

# Comcast agrees to pay \$33M in California privacy breach

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Cable operator Comcast has settled with California authorities and agreed to pay \$33 million for accidentally publishing the names, phone numbers and addresses of about 75,000 people who paid to keep the information private.

Of the total, \$25 million will go to state agencies. Each customer affected will receive \$100.

About \$432,000 more will go to about 200 [law enforcement officers](#), judges and domestic abuse victims who said they faced safety concerns because of the leak, which occurred from 2010 to 2012.

California's Attorney General Kamala Harris called the leak a "troubling breach of privacy."

"Violations of consumers' privacy will result in significant penalties," she said Thursday in a statement announcing the settlement.

Philadelphia-based Comcast Corp. apologized and applauded the settlement.

The breach occurred when a system upgrade failed to mark listings data of customers who paid as much as \$1.50 a month to keep their information private on top of what they paid Comcast for Internet-based phone service.

The data was published online and in [phone](#) books after it was sold through a listings data licensing company. In 2013, Comcast refunded about \$2.5 million to customers, covering the period their [information](#) was inadvertently made public.

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