

## How to protect your cell phone records

Keep in mind that phone records are typically requested by private investigators, law offices / attorneys, insurance companies, collection agents, bail bondsman, peace officers, federal agencies, as well as spurned or suspicious spouses. The information is typically used for finding or tracking criminals, suspects or witnesses in crimes, debt collection, fraud prevention, or spousal confirmation of infidelity, even spousal reconciliation and/or dissolution.

If you're not involved in suspicious activities or infidelity, and you are not trying to hide from someone because of a debt, or involved in a criminal activity there really is no reason to be concerned about your call records. A lot more information can be obtained about individuals from public records at your local county office or public library. If you are concerned about your cell phone call details being obtained by someone, we recommend any of the suggestions below.

Any one or more of these methods should help prevent someone from obtaining your phone records.

1. This is the most secure method of protecting your information: When you activate your cell phone tell the carrier that you do not want call details on your bill. If you tell them you don't want call detail on your bill, there will be NO record of your individual calls for you or anyone to review. Your bill would only show the summary of minutes used and the charges. Note that if you have a discrepancy about your bill (minutes used), it will be more difficult to dispute, since the details of individual calls won't exist. This is a very good preventative measure to ensure no one ever finds out what numbers you are calling. If you rarely have a discrepancy based on usage after you receive your bill, this is the best method and the one recommended for ultimate privacy. If you use this method, it is most likely the only one you need. Of course you can use an additional method below if it makes you feel even more comfortable.
2. When you active your phone, tell the carrier that you want to password protect your account. Don't just use your SSN or DOB. Don't use your kid's names; pet's names, favorite sports team, or anything anyone would likely know. Be sure it's something only you would know and remember. You can even use a 2 - 3 word phrase. This is a good solution; however if it's your spouse or soon to be ex-spouse, they can call your phone carrier themselves and try to guess your passwords.
3. This method will make step 2 above even more secure; you can instruct the carrier not to provide any pass word reminders even if you forget your password. Tell them to put a comment in your account that says "if account holder forgets password they will visit the store in person once and show ID". Keep in mind that if you need something from your account, and you forget your password, you will need to visit your carriers retail store or a local kiosk.

4. You may also ask the carrier to put a note on your account that says “If someone requests call records, tell them only the account holder or account contact can obtain records and needs to visit a retail location with valid ID”. This is a very good method since it requires the individual requesting info to visit one of the carrier’s local retail stores or a kiosk and show ID. Keep in mind, if you ever want your call records because you don’t have a copy of your bill any longer, it will require you visit the store as well.
5. You may also ask the carrier to turn off online access (deactivate) to your records. Carriers turn this access on (activate) automatically and a very small percentage of customers actually bother to set it up and use it. Simply instruct them to deactivate your online access. Since you would be without online access it would force the person trying to access your records (probably your spouse using your computer) to call the carrier. This is a very good method of protection too, but requires one of the above methods as well for the best protection.

Any of the above methods would make it very difficult for someone to obtain your cell phone records.

Compliments of:  
[www.bestpeoplesearch.com](http://www.bestpeoplesearch.com)

Copyright © 2005  
Intelligent eCommerce, Inc.