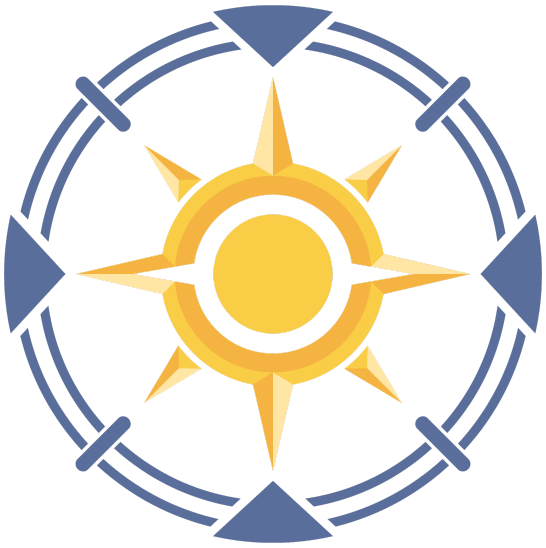


Organized Fraud

How Overseas Scammers Are Allegedly Acquiring U.S. Telecom Access For Tech Support Fraud (Part 1 of 5).

August 25, 2026

By the Demurrage Team

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Disclaimer

Demurrage is an independent, self-funded collective specializing in detailed investigations into how scammers exploit American communications networks and consumers. Demurrage has not received payment from any outside entity or organization. Its work focuses on reporting numbers used in tech support fraud to the appropriate carriers, tracking carrier response times, and documenting cases where no response is received.

Introduction

In the six years that Demurrage has been active, our team has documented several alarming trends involving U.S. VoIP numbers, both toll-free and tolled, being used in tech support fraud. While Demurrage has reported a significant volume of VoIP numbers to their respective providers, the supply has shown no signs of slowing down. As the industry slowly adopts new policies designed to prevent scammers from acquiring such numbers, regulators and governing bodies have consistently lagged behind, with scammers remaining several steps ahead.

New KYC policies intended to identify and verify customers have also been effectively defeated through what Demurrage refers to as a "mark" **(a complicit wholesale provider operating within a telecom that prepares, pre-verifies, and registers accounts and VoIP numbers for the sole purpose of selling them to overseas scammers for use in tech support fraud).**

These arrangements have rendered what appeared to be a logical and effective countermeasure largely ineffective, often within a very short period of implementation.

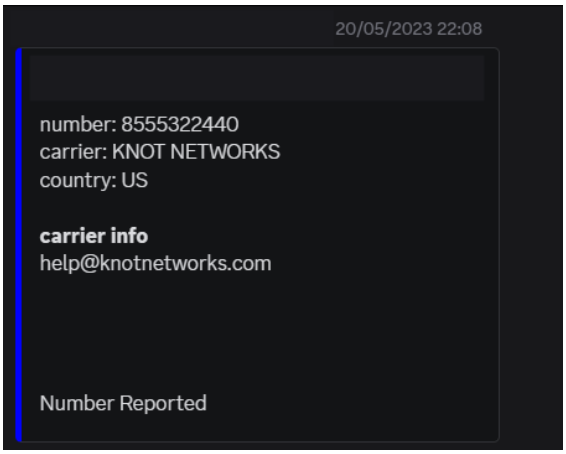
This raises a more serious question, what if scammers are not merely exploiting telecoms from the outside, but actually own them?

The notion of a telecom established and operated by scammers for the sole purpose of supplying other scammers with toll-free numbers sounds like fiction. More remarkable still is the possibility that overseas scammers could own telecoms in the United States without ever setting foot on U.S. soil. Most striking of all is that the evidence gathered by Demurrage points not to one operation, but five!

This report presents that evidence, compiled over three years beginning in 2023, alongside the trends and practices that first raised concern.

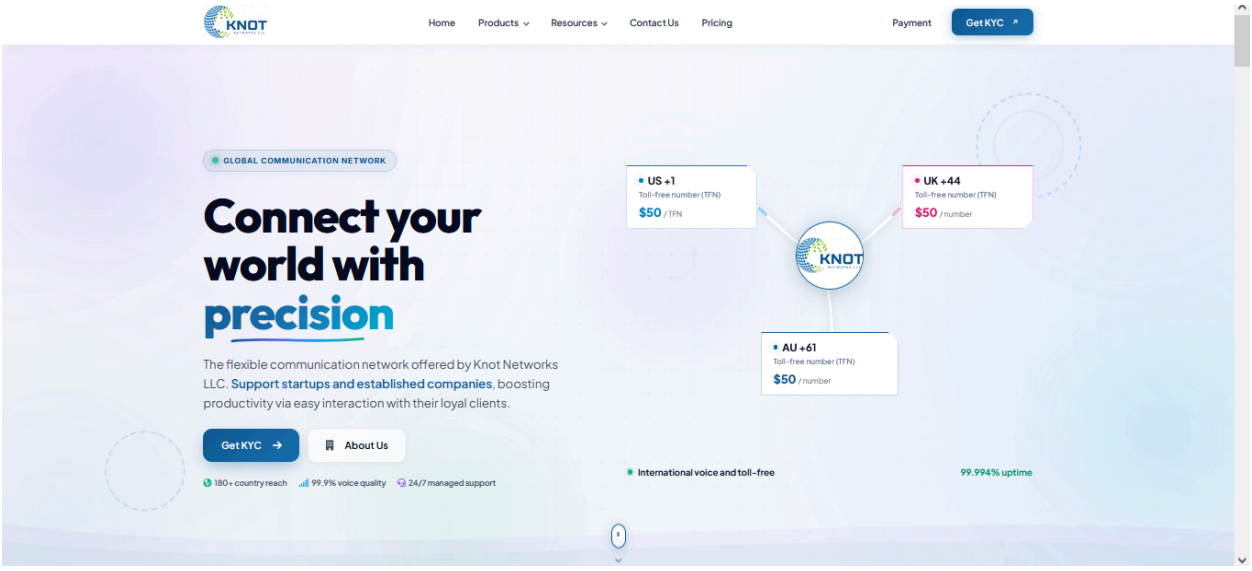
All cases presented involve toll-free numbers traced back to the following telecoms, each used by scammers operating out of illegal call centers in India: Knot Networks, Telcoline, Digitorzo, All8Series, and Resporg Services.

This investigation begins in May 2023, when Demurrage first encountered and logged a toll-free number used to facilitate a tech support scam, tracing back to an alleged scammer-owned telecom operating under the name Knot Networks.

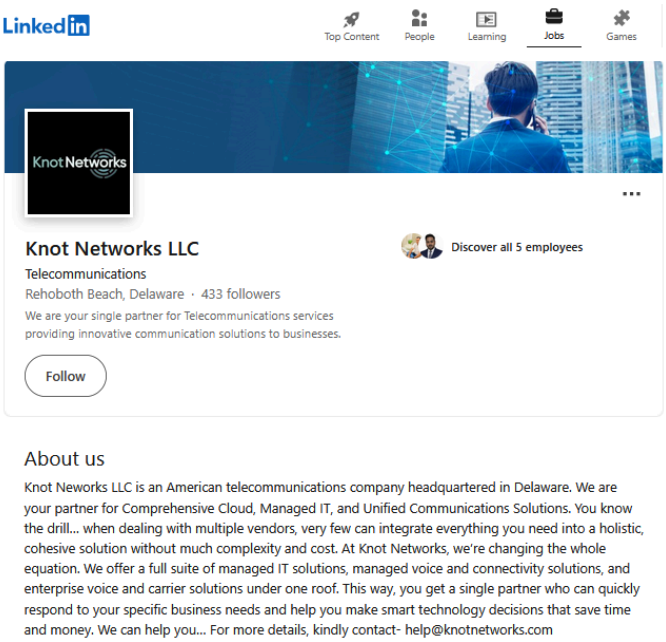


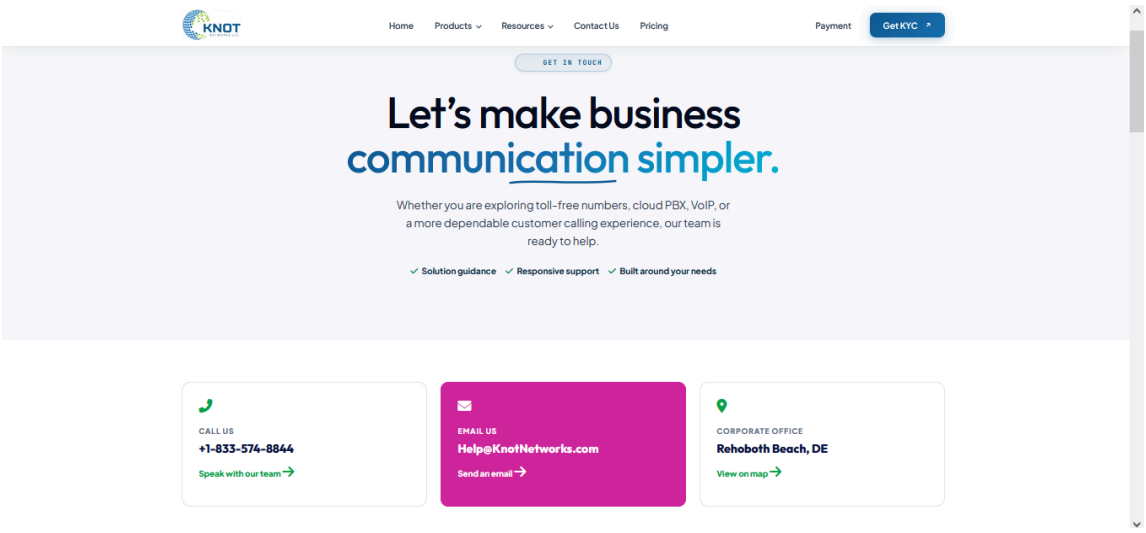
The Beginning - Knot Networks

Knot Networks (https://www.knotnetworks.com/) is a U.S. telecommunications company purportedly based in Delaware, offering cloud, managed IT, and business communication services.



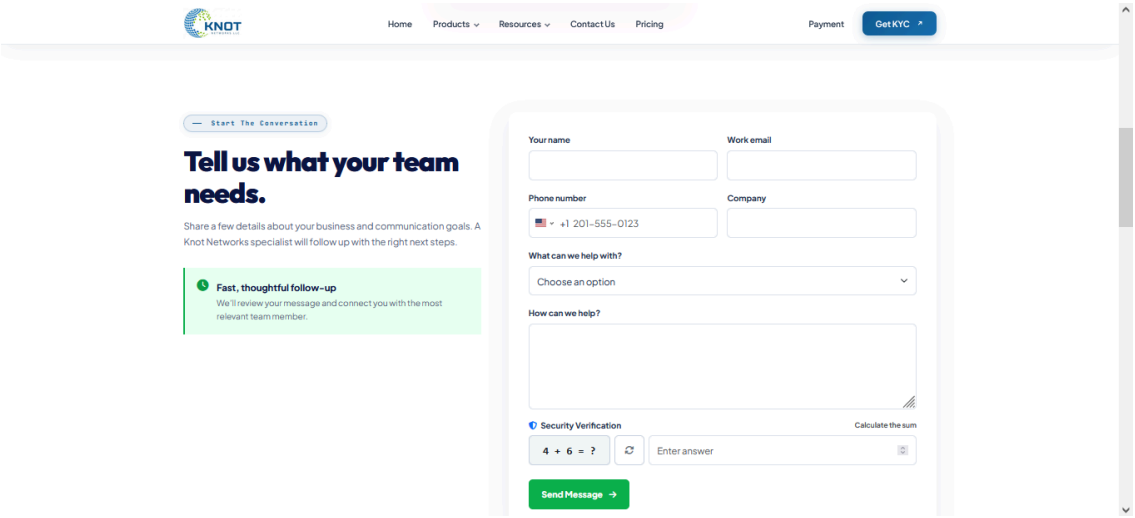
Its LinkedIn profile lists a founding date of 2015 and identifies its headquarters as Rehoboth Beach, Delaware.





The company's official website has changed over the years, yet has consistently listed only one email address as its sole point of contact. While a contact form and toll-free number are also provided, the toll-free number listed is the same number Demurrage cataloged in 2023 as being used to operate a tech support scam.

Notably, at no point in the website's history has Knot Networks provided an email address or web form for reporting fraud on its network, as its available contact options appear exclusively toward sales inquiries.

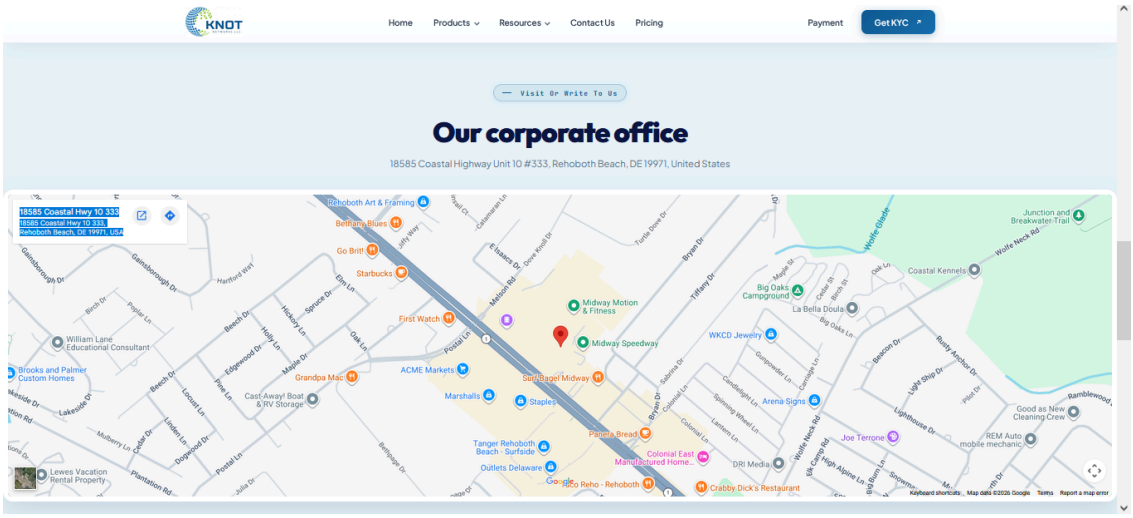


Although Knot Networks was the first in a trend of alleged scammer-owned telecoms, it currently has the fewest toll-free numbers associated with tech support fraud of the five alleged scammer-owned telecoms.

