Comcast Transparency Report January 2016 – June 2016

Comcast has released its Sixth Transparency Report disclosing information on the volume and categories of requests for customer information made by U.S. law enforcement and national security agencies at the federal, state, and local government levels in the first half of 2016. Requests for information made under the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act (FISA) are subject to a six-month delay, so the information listed in that category covers the second half of 2015.

While Comcast is legally obligated to respond to lawful requests for customer-related information by these government agencies, we are committed to protecting our customers' privacy. Accordingly, we carefully scrutinize each government request for data. Before providing any information to the government, we make sure that the request is appropriately tailored and that our response accords with governing law.

This Report provides the number of national security data requests that we receive in bands of 500s, consistent with the guidance provided in the USA Freedom Act on the format and scope of such reports. We make this data available to the public in order to help enhance the transparency of government surveillance programs and to promote an open dialogue about the important privacy, law enforcement, and national security issues raised by those programs. In the meantime, we will continue to safeguard our customers' privacy rights and ensure that our responses to government requests for information meet all applicable legal requirements.

Criminal Demands	
January 1, 2016 – June 30, 2016	
Subpoenas	8,414
Court Orders:	
General Orders	1,593
Pen Register/Trap & Trace	58
Wiretaps	0
Warrants:	
Content Warrants	130
Non-Content Warrants	624
Total	<u>10,819</u>

Emergency Requests	575
January 1, 2016 – June 30, 2016	

National Security Demands	
National Security Letters (January 1,	0-499
2016 – June 30, 2016)	
Number of Customer Accounts	0-499
Impacted	
FISA Orders (July 1, 2015 – December	
31, 2015)	
Content	0-499
Number of Customer Accounts	0-499
Impacted	

Comcast Transparency Report January 2016 – June 2016

Non-Content	0-499
Number of Customer Accounts	0-499
Impacted	

Definitions (as terms appear in the Report)

Subpoenas typically seek basic customer account information that is contained in the business records of a service provider. Frequently, subpoenas seek the identification of a customer account by name and address based on a telephone number or Internet Protocol address assigned to the account. An officer of the court, such as a law enforcement officer or a prosecuting attorney, for example, usually signs a subpoena.

Court Orders typically seek historical information and more detailed information than is available using a subpoena. A judge signs a court order indicating that the law enforcement entity seeking it has made the requisite showing under the law to obtain the order.

General Orders are court orders except for wiretap, pen register, and trap and trace orders. Most general orders seek information similar to that available with a subpoena, and some also seek contents of communications.

Pen Register Orders seek real time access to information like phone numbers and e-mail addresses as they are dialed or sent, and Trap and Trace Orders seek real time access to incoming phone numbers or e-mail addresses.

Wiretap Orders seek real time access to the contents of communications.

Warrants typically seek information similar to that available under subpoenas and some court orders, but may also seek the contents of communications in certain cases. A judge signs a warrant based on a showing by the law enforcement entity seeking it that there is probable cause that the information sought by the warrant is evidence of a crime.

Emergency Requests typically seek information from a service provider on an expedited basis in an emergency involving danger of death or serious physical injury to any person. Our policy requires the requesting law enforcement officer to provide a written certification describing the emergency. Comcast uses this information to verify an emergency request in connection with responding to it. Some emergency requests seek information related to 911 telephone calls. In those cases, Comcast verifies that the request is coming from a legitimate Public Service Answering Point before responding to it.

National Security Letters are issued by the Federal Bureau of Investigation. The FBI issues these in connection with counter-terrorism or counter-intelligence matters; national security letters are limited to seeking non-content information like customer account information.

Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act Orders and Warrants are issued by the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Court. These orders and warrants typically seek both content and non-content information relating to national security matters, such as international terrorism or espionage.

Customer Accounts Affected means the number of unique Comcast subscriber accounts affected by a particular legal request. For example, one national security letter may seek information about two different subscriber accounts.

Content refers to the actual contents of a communication, such as the body of an e-mail or a telephone conversation.

Non-Content refers to information other than the contents of a communication, such as a list of phone numbers or e-mail addresses or header information (signaling, addressing, or routing information).