time to play around too much with OBI, which is also powerful in its own right.

Rod Alcidonis, Pennsylvania

That would be a popular product if it does exist! I say that because it is akin to computer spoofing attacks; where one pretend to be another computer by hijacking or impersonating the other. For example, email impersonation to make an email appear as if it was sent by another user at another location. This is the basis for my belief that such a capability would be deeply frowned upon by the service providers and not offered (except in error); though, I may be wrong.

To your point, if I had the capability to project the caller id information for a financial institution for illicit purposes then I would be perceived at the other end of the call as "trusted" to discuss my account information; the same for illicit fund raising or any other "spoofing" activity. For that matter, I could call your client saying that I am calling on behalf of Attorney Wu who needs to confirm certain financial/attorney-client privileged information, please provide me with...

I understand your need and its benefit. Unfortunately, the exploitation by others provides limitations (e.g., ID necessary for writing a check at a store or cashing a check at the bank).

Very truly yours,

Bill
William M. Driscoll, Massachusetts

SoloSez Popular Threads, August 2013

Use Google and find "caller i.d. spoofing" products. They can certainly be used legitimately. I believe you just have to key in the number you want displayed each time.

Marilou, a nonlawyer who tries to find the good in the bad most of the time!!

Hi Marilou,

Thank you for that lead!

As a result I found that the "Truth in Caller ID Act of 2009" was signed into law Dec. 22, 2010 (<<http://www.fcc.gov/guides/caller-id-and-spoofing>> <http://www.fcc.gov/guides/caller-id-and-spoofing>) prohibiting any person or entity from transmitting misleading or inaccurate caller ID information with the intent to defraud, cause harm, or wrongfully obtain anything of value.

I feel so comfortable knowing that nobody intending to "defraud, cause harm, or wrongfully obtain anything of value" would ever dream of violating this law (codified at 47 U.S.C. 227(e)). Then again, I am always shocked whenever a convicted felon-who is federally banned from ever possessing a gun-violates that law.

Very truly yours,

William M. Driscoll

I use a hosted PBX system and have a duplicate extension at my house. It rings at the office and home simultaneously and I just answer it wherever I am. Duplicate extension costs me \$9.99 per month.

Michelle Kainen, Vermont

You're welcome! Did you find any devices there that will enable you to do what you want? Since you aren't going to use it to defraud or any of those other bad things, it appears you're in the clear, in my secretarial opinion, which is always subject to change!!

Marilou, a nonlawyer who needs one of these too sometimes!

SoloSez Popular Threads, August 2013

Sezzer Mark Del Bianco represents <http://www.spoofcard.com/> Whether he's also a satisfied customer I wouldn't know. ':-)

James S. Tyre, California

I use Virtual PBX; they really are amazing and now have a soft phone app so that you can use your cell but show your office number; I think Ring Central has that feature as well. Virtual PBX is pretty inexpensive and their support is incredible. I have been with them for over a year and have no complaints.

Hope this helps!

Sahar Malek, California

Sahar and others, when you set up a virtual pbx or an alternative, do you port over one of your existing telephone lines? That is, are you able to post a telephone number and then stop the local landline service (thereby getting rid of your monthly landline telephone bill)?

I looked up the website of the product that Sahar mentioned. I don't completely understand how that service/product takes over the existing telephone landline --- unless you port the landline and stop the local landline at&t service.

Thanks for any replies.

Roberta Fay, California