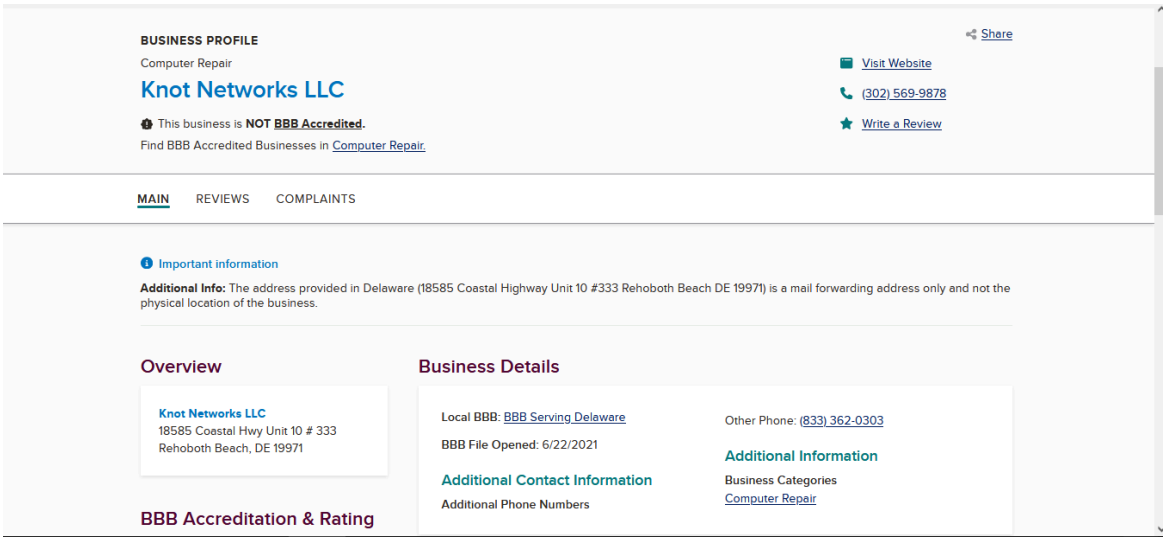
The reasons for this are addressed later, though it should be noted that the volume of numbers linked to this telecom and used in tech support fraud is steadily increasing as of 2026.

Concerns

Knot Networks claims to be registered in Rehoboth Beach, Delaware; however, its listed address traces to a P.O. box rather than a physical location. Under SOMOS rules, this should automatically disqualify the company from operating as a telecom in the United States, as a verified physical address is required. Knot Networks also uses Google for mail exchange.



On the BBB's website, Knot Networks is listed as a non-accredited business and classified under "computer repair." The BBB additionally notes that the address Knot Networks presents as its headquarters is a mail forwarding address only and not the physical location of the business. Knot Networks also lists two contact numbers, both tracing back to different carriers: 302-569-9878 (1st Point Communications, via Sinch) and 1-833-362-0303 (Rogers Communications, Canada).



The address listed on Knot Networks' website as its corporate office is identical to that of Mailbiz Express, a company that provides postal and printing services.



Timeline

Although Demurrage identified only three toll-free numbers in 2023 that were used in tech support fraud and traced back to Knot Networks, none of the reports submitted received a response. As Knot Networks listed only one email address on its website, all reports were submitted to ***help@knotnetworks.com***

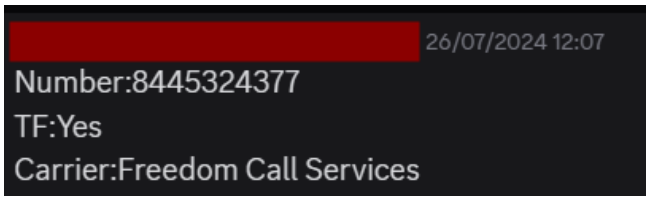
Shortly thereafter, the volume of toll-free numbers associated with Knot Networks declined and the company largely disappeared from Demurrage's radar.

Demurrage later learned that in January 2023, Homeland Security Investigations (HSI) issued a subpoena to Knot Networks, reportedly after a relative of a law enforcement officer or government official fell victim to a scam using a number that traced back to the company.

The outcome of that case is not known, though it has been confirmed that Knot Networks complied with the subpoena. This would be the last instance in which Demurrage documented a toll-free number used in a tech support scam tracing back to Knot Networks.

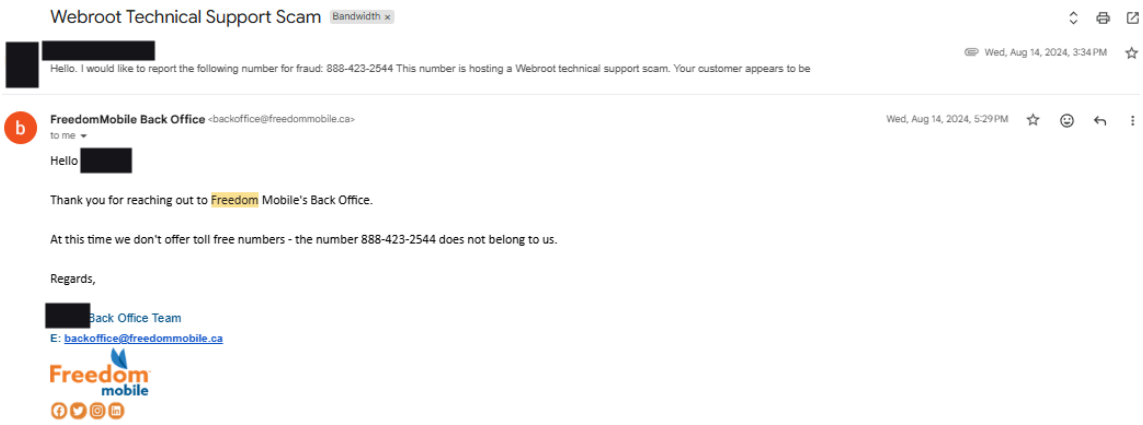
“Freedom Call Services”

On July 26, 2024, Demurrage first encountered a toll-free number used in a tech support pop-up scam that traced back to a telecom listed as Freedom Call Services. The number was ***844-532-4377***.



Demurrage began investigating the number's provider but was unable to identify one.

On August 14, 2024, a second toll-free number used in a tech support scam traced back to Freedom Call Services, again with no identifiable provider. The number was 888-423-2544.



On August 27, 2024, a third toll-free number was found being used in a tech support scam tracing back to Freedom Call Services. The number was 877-481-2204.

As more numbers traced back to Freedom Call Services, Demurrage began contacting every telecom it could identify with the word "freedom" in its name. While most did not respond, some replied to confirm that the reported toll-free numbers did not belong to them.

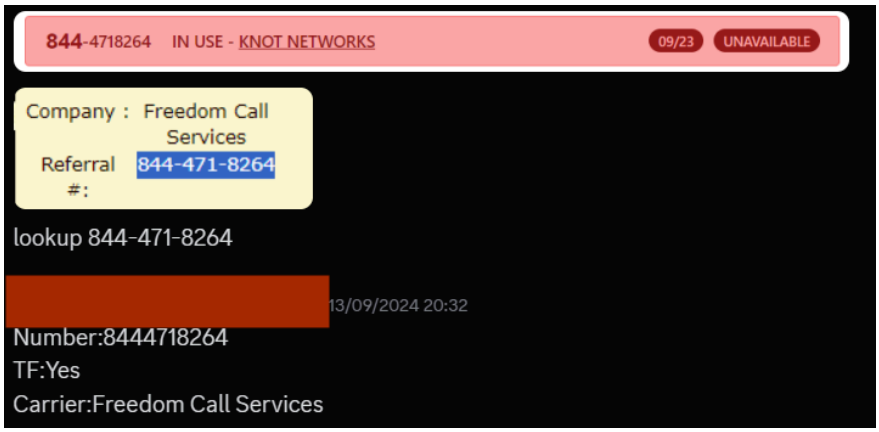
One such response involved toll-free number 888-423-2544, which was being used in a Webroot technical support scam.

On August 14, 2024, at 3:34 PM EST, a detailed email was sent to Freedom Mobile, which confirmed that it does not offer toll-free number services and that the reported number did not belong to them. The email included two recordings with timestamps of scammers answering the reported number and identifying as Webroot Support.

Recording 1: Wed, Aug 14, 2024, 3:06 PM
Recording 2: Wed, Aug 14, 2024, 3:06 PM

Identification: Freedom Call Services Is Knot Networks

As more toll-free numbers used in tech support fraud continued to trace back to Freedom Call Services, Demurrage made a significant breakthrough. On September 13, 2024, a member of Demurrage concluded that Freedom Call Services and Knot Networks were the same entity, based on the evidence outlined below.



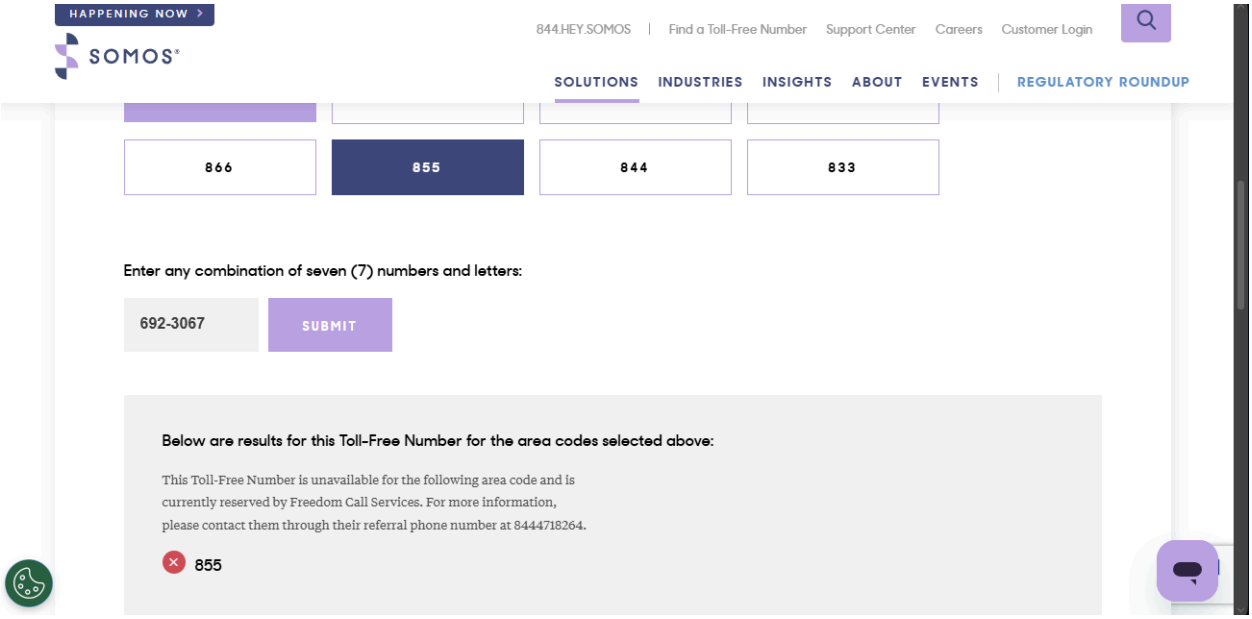
It subsequently became apparent that Knot Networks was not only still operational, but was deliberately altering its lookup data to avoid receiving fraud reports, most likely in response to the prior HSI subpoena.

Demurrage also considered the possibility of spoofing. However, all numbers linked to this telecom were configured so that victims initiate the call, and none were used to make outbound robocalls.

Demurrage called every number listed in this report to verify its use in tech support fraud. In each instance, the call connected to scammers operating out of illegal call centers in India, impersonating various companies with the intent to defraud victims through the use of third-party remote access software.

Once a victim granted access to their device, the scammers would lock them out and demand payment of a fraudulent fee to restore access, either by falsely claiming that “hackers” had compromised the device or by holding it for ransom until the victim complied.

As a final verification, Demurrage consulted the official SOMOS toll-free lookup tool to confirm that its own lookup results were accurate. The SOMOS lookup independently confirmed that the reported toll-free numbers are registered to Freedom Call Services.



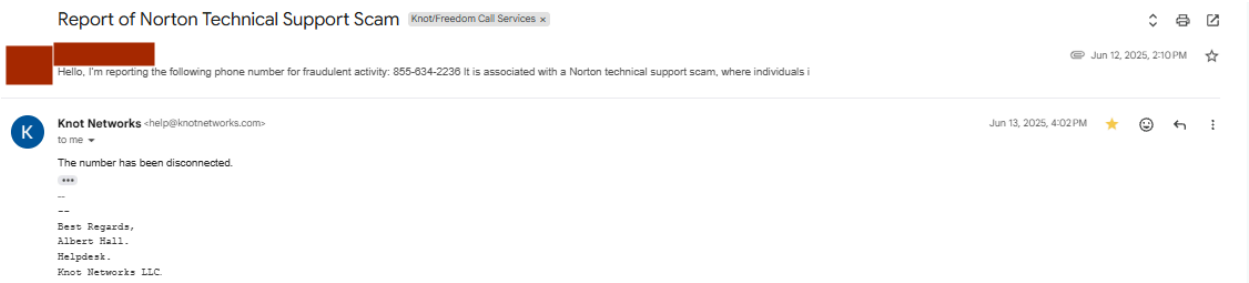
Testing The Theory & Confirmation

Demurrage began contacting Knot Networks by email at help@knotnetworks.com, the address listed on the company's official website, throughout the remainder of 2024. As before, Knot Networks did not respond, and the reported toll-free numbers remained operational.

