

Taiwan city to appeal in Google app refund case

January 4 2013

The Taipei city government said Friday it will appeal a court ruling which revoked a fine it imposed on the US Internet giant Google in a dispute over its mobile phone apps.

The city government in 2011 fined [Google](#) Tw\$1 million (\$34,000) for refusing to grant customers a seven-day trial period on its [mobile phone](#) apps, in accordance with Taiwan's consumer protection law.

The decision was upheld when Google appealed to the economics ministry last year but the Taipei High Administrative Court last week decided to revoke it, saying the city government should not interfere in a dispute between a firm and consumers.

"We do not wish to see Google exit the Taiwan market but we urge Google to respect and protect consumers' rights. We will appeal the court ruling," said an official at the government's consumer protection division.

The capital city's government in 2011 said that Google and [Apple](#) had violated the law and ordered them to amend their trading rules. Apple later complied with the law while Google refused, it said.

Under the terms of service for Google's [Android](#) Market, consumers are entitled to a refund only within 15 minutes of purchasing a product online.

Google has suspended the sale of its paid apps in Taiwan since the dispute.

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