

**For Immediate Release:**

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## **Attorney General Balderas Announces the Formation of a Nationwide Anti-Robocall Litigation Task Force**

*Attorneys General form a national bipartisan task force to combat robocalling.*

**ALBUQUERQUE** — New Mexico Attorney General Hector Balderas today announced that New Mexico is joining a 50-State Anti-Robocall Litigation Task Force to investigate and take legal action against the telecommunications companies responsible for bringing a majority of foreign robocalls into the United States. This bipartisan nationwide Task Force has one goal: to cut down on illegal robocalls.

“Robocalls have become a nuisance and a tactic for malicious actors to scam our most vulnerable citizens, and telecommunications companies that turn a blind eye to illegal robocalls in favor of profits, will be held accountable,” said Attorney General Balderas.

According to the National Consumer Law Center and Electronic Privacy Information Center, over 33 million scam robocalls are made to Americans every day. These scam calls include Social Security Administration fraud against seniors, Amazon scams against consumers, and many other scams targeting consumers. An estimated \$29.8 billion was stolen through scam calls in 2021. Most of this scam robocall traffic originates overseas, allowed into the United States by gateway providers that are legally obligated to confirm that these calls are legal.

The Task Force has issued civil investigative demands to 20 of these gateway providers and other entities that are allegedly responsible for a majority of foreign robocall traffic.

AG Balderas offers the following tips to avoid scams and unwanted calls:

- Be wary of callers who specifically ask you to pay by gift card, wire transfer, or cryptocurrency. No legitimate business, the Internal Revenue Service nor your local power utility will require gift cards as payment.
- Look out for prerecorded calls from imposters posing as government agencies. Typically, the Social Security Administration does not make phone calls to individuals.

- If you suspect fraudulent activity, immediately hang-up and do not provide any personal information. You can always do an internet search to reach the real company or agency.
- Contact the Office of the Attorney General Toll Free at 1-844-255-9210 or submit a complaint online at <https://www.nmag.gov/file-a-complaint.aspx>
- File a Do Not Call or Text complaint here: <https://www.donotcall.gov/report.html> or <https://consumercomplaints.fcc.gov>

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