It was not until June 13, 2025, at 4:02 PM EST, nearly two years later, that Demurrage received its first response from Knot Networks regarding a toll-free number operating under Freedom Call Services that was being used in a Norton technical support scam.

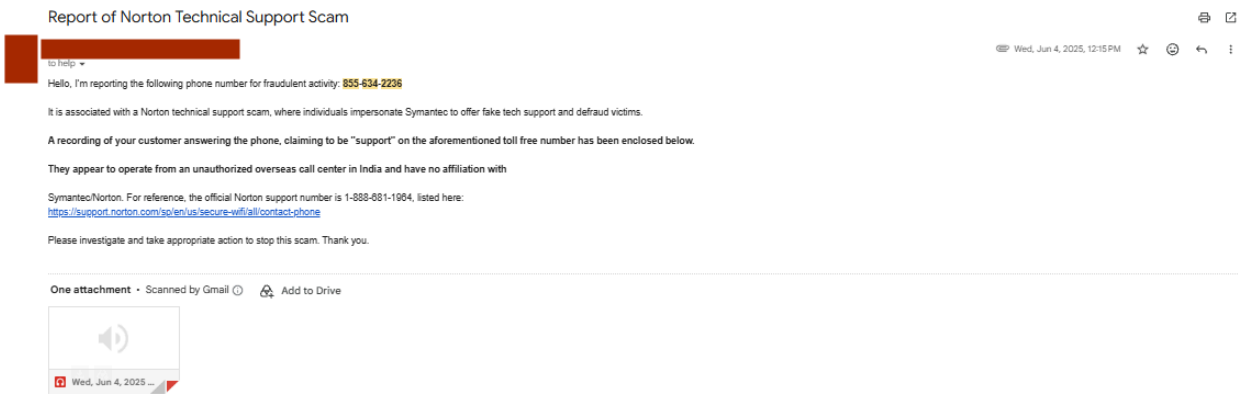
Knot Networks confirmed that it had disconnected the toll-free number 855-634-2236. The report submitted to Knot Networks included a recording of a scammer answering the reported number and identifying as "support," a standard greeting used by scammers operating out of illegal call centers in India. Knot Networks' reply confirmed that Freedom Call Services and Knot Networks are the same entity.

Notably, at no point during this investigation has Knot Networks claimed that the toll-free numbers tracing back to Freedom Call Services did not belong to them.



Recording: Thu, Jun 12, 2025 2:02 PM: 8556342236

It is also worth noting that 855-634-2236 had been previously reported to Knot Networks on June 4, 2025, at 12:15 PM, with a recording of the same scammers answering the reported number and identifying as "support." That report received no response.



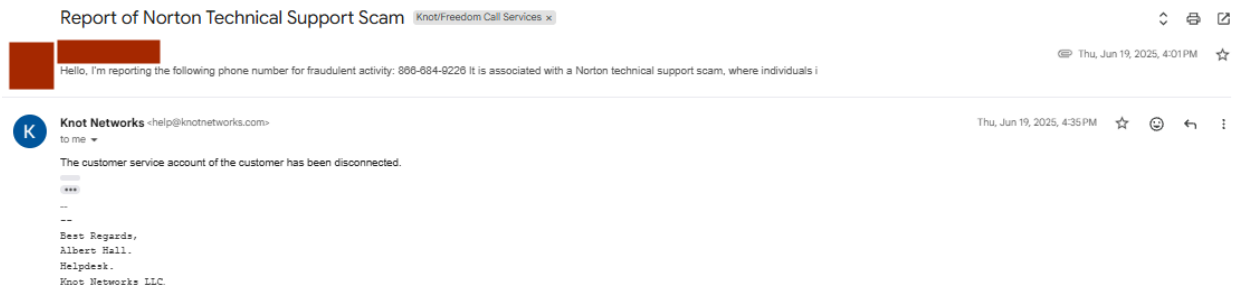
Recording: Wed, Jun 4, 2025 12:11 PM EST: 8556342236

Notable Cases Involving Freedom Call Services Toll-Free Numbers

June 19, 2025, at 4:01 PM EST, the toll-free number 866-684-9226 was reported to Knot Networks for use in a Norton technical support scam. The report included a recording of a scammer answering the reported number and identifying as "support."

Recording: Fri, Jun 19, 2025, 4:01 PM: 866-684-9226

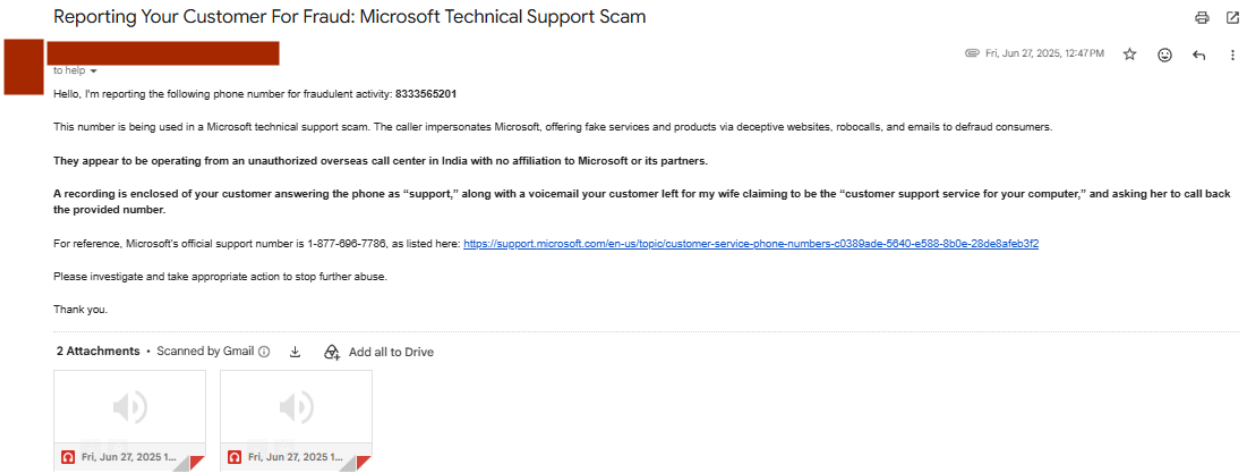
At 4:35 PM EST, Knot Networks responded and confirmed that the account and number had been shut down.



June 27, 2025, at 12:47 PM, the toll-free number ***833-356-5201*** was reported to Knot Networks for use in a Microsoft technical support scam. The report included recordings

of scammers answering the reported number and identifying as "support" and as "customer support service for your computer."

Knot Networks did not respond, and the status of the reported number remains unknown. Knot Networks would not respond to another email until August 6, 2025.



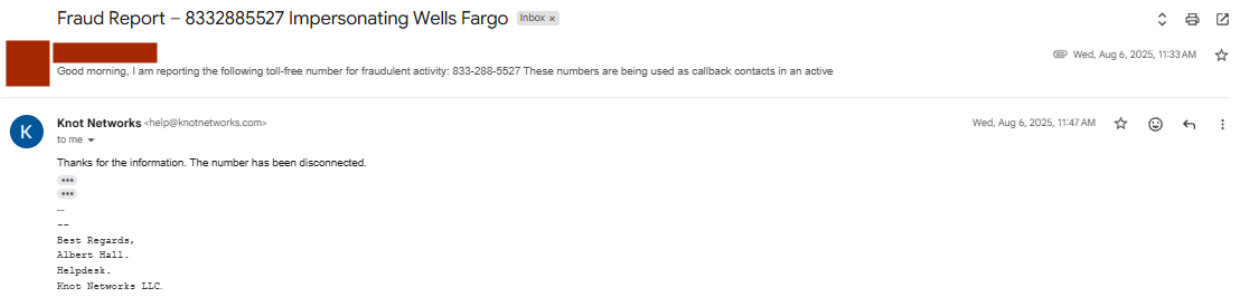
Recording: Fri, Jun 27, 2025 12:41 PM: 833-356-5201
Recording: Fri, Jun 27, 2025 12:12 PM: 833-356-5201

August 6, 2025, two toll-free numbers were reported to Knot Networks for use in a Microsoft technical support scam and a Wells Fargo customer support impersonation scam: ***833-288-5547*** and ***833-288-5527***.

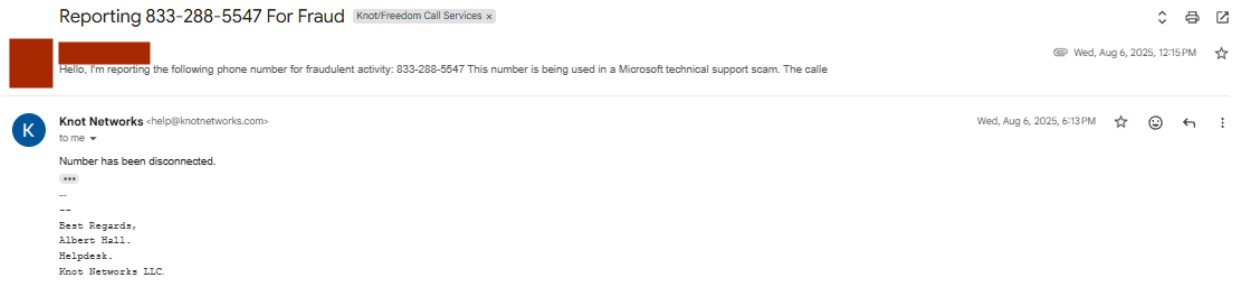
The reports included recordings of scammers answering the reported numbers and identifying themselves as "Microsoft" and "US Bank" respectively.

Recording: Wed, Aug 6, 2025 11:27 AM: 833-288-5527
Recording: Wed, Aug 6, 2025, 12:15 PM: 833-288-5547

At 11:47 AM EST, Knot Networks responded and confirmed that 833-288-5527 had been shut down for fraud.



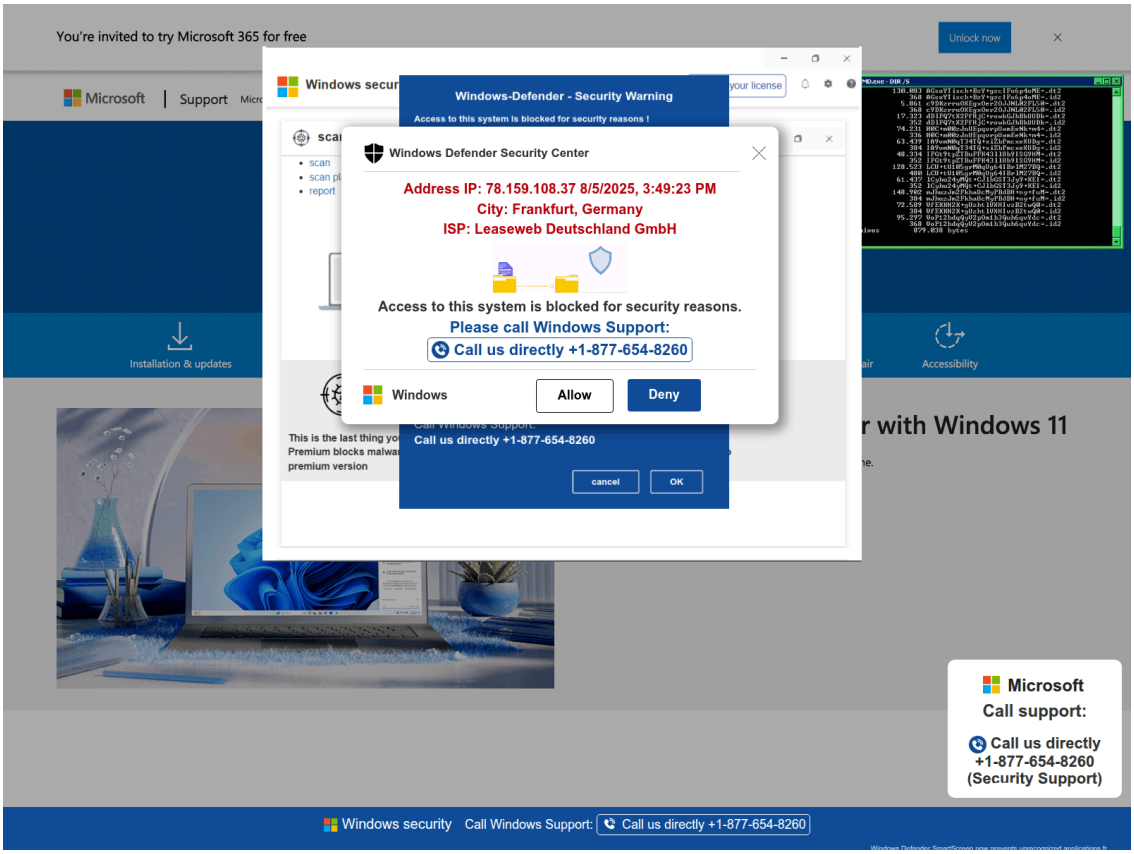
At 6:13 PM EST, Knot Networks responded and confirmed that 833-288-5547 had been shut down for fraud.



Knot Networks would stop responding to email again until December 15, 2025.

Changes At Knot Networks & A New Trend: Blocking VoIP Calls

December 15, 2025, Demurrage reported toll-free number 877-654-8260 to Knot Networks for use in a Microsoft technical support scam. The report included a screenshot of the number displayed on a Microsoft scam pop-up, along with a recording of a scammer answering the reported number and identifying as "customer service."

