

## NEWS RELEASE

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### TEXAS TELEMARKETER BANNED FROM DOING BUSINESS IN NORTH DAKOTA

BISMARCK, ND – Texas telemarketer **France Carrasco**, doing business as Hyper-Phonebank, The Political Group, Hyperphonebank.com, and Thepoliticalgroup.com, is banned from conducting business in North Dakota. Attorney General Wayne Stenehjem issued a cease and desist order today against Carrasco and his telemarketing operations. Carrasco lists addresses in San Antonio, Texas and in Washington, DC.

The Attorney General's Consumer Protection division initiated an investigation after receiving a complaint of an alleged violation of the Do Not Call laws. The investigation determined that in addition to contacting individuals whose telephone numbers were registered on the Do Not Call list, Carrasco used prerecorded messages in his telemarketing activities, which also is illegal in North Dakota.

"North Dakotans have made it abundantly clear that they do not want to be bothered by unwanted telemarketing calls. My office will vigorously enforce the state's Do Not Call laws," said Stenehjem.

Use of pre-recorded telephone messages is illegal in North Dakota. Federal and state laws prohibit telemarketers from calling telephone numbers that have been registered on the Do Not Call list for more than 31 days.

Carrasco did not respond to the investigators' inquiries or a Civil Investigative Demand requiring Carrasco to provide information to the Attorney General.

Carrasco and his businesses are banned from issuing any invoices or bills to North Dakota consumers for any services or merchandise and from taking any payments from North Dakota consumers.

More than 511,100 North Dakota (701) area code telephone numbers are already registered on the state's Do Not Call list. Both land lines and cellular telephone numbers can be registered on the list, by visiting <https://www.donotcall.gov/> or calling toll-free 1-888-382-1222. Consumers who are registered on the DNC list and receive an unwanted call on a (701) area code residential or cellular telephone number can file a complaint with the Attorney General's office at <http://www.ag.nd.gov/nocall/Nocall.htm>.

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[Cease and Desist Order](#)