

Federal Communications Commission
2018 Matching Activity Review and Report

Pursuant to section 14 of the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Circular No. A-108, “Federal Agency Responsibilities for Review, Reporting, and Publication under the Privacy Act,” the Federal Communications Commission (FCC or “the Commission”) submits this report on the computer matching programs in which it participated during 2018.

I. Data Integrity Board Members

Mark Stephens, Managing Director
David Hunt, Inspector General
Thomas Johnson, General Counsel
Christine Calvosa, Acting Chief Information Officer, OMD¹
John Skudlarek, Deputy CIO, Management, OMD²
Leo Wong, Chief Information Security Officer, OMD
Kathleen Heuer, Chief Financial Officer, OMD
Thomas Green, Chief Human Capital Officer, OMD
MaryKay Mitchell, Chief Administrative Officer, OMD
Mary Harmon, Manager, Security Operations Center, OMD
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II. Data Integrity Board Secretary

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III. Matching Programs

The Computer Matching and Privacy Protection Act of 1988 (Pub. L. 100-503) requires the Data Integrity Board (DIB) of each federal agency to review its matching activities on a yearly basis. 5 U.S.C. § 552a (u)(3)(D). In conducting this review of the FCC’s activities, the DIB has identified eight matching activities and/or data sharing arrangements in which the FCC acted as a “source agency,” as that term is defined in 5 U.S.C. § 552a (a)(11). The DIB also took action in 2018 to enter into eight new and one renewed computer matching agreements in which the FCC acted as the “recipient agency,” as that term is defined in 5 U.S.C. § 552a (a)(9). At the close of 2018, the FCC was engaged in a total of 13 matching programs as the recipient agency. These activities are discussed below.

¹ Ms. Calvosa was appointed the FCC’s CIO in March 2019 and held that position until May 2019.

² Upon Ms. Calvosa’s departure, Mr. Skudlarek was appointed the FCC’s Acting CIO in May 2019.

A. Source Agency Activities

Financial Operations (OMD-FO):

- Data are shared with U.S. Treasury under the *Debt Collection Act* for tax delinquencies. This matching activity is covered under FCC/OMD-25, “Financial Operations Information System (FOIS) *see* 81 Fed. Reg. 69522 (Oct. 6, 2016).³
- Data are shared with U.S. Treasury regarding non-payment of license fees under the *Debt Collection Act* for tax delinquencies. This matching activity is covered under FCC/OMD-25, “Financial Operations Information System (FOIS) *see* 81 Fed. Reg. 69522 (Oct. 6, 2016).
- FO also shares data with U.S. Treasury under the “drug debarment” requirements of the *Anti-Drug Abuse Act of 1988, Crime Control Act of 1990, et al.* This data sharing is covered under FCC/OMD-25, “Financial Operations Information System (FOIS) *see* 81 Fed. Reg. 69522 (Oct. 6, 2016).

Security Operations Center (SOC/OMD-AO):

- Data are shared with Office of Personnel Management (OPM) concerning personnel security investigations (E-Quip). This matching activity is covered under FCC/OMD-16, Personnel Security Files, *see* 71 Fed. Reg. 55787 (September 25, 2006).
- Data are shared with OPM for the Clearance Verification System (CVS) to clear visitors for admittance to FCC. This matching activity is covered under FCC/OMD-16, Personnel Security Files, *see* 71 Fed. Reg. 55787, 55790 (September 25, 2006); FCC/OMD-24, Physical Access Control System (PACS), 71 Fed. Reg. 55787, 55793 (September 25, 2006); and FCC/OMD-30, FCC Visitors Database, 77 Fed. Reg. 31851 (May 30, 2012).
- Data are shared with General Services Administration (GSA) as part of the HSPD-12 program. This matching activity is covered under FCC/OMD-16, Personnel Security Files, *see* 71 Fed. Reg. 55787, 55790 (September 25, 2006), FCC/OMD-24, Physical Access Control System (PACS), 71 Fed. Reg. 55787, 55793 (September 25, 2006); and FCC/OMD-30, FCC Visitors Database, 77 Fed. Reg. 31851 (May 30, 2012).
- Fingerprint data are shared with OPM then with the FBI for processing. The SOC may also share fingerprint data with other government agencies (*e.g.*, Federal, state, and local). This matching activity is covered under FCC/OMD-16, Personnel Security Files, *see* 71 Fed. Reg. 55787, 55790 (September 25, 2006); FCC/OMD-24, Physical Access Control System

³ FCC/OMD-25, Financial Operations Information System (FOIS), consolidated three systems of records: FCC/OMD-6, Financial Accounting Systems (FAS), FCC/OMD-9, Commission Registration System (CORES), and FCC/OMD-19, Denial of Federal Benefits (Drug Debarment List), which the FCC cancelled upon approval of FCC/OMD-25.