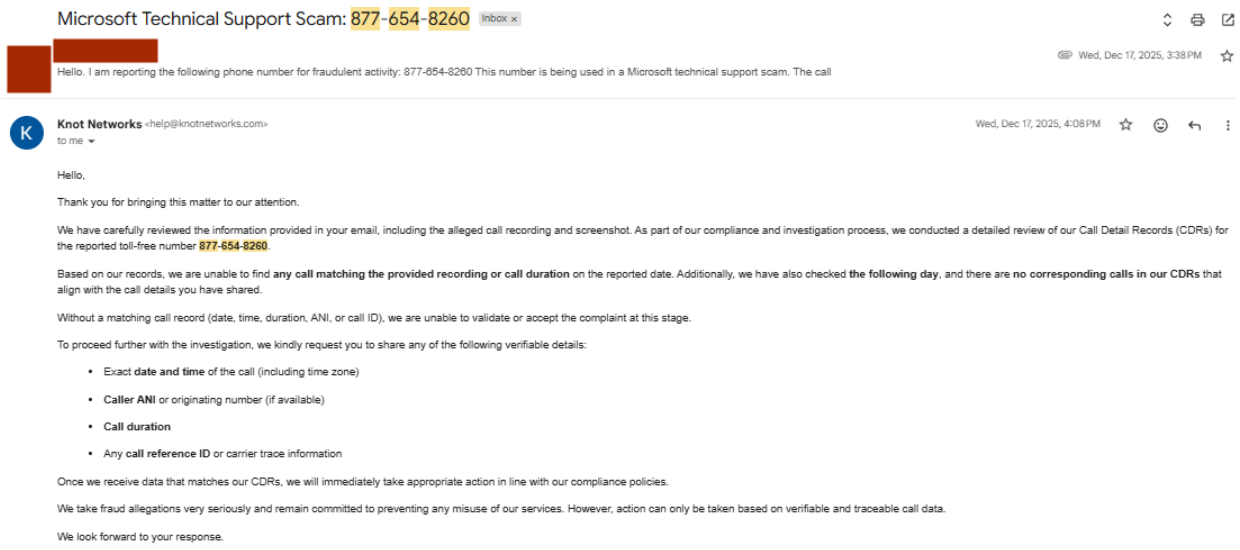


Recording: Wed, Dec 17, 2025 3:32 PM: 877-654-8260

This number also marked the beginning of a new tactic in which Knot Networks toll-free numbers used in tech support scams began blocking VoIP callers. This approach, also adopted by other scammers and “marks” (complicit wholesale providers), serves two purposes.

1. It prevents scambaiters, commonly referred to by scammers as "prankers," and “prank calls” from tying up the lines, as scambaiters rely primarily on VoIP for calls.
2. Ensures that only victims calling from cell phones are able to reach the scammers. Any caller using a VoIP number to dial a toll-free number configured to block VoIP traffic would receive a false disconnection message or experience an instant hang-up.

Knot Networks responded to the report but, for the first time, requested additional information: the exact date, time, and time zone of the call; the caller's originating number or ANI, if available; call duration; and any call reference ID or carrier trace information.



Microsoft Technical Support Scam: 877-654-8260 Inbox ×

[redacted]

Hello. I am reporting the following phone number for fraudulent activity: 877-654-8260 This number is being used in a Microsoft technical support scam. The call

Wed, Dec 17, 2025, 3:38 PM

Knot Networks <help@knotnetworks.com>
to me

Wed, Dec 17, 2025, 4:08 PM

Hello,

Thank you for bringing this matter to our attention.

We have carefully reviewed the information provided in your email, including the alleged call recording and screenshot. As part of our compliance and investigation process, we conducted a detailed review of our Call Detail Records (CDRs) for the reported toll-free number 877-654-8260.

Based on our records, we are unable to find **any call matching the provided recording or call duration** on the reported date. Additionally, we have also checked **the following day**, and there are **no corresponding calls in our CDRs** that align with the call details you have shared.

Without a matching call record (date, time, duration, ANI, or call ID), we are unable to validate or accept the complaint at this stage.

To proceed further with the investigation, we kindly request you to share any of the following verifiable details:

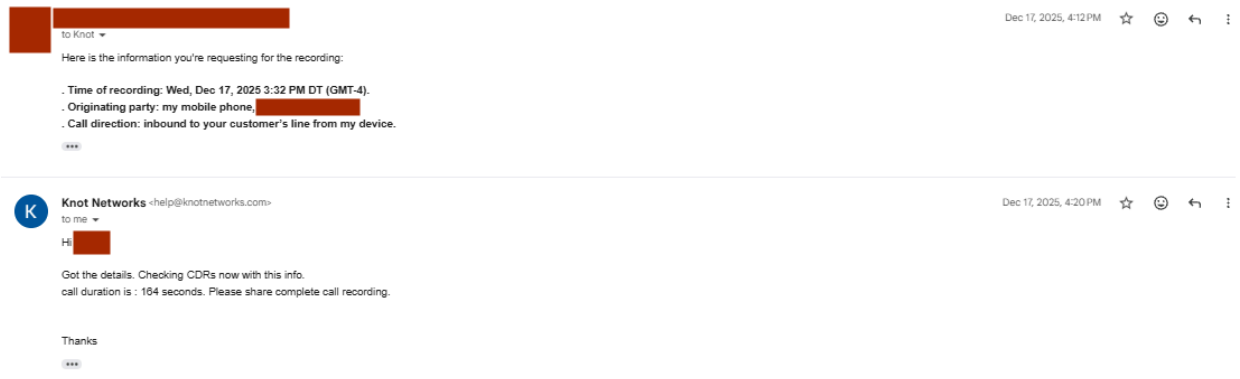
- Exact **date and time** of the call (including time zone)
- **Caller ANI** or originating number (if available)
- **Call duration**
- Any **call reference ID** or carrier trace information

Once we receive data that matches our CDRs, we will immediately take appropriate action in line with our compliance policies.

We take fraud allegations very seriously and remain committed to preventing any misuse of our services. However, action can only be taken based on verifiable and traceable call data.

We look forward to your response.

Because the reported toll-free number was configured to block VoIP calls, Demurrage began using dedicated cell phones to bypass this restriction. The call connected successfully, and Demurrage reached a scammer identifying as "customer service." Although the cell phone number used was subsequently blocked, the recording was obtained and the information requested by Knot Networks was submitted.



[redacted]
to Knot

Dec 17, 2025, 4:12 PM

Here is the information you're requesting for the recording:

. **Time of recording: Wed, Dec 17, 2025 3:32 PM DT (GMT-4).**
. **Originating party: my mobile phone,** [redacted]
. **Call direction: inbound to your customer's line from my device.**

Knot Networks <help@knotnetworks.com>
to me

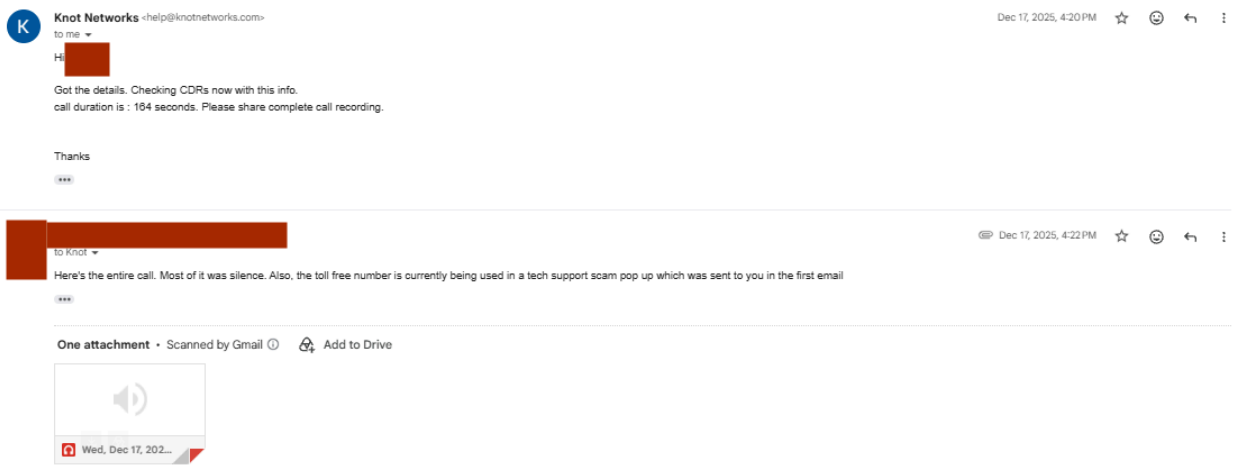
Dec 17, 2025, 4:20 PM

Hi [redacted]

Got the details. Checking CDRs now with this info.
call duration is : 164 seconds. Please share complete call recording.

Thanks

Demurrage explained that the full recording contained a period of silence but submitted it in its entirety. Knot Networks did not respond and the status of this case remains unknown.



Recording: Wed, Dec 17, 2025 3:32 PM: 877-654-8260

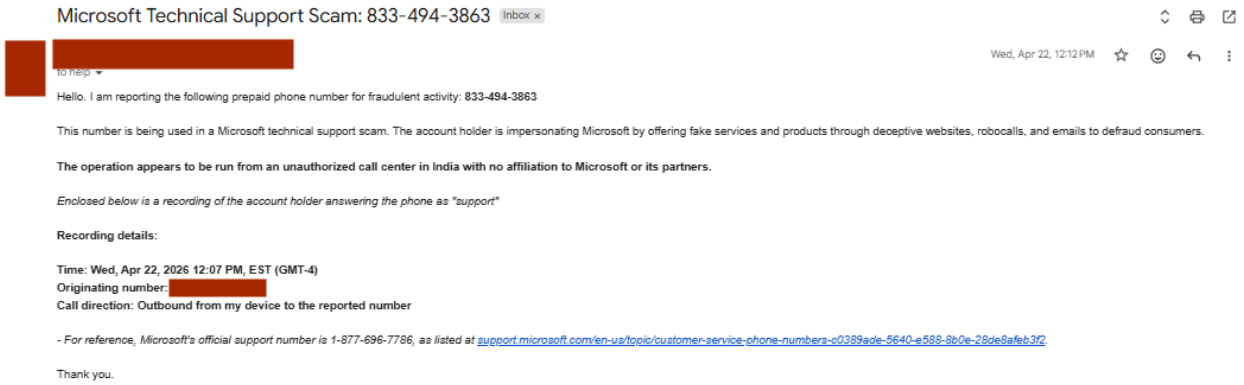
As expected, the dedicated cell phone used to place the call was subsequently blocked, as future toll-free numbers traced back to Freedom Call Services would no longer accept calls from that number.

This marked the third instance in which Knot Networks stopped responding to our emails regarding Freedom Call Services numbers linked to tech support fraud, a period that would last until April 22, 2026.

3rd Wave of Freedom Call Services Toll-Free Numbers & Further Changes at Knot Networks

April 22, 2026, the toll-free number: 833-494-3863 was reported to Knot Networks for use in a Microsoft technical support scam. The report included a recording of a scammer answering the reported number and identifying as "support," along with timestamps of when Demurrage initiated the call.

This number was also configured to block VoIP calls, and one of Demurrage's dedicated cell phones was used to bypass the restriction.



Microsoft Technical Support Scam: 833-494-3863 Inbox ×

[redacted]

Wed, Apr 22, 12:12 PM

to help

Hello. I am reporting the following prepaid phone number for fraudulent activity: **833-494-3863**

This number is being used in a Microsoft technical support scam. The account holder is impersonating Microsoft by offering fake services and products through deceptive websites, robocalls, and emails to defraud consumers.

The operation appears to be run from an unauthorized call center in India with no affiliation to Microsoft or its partners.

Enclosed below is a recording of the account holder answering the phone as "support"

Recording details:

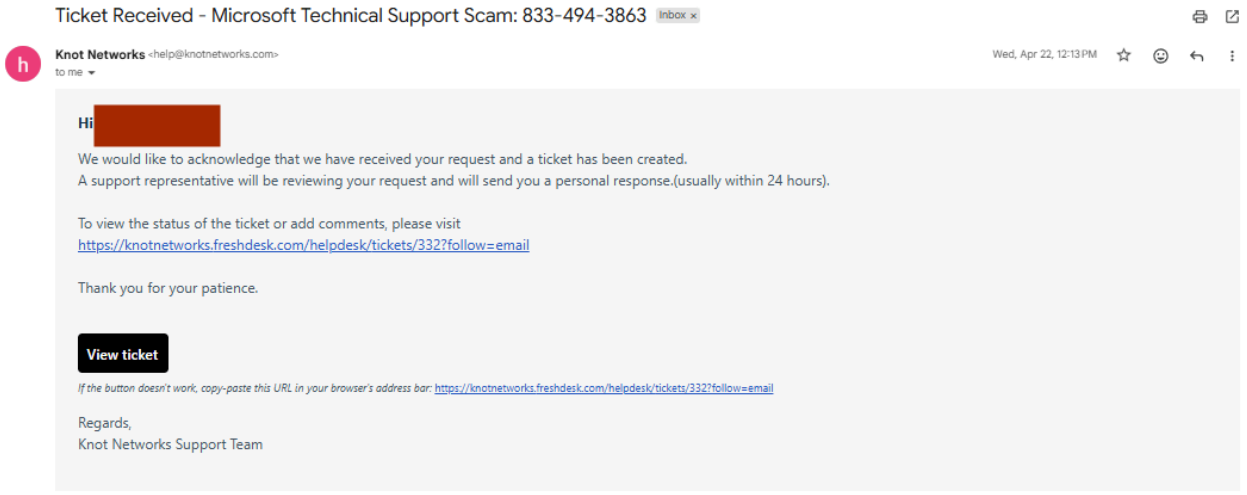
Time: Wed, Apr 22, 2026 12:07 PM, EST (GMT-4)
Originating number: [redacted]
Call direction: Outbound from my device to the reported number

- For reference, Microsoft's official support number is 1-877-696-7786, as listed at support.microsoft.com/en-us/topic/customer-service-phone-numbers-c0389ade-5640-e588-8b0e-28de8afeb3f2.

Thank you.

