

# The FTC Is Looking For A Few Good Robocall Hackers

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The **FCC** is not the only federal agency tasked with regulating telephone calls. The **FTC** also regulates telephone calls pursuant to the **Telemarketing Sales Rule (“TSR”)** (16 C.F.R. § 310 *et seq.*). And while the scope of the **TCPA** and the **TSR** differs, the two sets of regulations overlap in a key area—**prerecorded calls**. See 47 C.F.R. § 227(b)(1); 16 C.F.R. § 310(b)(iv). As we have noted in a [previous post](#), these regulations are [not entirely consistent](#).

As part of its effort to enforce regulations governing such calls, the FTC is conducting a “Zapping Rachel” contest at [DEF CON 22](#) (an annual hacker convention held in Las Vegas) that offers entrants \$17,000 in cash prizes for open-source solutions in three related but stand-alone contests: (i) to help build a robocall honeypot (a system designed to attract robocalls and gather information about them in order to assist in combatting violations), (ii) to circumvent or trick a honeypot, and (iii) to analyze data from an existing honeypot.

For more information, view the FTC’s press release: [FTC Publishes Official Rules for Zapping Rachel Robocall Contest](#).

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