



ILLINOIS COUNCIL OF POLICE & SHERIFFS

Local 7, International Union Of Police Associations, AFL-CIO

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ICOPS

227 West Spangler Avenue, Elmhurst, Illinois 60126

April 5, 2002

Office of the Secretary
Federal Trade Commission
Room 159
600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20580

NORM FRESE,
President
T.R. SMITH,
Executive Vice President
ART DUTKOVIC,
Secretary-Treasurer
JOSEPH LONGMEYER,
Organizing &
Communications Director

Dear Sir or Madam:

Website: www.icops.org
e-mail: icopo78aol.com

The undersigned is the President of Illinois Council of Police & Sheriffs Local 7, AFL-CIO located in Illinois with 400 members statewide. We are a membership organization, not a charity. We provide a number of services in our community, as well as member benefits. Some of our most recent projects include bullet proof vests for our members and our primary membership benefits consist of contract negotiations and legal assistance for police officers.

We fund these programs through the use of telemarketing. Because of the nature of who we are, we do not feel it is appropriate for our members to engage in direct fund raising and, in addition, we do not have the expertise or the resources to do so. We have used outside professional representation in our telemarketing appeal for a number of years without incident. We maintain our own do-not-call list and we have a stringent do-not-call policy.

If a national do-not-call registry is established, I have no doubt that thousands of our supporters will inadvertently place themselves outside of our reach by signing onto the list to avoid calls from the sellers of goods and services. It is not practical or realistic to think that we can afford to obtain written verification of their desire to have us call them once they have placed their name on the list. We will lose a substantial portion of our funding, which will have a major affect on our organization.

I also understand that if a national do-not-call list is created that it will only apply to certain groups, not all groups. Further, it would not stop the incessant calling from telephone companies trying to sell long distance services, banks, or from politicians running a political campaign.

Therefore if you amend the Telemarketing Sales Rule, we ask that you grant an exception for calls made on behalf of nonprofit organizations. At a time when we are being asked to do more for our members and for our community, government should not be making the task more difficult.

Thank you for your consideration.

Very truly yours,



NORM FRESE