Recording: Wed, Apr 22, 2026 12:07 PM: 833-494-3863

Knot Networks responded with a significantly overhauled email and a new ticketing system that would become its standard process going forward. Rather than receiving a direct confirmation that a reported number had been shut down, Demurrage was now met with an automated acknowledgment that a ticket had been received, followed by a second automated response stating that an investigation had begun and that action would be taken.



Ticket Received - Microsoft Technical Support Scam: 833-494-3863 Inbox ×

Knot Networks <help@knotnetworks.com>
to me

Wed, Apr 22, 12:13 PM

Hi [redacted]

We would like to acknowledge that we have received your request and a ticket has been created.
A support representative will be reviewing your request and will send you a personal response.(usually within 24 hours).

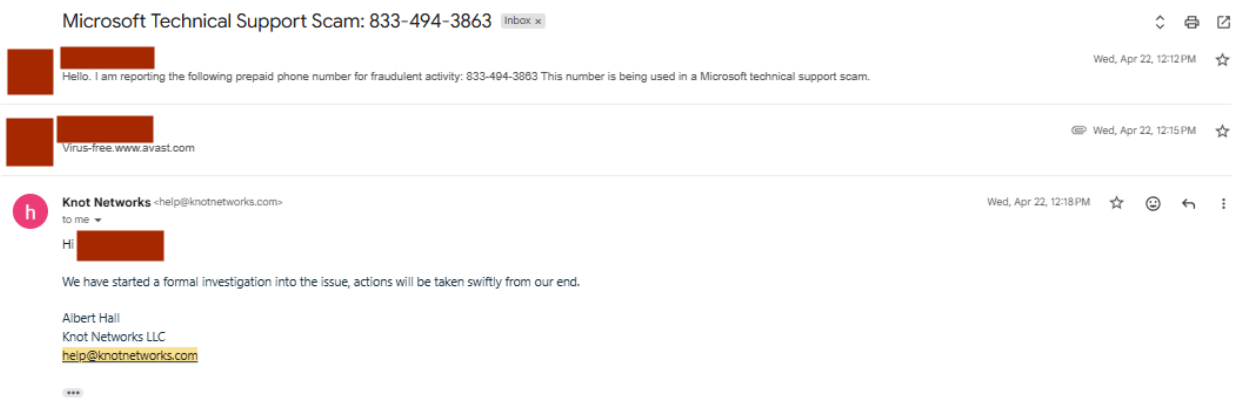
To view the status of the ticket or add comments, please visit
https://knotnetworks.freshdesk.com/helpdesk/tickets/332?follow=email

Thank you for your patience.

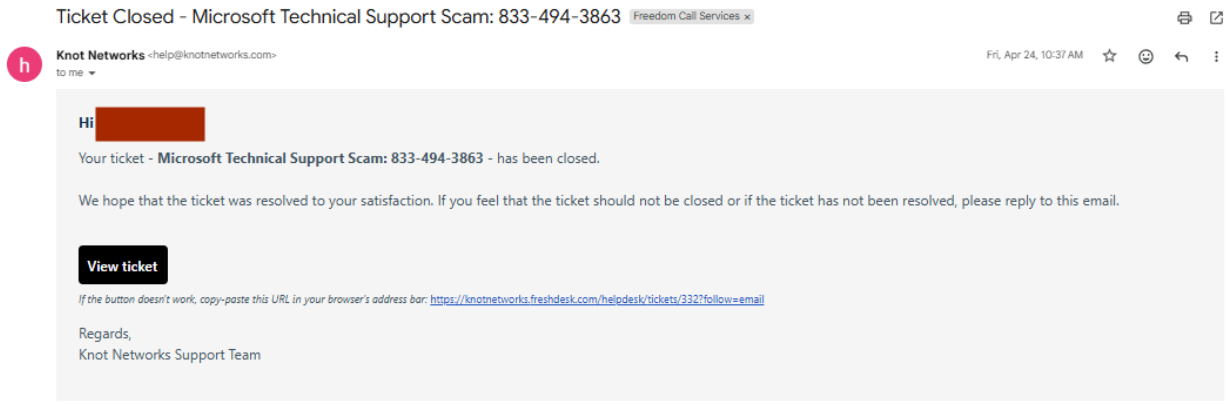
View ticket

If the button doesn't work, copy-paste this URL in your browser's address bar: https://knotnetworks.freshdesk.com/helpdesk/tickets/332?follow=email

Regards,
Knot Networks Support Team

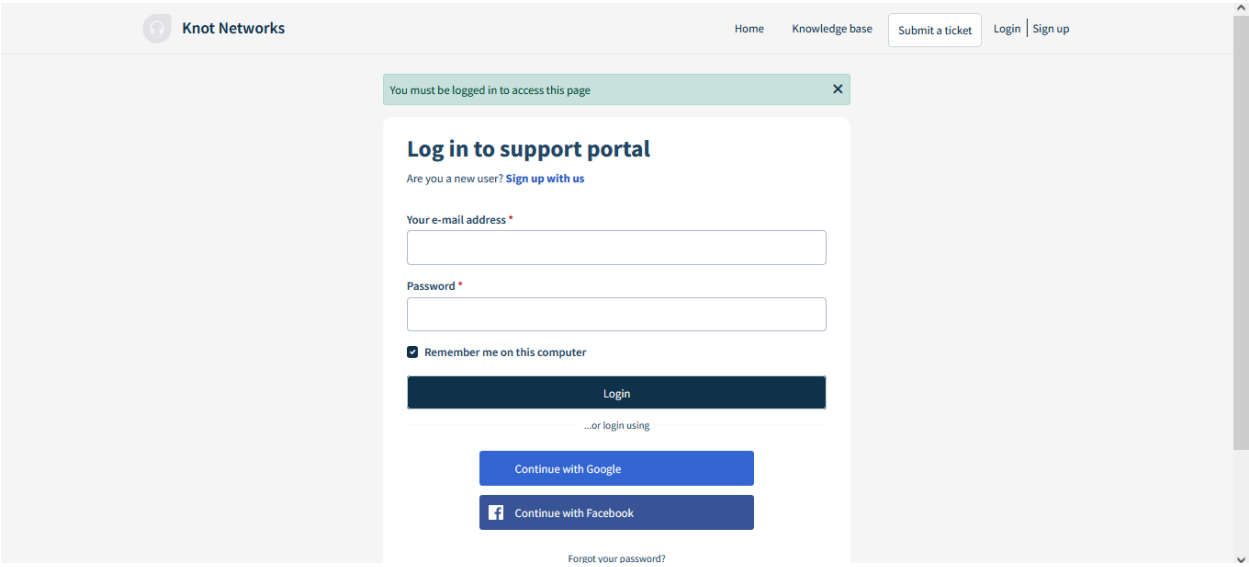


However, the outcomes of these cases were never communicated directly, as tickets were subsequently closed via automated reply with no further detail, a noticeable departure from Knot Networks' previous practice of confirming disconnections



Viewing the ticket outcomes appears to require registration on the Knot Networks support portal. However, given that one of Demurrage's dedicated cell phones was subsequently blocked by Freedom Call Services numbers, Demurrage decided not to register on the platform.

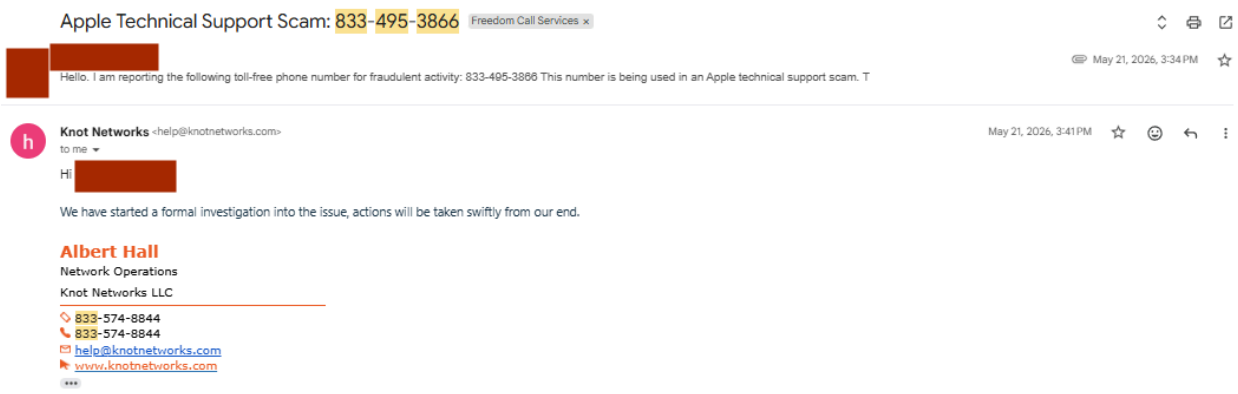
This concern will be addressed further in Part 2, including why these telecoms are not considered to be trustworthy, even when using dummy email addresses.



May 21, 2026, at 3:34 PM EST, the toll-free number 833-495-3866 was reported to Knot Networks for use in an Apple technical support scam. This number was also configured to block VoIP calls, and one of Demurrage's dedicated cell phones was used to bypass the restriction. A scammer answered the call and claimed to be “Apple”. The report submitted to Knot Networks included a recording of the scammer answering the reported number and the timestamps of the call.

Recording: Thu, May 21, 2026 3:31 PM: 833-495-3866

At 3:41 PM EST, Knot Networks responded with an automated message stating that an investigation was underway and that action would be taken. No further updates were provided and the outcome of this case remains unresolved.


Apple Technical Support Scam: 833-495-3866 Freedom Call Services ×

[redacted]

Hello. I am reporting the following toll-free phone number for fraudulent activity: 833-495-3866 This number is being used in an Apple technical support scam. T

May 21, 2026, 3:34 PM

Knot Networks <help@knotnetworks.com>

to me

May 21, 2026, 3:41 PM

Hi [redacted]

We have started a formal investigation into the issue, actions will be taken swiftly from our end.

Albert Hall
Network Operations
Knot Networks LLC

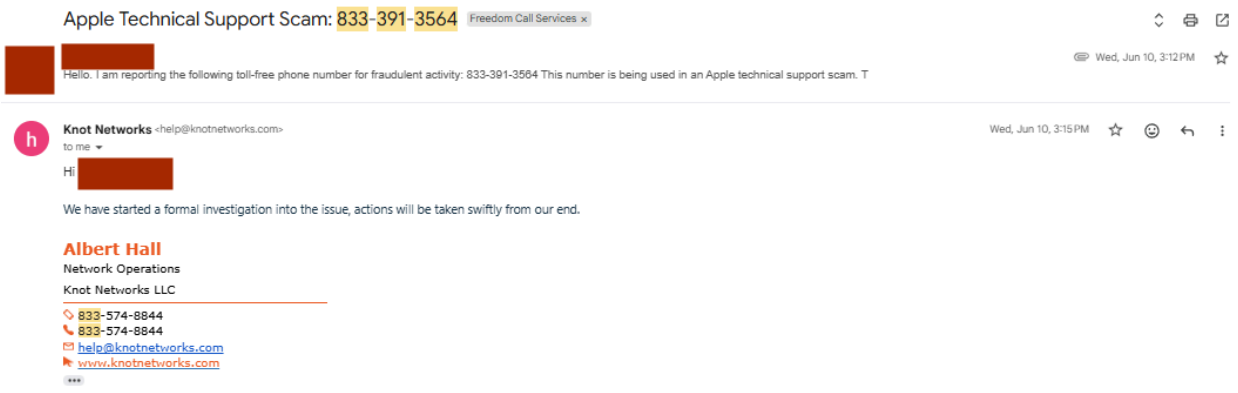
833-574-8844
833-574-8844
help@knotnetworks.com
www.knotnetworks.com

June 10, 2026, at 3:12 PM EST, the toll-free number 833-391-3564 was reported to Knot Networks for use in an Apple technical support scam. The report submitted to Knot Networks included a recording of the scammer answering the reported number and the timestamps of the call.

Recording: Wed, Jun 10, 2026 3:08 PM: 833-391-3564

At 3:15 PM EST, Knot Networks responded with an automated message stating that an investigation was underway and that action would be taken. On June 11, 2026, at 12:46 PM EST, Knot Networks closed the ticket associated with this case with no further detail.

The outcome of this case remains unresolved, as Knot Networks did not confirm or describe any action taken in its follow-up correspondence.


Apple Technical Support Scam: 833-391-3564 Freedom Call Services ×

[redacted]

Hello. I am reporting the following toll-free phone number for fraudulent activity: 833-391-3564 This number is being used in an Apple technical support scam. T

Wed, Jun 10, 3:12 PM

Knot Networks <help@knotnetworks.com>

to me

Wed, Jun 10, 3:15 PM

Hi [redacted]

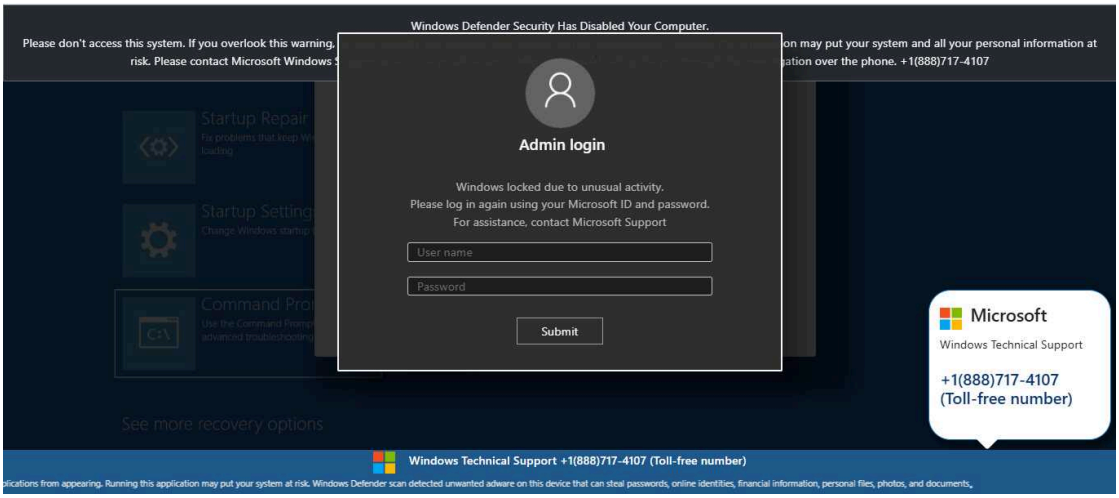
We have started a formal investigation into the issue, actions will be taken swiftly from our end.