(PACS), 71 Fed. Reg. 55787, 55793 (September 25, 2006); and FCC/OMD-30, FCC Visitors Database, 77 Fed. Reg. 31851 (May 30, 2012).

Wireless Telecommunications Bureau (WTB):

- Ship registration emergency contact data are sent to the U.S. Coast Guard on an on-going basis for distress emergencies and other safety-of-life and related navigational requirements. This PII is covered under DHS/USCG-013, USCG Information for Safety and Law Enforcement (MISEL), SORN *see* 74 Fed. Reg. 30305 (June 25, 2009), and 74 Fed. Reg. 63948 “exemption” (December 4, 2009).

B. Recipient Agency Activities

In a Report and Order adopted on March 31, 2016, the Commission ordered the Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC) to create a National Lifeline Eligibility Verifier (“National Verifier”) that would match data about Lifeline applicants and subscribers with other data sources to verify the eligibility of an applicant or subscriber. *Lifeline and Link Up Reform and Modernization Order et al.*, Third Report and Order, Further Report and Order, and Order on Reconsideration, 31 FCC Rcd 3962 (2016).

The Lifeline program provides support for discounted broadband and voice services to low-income consumers. Consumers qualify for Lifeline through proof of income or participation in a qualifying program, such as Medicaid, the Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program (SNAP), Federal Public Housing Assistance, or Veterans and Survivors Pension Benefit.

The FCC’s Data Integrity Board (DIB) took action three times in 2018 to review or renew computer matching agreements in which the FCC and USAC compared Lifeline subscriber lists against lists of persons enrolled in qualifying programs.

- On July 12, 2018, the DIB met to consider computer matching agreements (CMAs) between the FCC, USAC, and the Missouri Department of Social Services, the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services, the Pennsylvania Department of Human Services, and the Tennessee Department of Human Services. The DIB approved these agreements, which compare Lifeline subscriber data against enrollment information in these four non-Federal agencies. *See* 83 Fed. Reg. 51946 (Oct. 15, 2018). In its review of this agreement, the DIB determined that the benefits of the matching activity were greater than the costs. The FCC records matched in this agreement are part of the FCC/WCB-1, Lifeline Program, system of records. *See* 82 Fed. Reg. 38686 (Aug. 15, 2017).
- On November 26, 2018, the DIB approved a 12-month extension of the computer matching agreement between the FCC, USAC, and the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), which was initially approved on April 7, 2017. This agreement compares Lifeline subscriber data against enrollment information in three HUD systems. *See* 82 Fed. Reg. 37586 (Aug. 11, 2017). The FCC records matched in this agreement are part of the FCC/WCB-1, Lifeline Program, system of records. *See* 82 Fed. Reg. 38686 (Aug. 15, 2017).

- On November 27, 2018, the DIB met to consider computer matching agreements (CMAs) between the FCC, USAC, and the Indiana Family and Social Services Administration, Division of Family Resources, the Kentucky Cabinet for Health and Family Services, Division of Family Support, the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, and the Puerto Rico Department of the Family. The DIB approved these agreements, which compare Lifeline subscriber data against enrollment information in these four non-Federal agencies. *See* 84 Fed. Reg. 1725 (Feb. 5, 2019).⁴ In its review of this agreement, the DIB determined that the benefits of the matching activity were greater than the costs. The FCC records matched in this agreement are part of the FCC/WCB-1 system of records. *See* 82 Fed. Reg. 38686 (Aug. 15, 2017).

Copies of the FCC's computer matching agreements that are currently operating can be found at: <https://www.fcc.gov/general/privacy-act-information#matching>.

⁴ The delay in publishing this *Federal Register* Notice was due in part to the government shut-down.