

## ROBO-CALLS

Here are updates from several sources re: [robo-calls](#):

- Robo-calls are free speech unless the telemarketer is soliciting for money.
- The FCC approved a rule on September 1, 2009, which requires telemarketers receive written approval from consumers who want to receive such calls. Unfortunately, there are lots of loopholes allowing several types of messages to continue. Click [here](#) for details.
- In a previous addition to the Do Not Call Law, there was a provision for businesses; however the business lobby groups could not agree on the addition and it slowed the bill to a grinding halt so Senator Erpenbach decided to drop that provision.
- Violations of the Wisconsin "Do Not Call" law again topped the complaints filed with the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection in 2009. Senator Erpenbach proposed [SB218](#) to increase fines against violators of the State's Do Not Call law. SB218 failed to pass on 4-28-2010.
- Senator Black proposed [AB246](#), a bill regulating automatic dialing announcing devices. Like SB218, that bill failed to pass.
- Government numbers are not included in Federal or State Do Not Call laws (confirmed).

Bottom line, I doubt we're going to get away from all robo-type calls. Best options at this time?

- If the robo-call message provides an option to remove your number from the calling list, do so.
- File a complaint with [DATCP](#) or the [FCC](#).
- This doesn't help with robo-calls, but you can ask anyone – any number that calls you – under Wisconsin law to put you on their internal Do Not Call list and they must do so within 30 days. Once on that list, your number stays there indefinitely.