Albert Hall
Network Operations
Knot Networks LLC

833-574-8844
833-574-8844
help@knotnetworks.com
www.knotnetworks.com

A Large Call Center Impersonating Microsoft Support Begins Using Freedom Call Services

During the first half of 2026, Demurrage encountered a series of toll-free numbers used in Microsoft technical support scams. The scams followed a consistent pattern, a website designed to resemble a Facebook login page would trick users into clicking a button, redirecting them to a tech support scam page loosely resembling a Windows Defender virus warning.



Recording: Fri, Aug 21, 2026 1:08 PM: 8887174107

The website locks the user's keyboard and displays a message claiming that a virus has locked the device, presenting a toll-free number and instructing the user to call Microsoft support.

All of these toll-free numbers were traced back to a single illegal call center in India. Although the first wave of toll-free numbers traced back to a different telecom, Fractel, this call center subsequently began acquiring toll-free numbers across all five of the alleged scammer-owned telecoms documented in this report, and more recently has been purchasing Freedom Call Services numbers.

Background

Although the initial bulk of Fractel numbers traced back to several wholesale providers, one of them proved to be a “mark” associated with the call center. This provider pushed back against fraud reports, claiming that its customer was “an authorized Microsoft service provider”, despite multiple screenshots of scam pop-ups clearly demonstrating the operation of a Microsoft technical support scam.

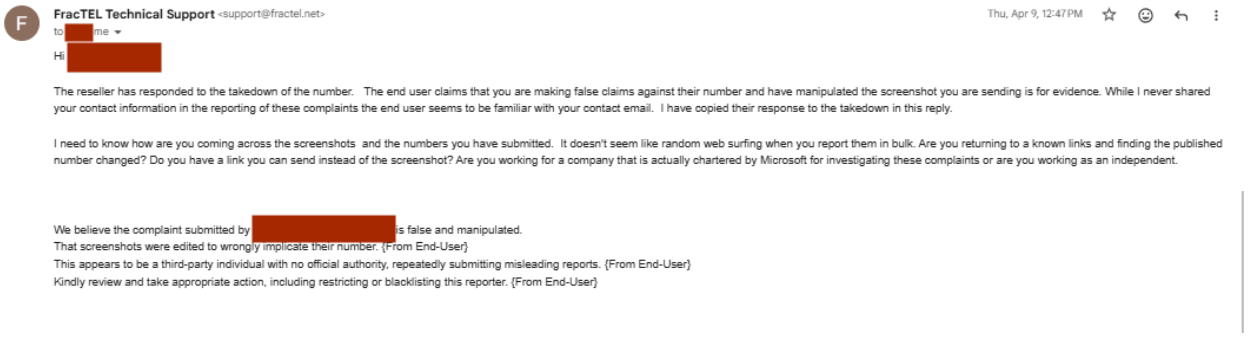


The ‘mark” also identified the name of its customer's company. Although the company may appear legitimate, it was most likely registered as a shell company by scammers in India, a common tactic used by call centers to acquire and operate under the guise of a legitimate business in order to facilitate tech support fraud.

Claiming to be third-party support is a longstanding tactic among scammers in India conducting this type of fraud. In some cases, scammers have been known to target elderly individuals and coerce them into registering shell companies using their personal details, without their knowledge that the company is being established for use in tech support scams.



The “mark” went further, claiming to have submitted KYC documentation to Fractel substantiating this claim, and alleged that Demurrage had fabricated the evidence, including the screenshots.



FracTEL Technical Support <support@fractel.net> Thu, Apr 9, 12:47 PM

to [redacted] me

Hi [redacted]

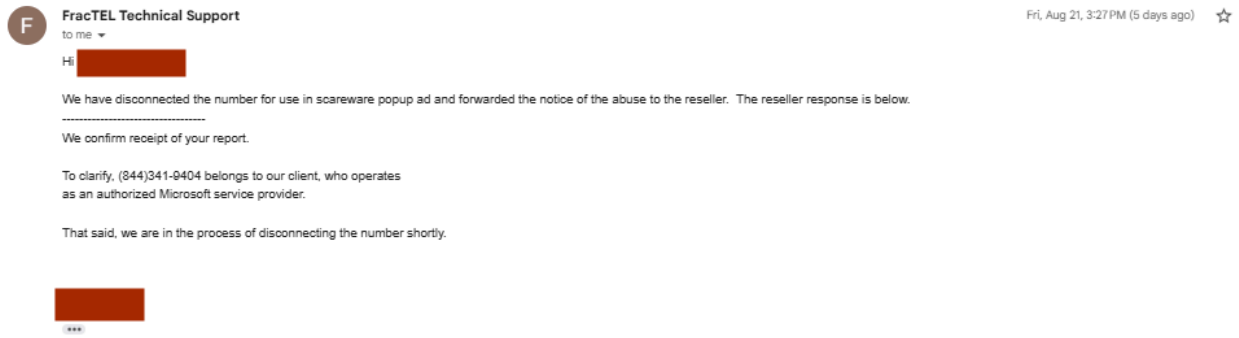
The reseller has responded to the takedown of the number. The end user claims that you are making false claims against their number and have manipulated the screenshot you are sending is for evidence. While I never shared your contact information in the reporting of these complaints the end user seems to be familiar with your contact email. I have copied their response to the takedown in this reply.

I need to know how are you coming across the screenshots and the numbers you have submitted. It doesn't seem like random web surfing when you report them in bulk. Are you returning to a known links and finding the published number changed? Do you have a link you can send instead of the screenshot? Are you working for a company that is actually chartered by Microsoft for investigating these complaints or are you working as an independent.

We believe the complaint submitted by [redacted] is false and manipulated.
That screenshots were edited to wrongly implicate their number. {From End-User}
This appears to be a third-party individual with no official authority, repeatedly submitting misleading reports. {From End-User}
Kindly review and take appropriate action, including restricting or blacklisting this reporter. {From End-User}

Demurrage has since concluded that “marks” are more likely to be removed from telecom networks the more their numbers are reported for tech support fraud.

Despite the “marks” best efforts, the overwhelming evidence caused Fractel to act and disconnect the toll-free numbers for fraud.



FracTEL Technical Support Fri, Aug 21, 3:27 PM (5 days ago)

to me

Hi [redacted]

We have disconnected the number for use in scareware popup ad and forwarded the notice of the abuse to the reseller. The reseller response is below.

We confirm receipt of your report.

To clarify, (844)341-9404 belongs to our client, who operates
as an authorized Microsoft service provider.

That said, we are in the process of disconnecting the number shortly.

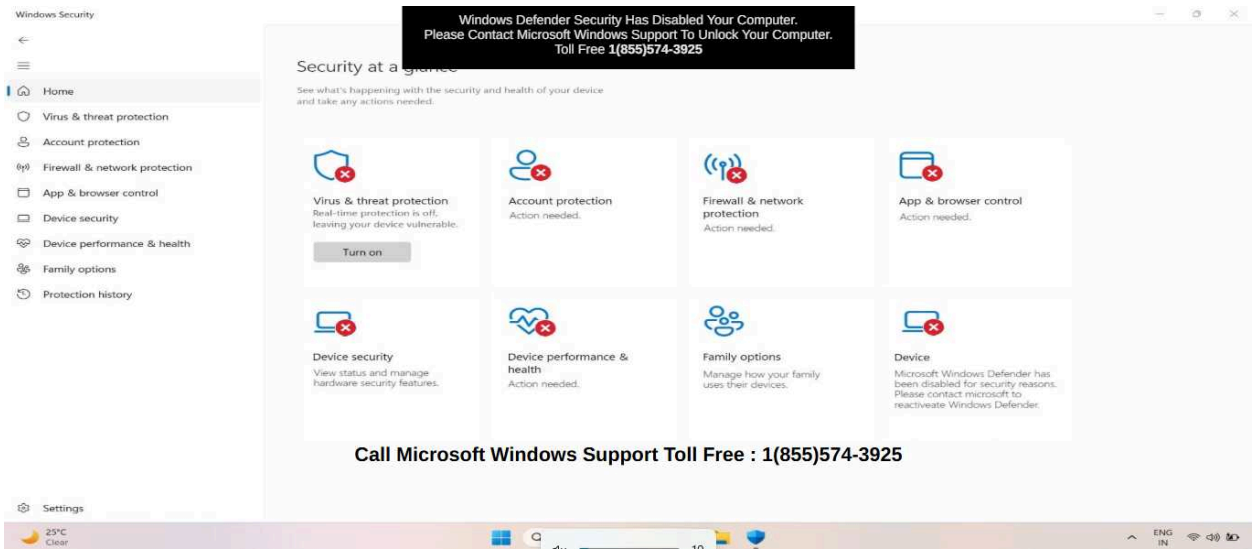
[redacted]

This consistent removal of toll-free numbers is what prompted the call center to begin acquiring numbers from all five of the alleged scammer-owned telecoms, likely in an attempt to extend the lifespan of its campaigns beyond the typical takedown window following a fraud report.

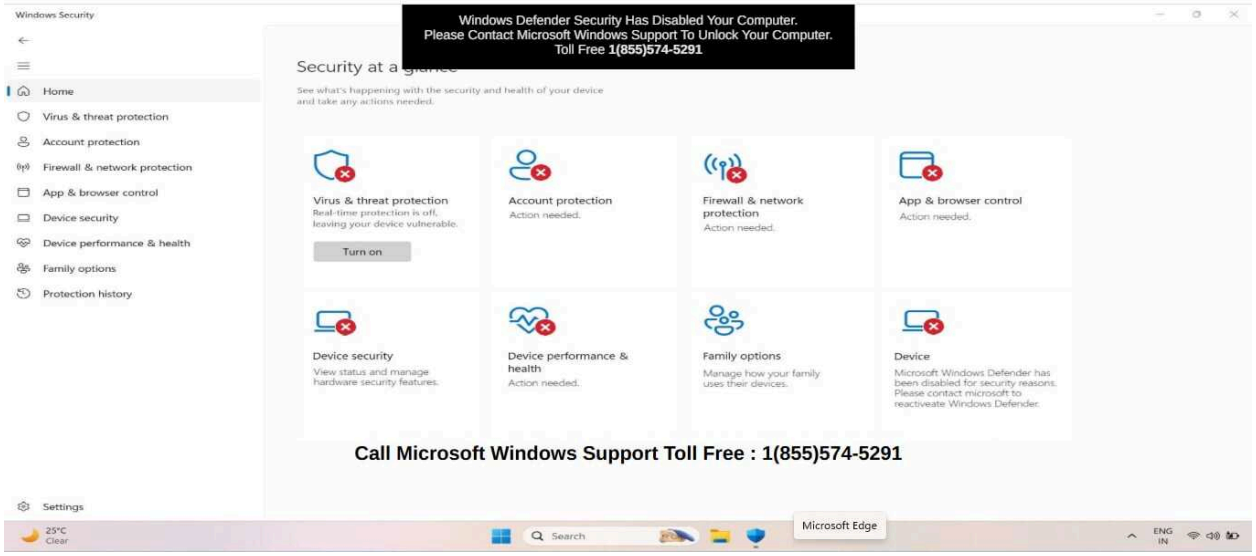
Cases Linked With This Call Center

With Fractel consistently shutting down this call center's toll-free numbers, the operation eventually shifted to acquiring numbers from all five of the alleged scammer-owned telecoms with Freedom Call Services being the most recent.

August 18, 2026, Demurrage reported two toll-free numbers used by this call center that traced back to Freedom Call Services: 855-574-3925 and 855-574-5291. As with previous cases, these numbers were configured to block VoIP calls.

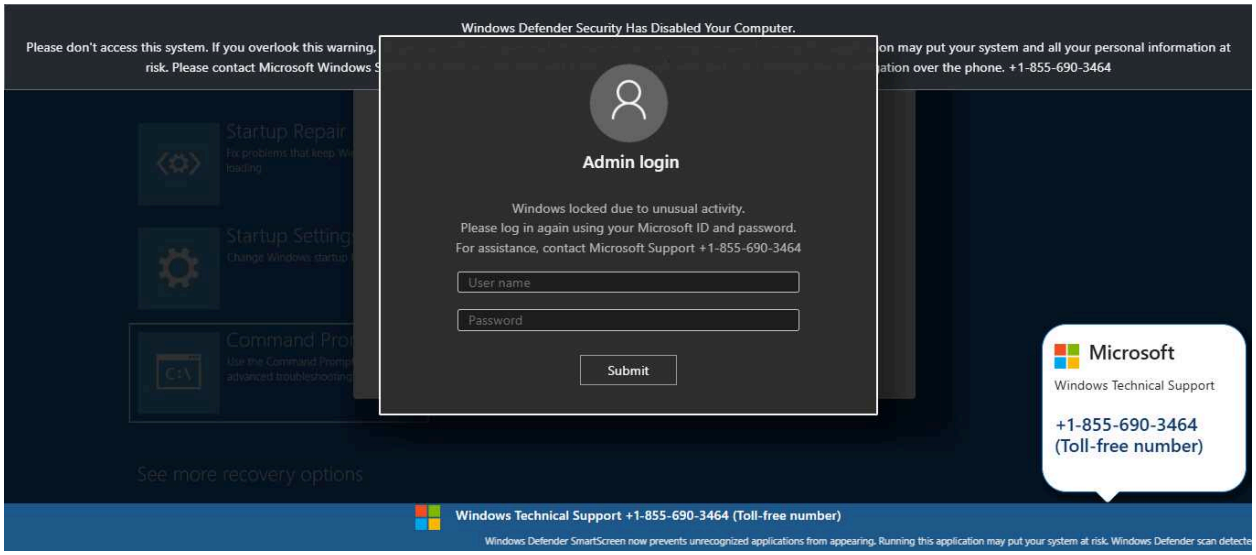


Recording: Tue, Aug 18, 2026 3:13 PM: 855-574-3925

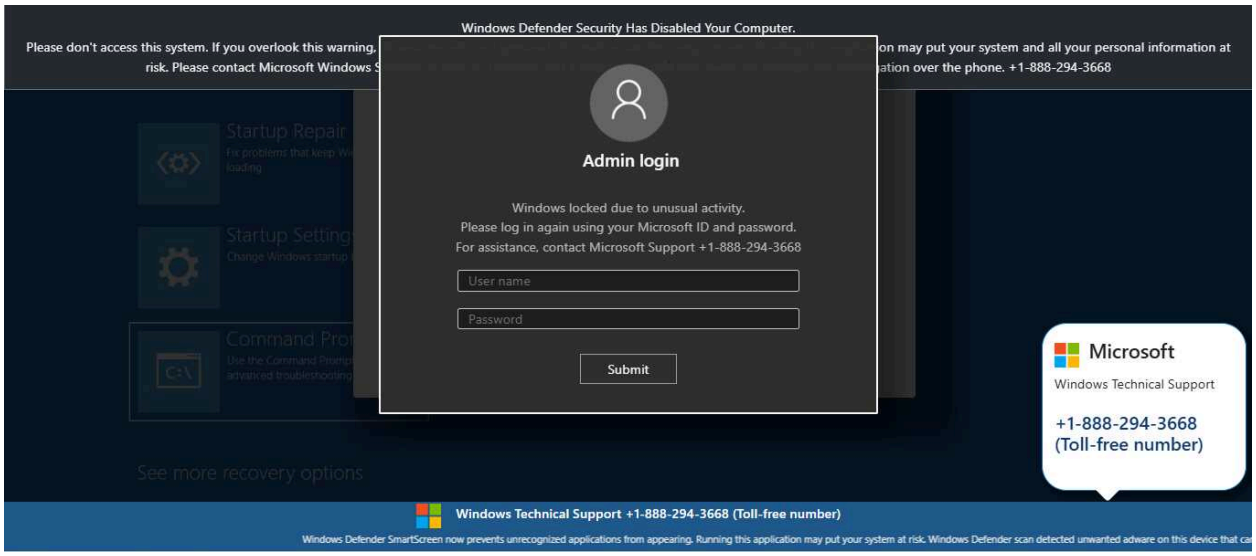


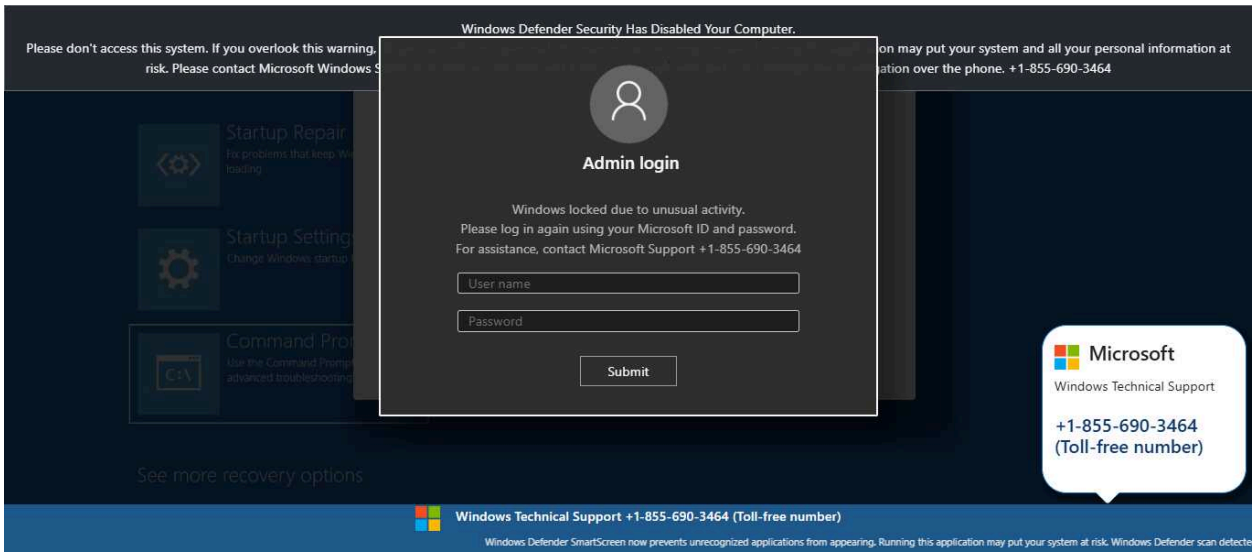
Recording: Tue, Aug 18, 2026 3:09 PM: 855-574-5291

August 20, 2026, Demurrage reported 1 toll-free number associated with this call center that traced back to Freedom Call Services: 877-797-3864. As with previous cases, this number was configured to block VoIP calls.

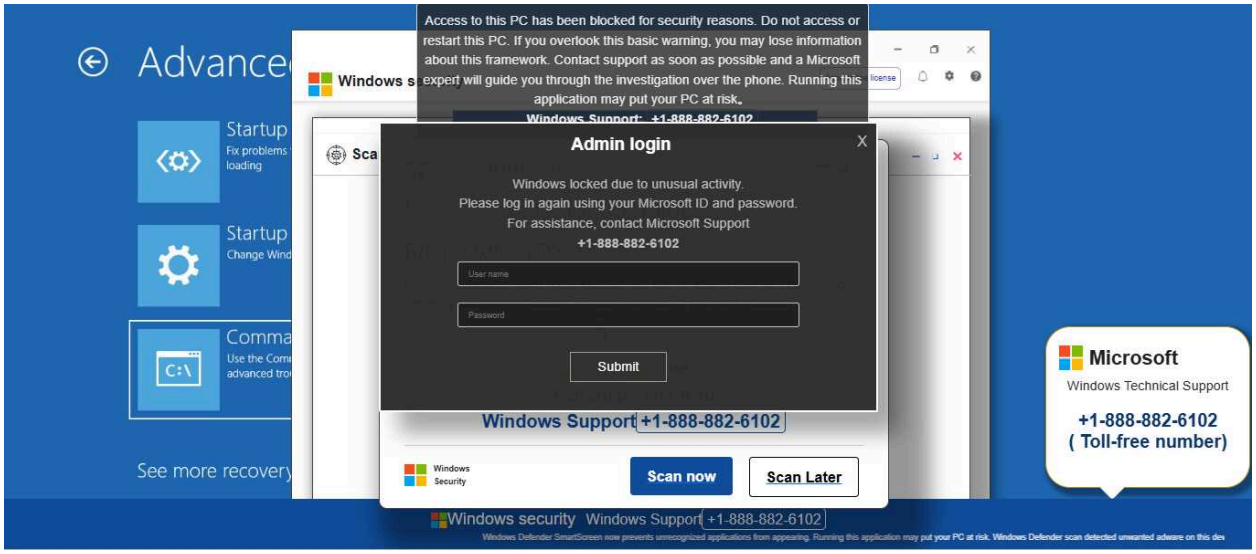


August 21, 2026, Demurrage reported two more toll-free numbers associated with this call center that traced back to Freedom Call Services: 855-690-3464 and 888-294-3668. As with previous cases, these numbers were configured to block VoIP calls.



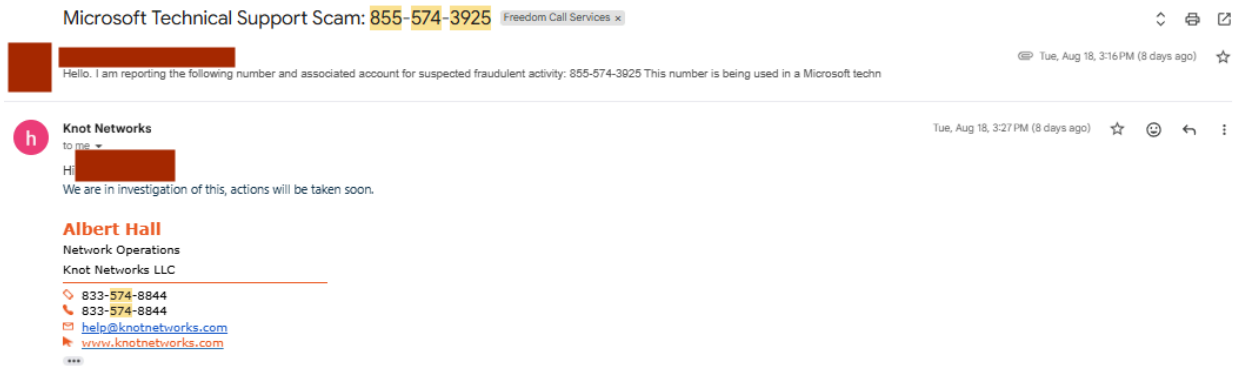


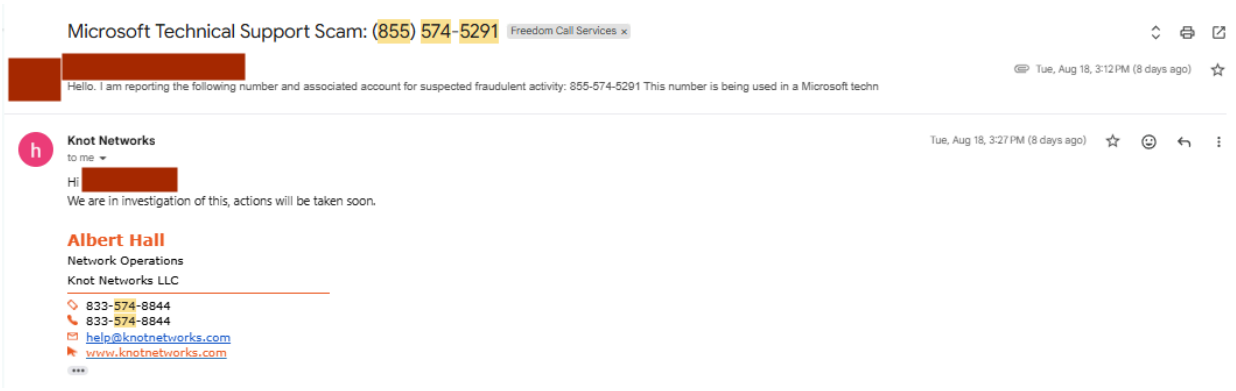
August 24, 2026, Demurrage reported one toll-free number associated with this call center that traced back to Freedom Call Services: 888-882-6102. As with previous cases, this number was configured to block VoIP calls.



Unlike previous cases, Knot Networks responded only with automated acknowledgments that tickets had been opened. No further updates have been provided for any of the cases listed above, leaving the outcomes unresolved.

If the numbers were indeed shut down for tech support fraud, Knot Networks provided no confirmation of taking action against the accounts.





Microsoft Technical Support Scam: (855) 574-5291 Freedom Call Services ×

[redacted]

Tue, Aug 18, 3:12 PM (8 days ago)

Hello. I am reporting the following number and associated account for suspected fraudulent activity: 855-574-5291 This number is being used in a Microsoft techn

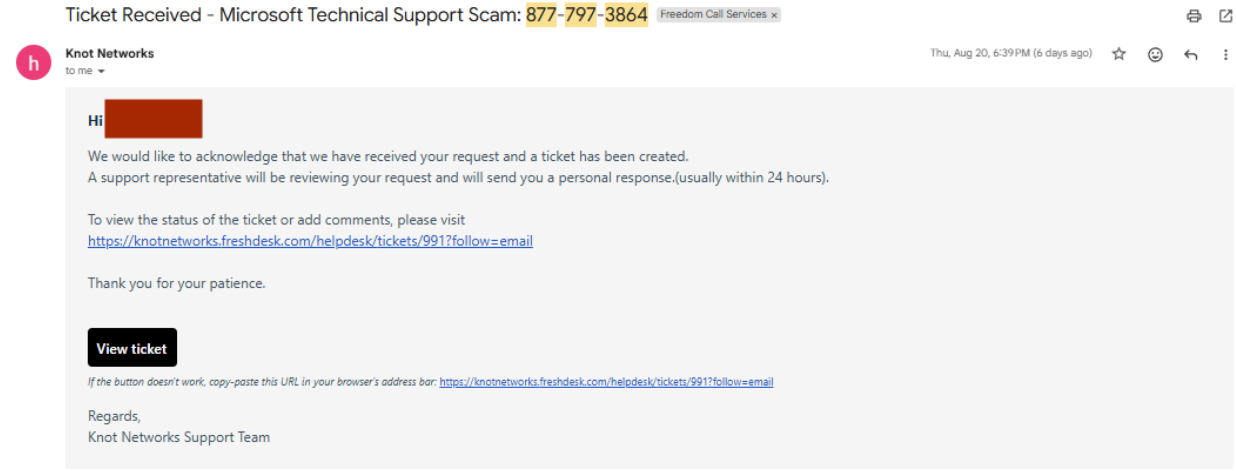
Knot Networks
to me

Tue, Aug 18, 3:27 PM (8 days ago)

Hi [redacted]
We are in investigation of this, actions will be taken soon.

Albert Hall
Network Operations
Knot Networks LLC

833-574-8844
833-574-8844
help@knotnetworks.com
www.knotnetworks.com



Ticket Received - Microsoft Technical Support Scam: 877-797-3864 Freedom Call Services ×

Knot Networks
to me

Thu, Aug 20, 6:39 PM (6 days ago)

Hi [redacted]

We would like to acknowledge that we have received your request and a ticket has been created.
A support representative will be reviewing your request and will send you a personal response.(usually within 24 hours).

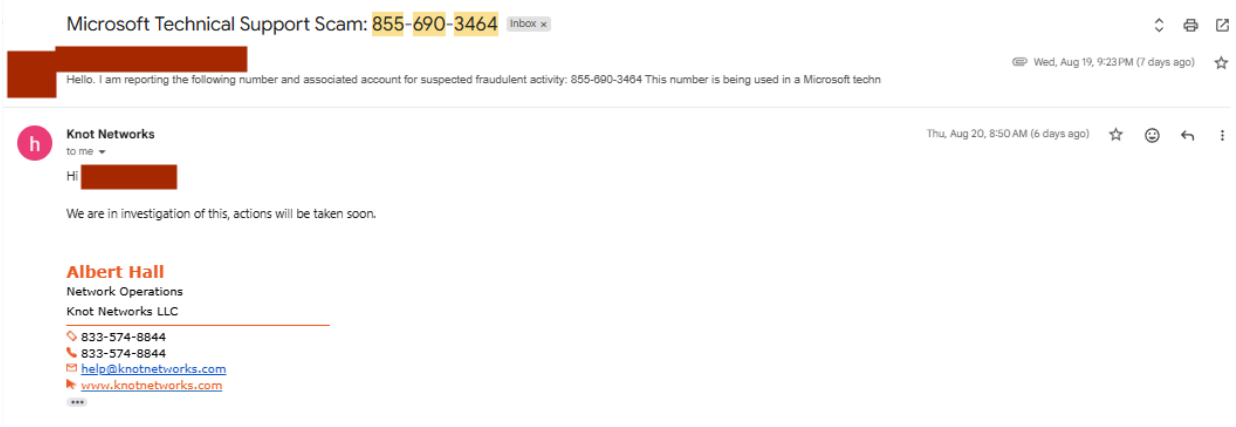
To view the status of the ticket or add comments, please visit
https://knotnetworks.freshdesk.com/helpdesk/tickets/991?follow=email

Thank you for your patience.

View ticket

If the button doesn't work, copy-paste this URL in your browser's address bar: https://knotnetworks.freshdesk.com/helpdesk/tickets/991?follow=email

Regards,
Knot Networks Support Team



Microsoft Technical Support Scam: 855-690-3464 Inbox ×

[redacted]

Wed, Aug 19, 9:23 PM (7 days ago)

Hello. I am reporting the following number and associated account for suspected fraudulent activity: 855-690-3464 This number is being used in a Microsoft techn

Knot Networks
to me

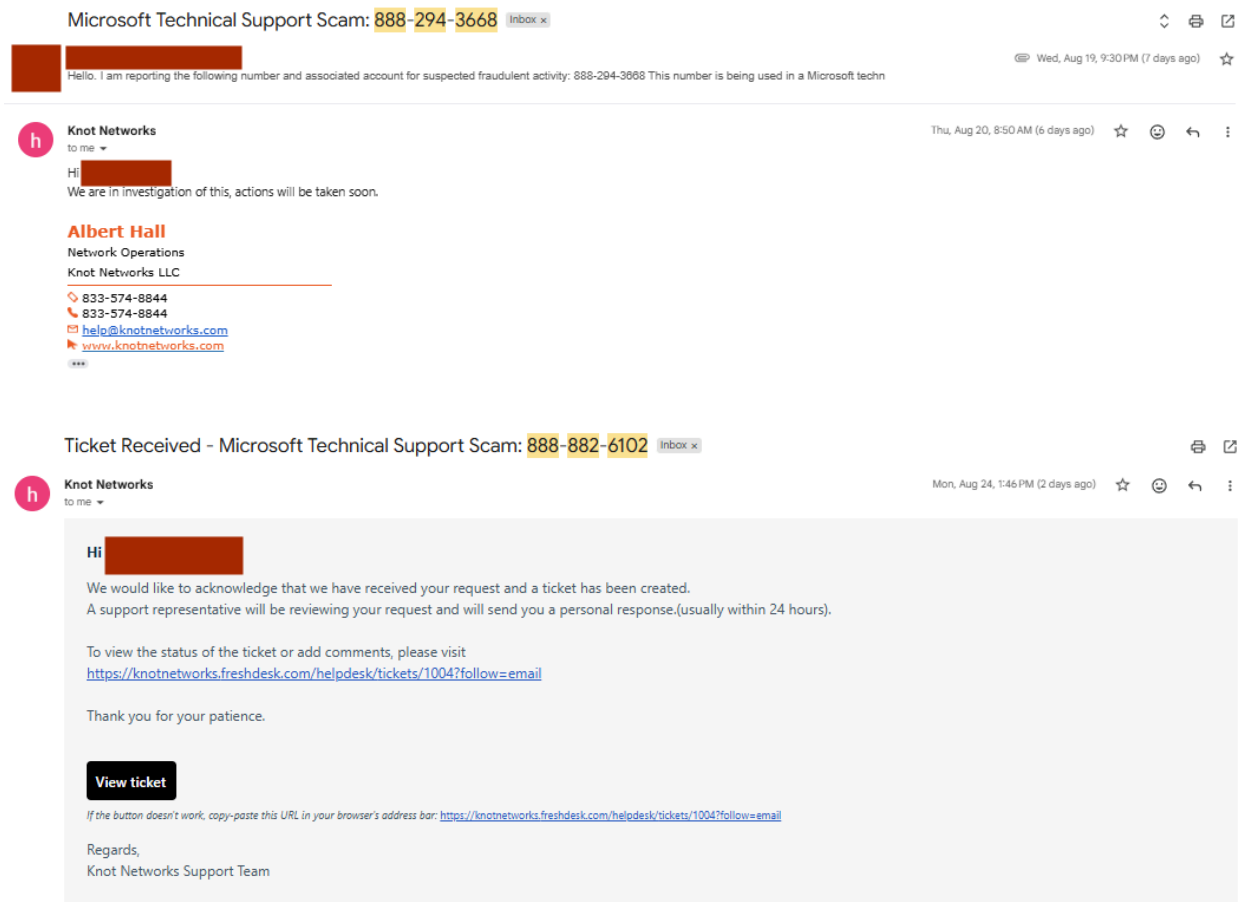
Thu, Aug 20, 8:50 AM (6 days ago)

Hi [redacted]

We are in investigation of this, actions will be taken soon.

Albert Hall
Network Operations
Knot Networks LLC

833-574-8844
833-574-8844
help@knotnetworks.com
www.knotnetworks.com



Microsoft Technical Support Scam: 888-294-3668 Inbox ×

[redacted]

Wed, Aug 19, 9:30 PM (7 days ago)

Hello. I am reporting the following number and associated account for suspected fraudulent activity: 888-294-3668 This number is being used in a Microsoft techn

Knot Networks
to me

Thu, Aug 20, 8:50 AM (6 days ago)

Hi [redacted]
We are in investigation of this, actions will be taken soon.

Albert Hall
Network Operations
Knot Networks LLC

833-574-8844
833-574-8844
help@knotnetworks.com
www.knotnetworks.com

Ticket Received - Microsoft Technical Support Scam: 888-882-6102 Inbox ×

Knot Networks
to me

Mon, Aug 24, 1:46 PM (2 days ago)

Hi [redacted]

We would like to acknowledge that we have received your request and a ticket has been created.
A support representative will be reviewing your request and will send you a personal response.(usually within 24 hours).

To view the status of the ticket or add comments, please visit
https://knotnetworks.freshdesk.com/helpdesk/tickets/1004?follow=email

Thank you for your patience.

View ticket

If the button doesn't work, copy-paste this URL in your browser's address bar: https://knotnetworks.freshdesk.com/helpdesk/tickets/1004?follow=email

Regards,
Knot Networks Support Team

Closing Statements

On December 17, 2025, the Cloudflare account of Scammer.info, a website that serves as a database for tracking and sharing toll-free and tolled numbers used in tech support fraud, received a cease and desist from the apparent owner of Knot Networks, Hemant Chand.

The alleged owner claimed that Knot Networks was not a scammer-owned telecom and demanded that related posts be removed from the website. Notably, the cease and desist listed both Knot Networks and Freedom Call Services by name, further confirming that the two are the same entity

The transcript of this cease and desist is provided below. It should be noted, however, that the document is believed to have been falsified and written with the intent to intimidate both the Cloudflare provider and the owners of Scammer.info into compliance.

The apparent attorney who authored the cease and desist, Fabiola Taylor, has no verifiable online presence across Google, LinkedIn, or any Bar Association registry. Based on these findings, Demurrage believes the cease and desist was fabricated by the alleged owner, who is most likely based in India.

Falsified cease and desist letters have also been used by scammers against public forums such as Scammer.info to intimidate users into removing records of toll-free numbers associated with tech support fraud. While Demurrage is not a scambaiting collective, all data is independently verified before being submitted for public review, regardless of its source.

Based on these findings, Demurrage requests that an investigation be opened into Knot Networks and Freedom Call Services as a potential scammer-owned telecom whose sole purpose appears to be providing toll-free number services to scammers operating out of illegal call centers in India. Demurrage is available to answer any questions or provide additional information.

Four additional organizations allegedly based in the United States operate in a manner nearly identical to that of Knot Networks. If this trend is not addressed, Demurrage believes that further copycat telecoms will emerge, causing additional harm to U.S. consumers who fall victim to tech support scams, an industry that has grown into a billion dollar criminal enterprise operated largely from overseas.

It is critical that cases such as Knot Networks be investigated to prevent further consumer harm.

Transcript of the Cease and Desist Sent to the Owners of Scammer.info and Cloudflare

To:
Cloudflare, Inc.
Attn: Legal Department / Abuse & Trust and Safety
101 Townsend Street
San Francisco, CA 94107, United States

Namecheap, Inc.
Attn: Legal Department / Abuse & Compliance
4600 East Washington Street, Suite 305
Phoenix, AZ 85034, United States

Operator / Administrator of scammer.info
Attn: Legal & Abuse Department
Registered Address: Unknown / Not Publicly Disclosed

This email serves as a formal legal notice and immediate takedown demand regarding defamatory, false, and misleading content published and hosted on the website scammer.info

This notice is intentionally addressed to and copied to the domain registrar, hosting/CDN provider, and site administrators for transparency and record.

Targeted Entities and Affected URLs

The content directly targets:

- Knot Networks LLC
- Mr. Hemant Chand (CEO)
- Freedom Call Services

The affected URLs, including internal search index results, are:

- https://scammer.info/t/tech-support-scam-from-hemant-chand-of-knot-networks/115472
- https://scammer.info/search?q=Hemant%20Chand
- https://scammer.info/search?q=Knot%20Networks
- https://scammer.info/search?q=freedom%20call%20services

Company and Regulatory Position

Knot Networks LLC is a lawfully operating telecommunications service provider. We provide telecom and voice services under applicable U.S. laws and FCC regulations, including:

- 47 CFR (FCC Rules & Regulations)
- FCC registration and reporting obligations (Form 499)
- STIR/SHAKEN compliance requirements
- Traffic monitoring, KYC, and abuse-mitigation procedures

The provision of regulated telecom services is a lawful activity, and the mere handling of traffic does not constitute fraudulent activity. No authority (including the FCC, DOJ, or FTC) has ever issued an adverse finding against Knot Networks LLC or Mr. Hemant Chand.

Legal Basis of Objection

The content hosted on scammer.info:

- Makes false and unverified allegations of criminal conduct.
- Presents accusations as facts without any court order, law-enforcement determination, or FCC enforcement action.
- Causes severe reputational damage, commercial harm, and public misinformation.
- Constitutes defamation and negligent publication under applicable law.

Formal Demand for Action

We formally demand that the following actions be taken immediately:

1. Removal of Content: All posts, threads, references, and materials relating to Knot Networks LLC, Mr. Hemant Chand, and Freedom Call Services must be immediately and permanently deleted from scammer.info.
2. Search Index Removal: All internal search index results referencing the above entities must be removed.
3. No Further Publication: No further content referencing our company or CEO shall be published without verified judicial or regulatory documentation.
4. Confirmation: Written confirmation of compliance must be provided within seven (7) business days.

Notice of Escalation

Failure to act on this notice will result in immediate escalation to the FCC Enforcement Bureau, IC3 / FBI Cyber Crime Division, FTC, ICANN Compliance, search engines (Google/Bing) for defamation delisting, and formal civil and legal proceedings for defamation and reputational damages.

This notice is issued without prejudice to any rights and remedies available under applicable law.

We categorically affirm that:

- Knot Networks LLC is not engaged in any tech-support scam or fraudulent activity.
- Freedom Call Services is not engaged in any tech-support scam or fraudulent activity.
- Mr. Hemant Chand has never been charged, investigated, or convicted of any such offense.
- All services are offered under proper rules, regulations, and full regulatory compliance.

Sincerely,
Fabiola Taylor
Legal Attorney
Knot Networks LLClegal@knotnetworks.com

List of Numbers Linked to Tech Support Fraud on Freedom Call Services

- 8336444240
- 8443562271
- 8335748844
- 8446949280
- 8332988527
- 8332885527
- 8333565201
- 8666849226
- 8554516234
- 8444718264
- 8444112214
- 8444377242
- 8444112214
- 8443954181
- 8444112214
- 8333455121
- 8333455121
- 8444377242
- 8445334797
- 8664917244
- 8333557112
- 8445324777
- 8556397240
- 8334387942
- 8335317249
- 8334387042
- 8445334617
- 8774411294
- 8445334277
- 8774812204
- 8884232544
- 8445324507
- 855-634-2236
- 855-634-3236
- 866-684-9226
- 8333565201
- 833-288-5527
- 833-288-5547
- 833-288-5557
- 833-288-5567
- 844-386-0291
- 877-654-8260
- 833-494-3863
- 2833-396-5241
- 833-495-3866
- 833-391-3564
- 833-654-1270
- 855-574-5291
- 1855-574-3925
- 888-294-3668
- 877-797-3864
- 877-891-3967
- 855-692-3067

THE END.