

Prairie Heights uses Google Workspace, and students and staff have Google accounts. There is a class action lawsuit against Google, so many PH students and staff will be getting information about this lawsuit emailed to their accounts. The lawsuit does not involve Prairie Heights, and the school does not have any information outside of what is contained in the email.

Public Notice:

Class Action Notice Program in Rodriguez et al., v. Google LLC affecting some of your end users

A federal court recently ordered that notice be sent to all Enterprise Dasher account holders (i.e., End Users) who may be class members in a class action filed against Google in July 2020 titled, Rodriguez et al., v. Google LLC pending in the United States District Court for the Northern District of California, Case No. 3:20-cv-04688-RS.

Case overview

- Four Google account holders (“Plaintiffs”) filed a class action lawsuit against Google LLC (“Google”) alleging that Google unlawfully accessed their devices and data from non-Google mobile apps, even though Web & App Activity (“WAA”) and/or supplemental Web & App Activity (“sWAA”) were turned off or “paused.”
- Plaintiffs allege Google unlawfully accessed their mobile devices to collect, save, and use data concerning their activity on non-Google apps that have incorporated certain Google software code into the apps while WAA and/or sWAA were turned off or “paused.”
- Plaintiffs assert three legal claims against Google: 1) invasion of privacy; 2) intrusion upon seclusion (similar to invasion of privacy); and 3) violation of the Comprehensive Computer Data Access and Fraud Act (“CDAFA”). For all three legal claims Plaintiffs seek money damages and changes to Google’s practices.
- Activity data generated by end users using Google Workspace apps or services is not at issue in this case, but Workspace end users are class members if they fit the class definitions, including, e.g., because they used non-Google apps while signed into their Workspace accounts.

Google denies Plaintiffs’ legal claims and does not admit to any wrongdoing. The Court has not decided who is right.

Who is in the class?

The Court certified four classes to assert claims for damages, detailed below.

- Comprehensive Computer Data Access and Fraud Act (“CDAFA”). For the alleged violation of the CDAFA, the Court certified the following classes:
 - o Class 1: All individuals who, during the period beginning July 1, 2016 and continuing through September 23, 2024, (a) had their “Web & App Activity” and/or “supplemental Web & App Activity” setting turned off and (b) whose activity on a non-Google-branded mobile app was still transmitted to Google, from (c) a mobile device running the Android operating system, because of the Firebase Software Development Kit (“SDK”) and/or Google Mobile Ads SDK.
 - o Class 2: All individuals who, during the period beginning July 1, 2016 and continuing through September 23, 2024, (a) had their “Web & App Activity” and/or “supplemental Web & App Activity” setting turned off and (b) whose activity on a non-Google-branded mobile app was still transmitted to Google, from (c) a mobile device running a non-Android operating system, because of the Firebase SDK and/or Google Mobile Ads SDK.
- Invasion of Privacy and Intrusion Upon Seclusion : For the alleged invasion of privacy and intrusion upon seclusion legal claims, the Court certified the same Class 1 and Class 2 but excluded individuals who only have an “Enterprise” account or “supervised Google Account for users under age 13” (also known as a “Unicorn” account). An “Enterprise” account is an account managed by an administrator that is designed for use by end users within an organization, such as businesses, non-profits, and schools. A “supervised Google Account for users under age 13” is an account created for a minor when they are under the age of 13, which is created and supervised by a parent using Google Family Link.
 - o Class 1: All “non-Enterprise” and “non-Unicorn” individuals who, during the period beginning July 1, 2016 and continuing through September 23, 2024, (a) had their “Web & App Activity” and/or “supplemental Web & App Activity” setting turned off and (b) whose activity on a non-Google-branded mobile app was still transmitted to Google, from (c) a mobile device running the Android operating system, because of the Firebase Software Development Kit (“SDK”) and/or Google Mobile Ads SDK.
 - o Class 2: All “non-Enterprise” and “non-Unicorn” individuals who, during the period beginning July 1, 2016 and continuing through September 23, 2024, (a) had their “Web & App Activity” and/or “supplemental Web & App Activity” setting turned off and (b) whose activity on a non-Google-branded mobile app was still transmitted to Google, from (c) a mobile device running a non-Android operating system, because of the Firebase SDK and/or Google Mobile Ads SDK.

Enterprise and supervised Google Accounts for users under age 13 are not included in the Classes for the legal claims for damages for invasion of privacy and intrusion upon seclusion. Although these accounts may have been eligible to be included in the Classes certified for these legal claims, the Court granted Google’s request to exclude Enterprise accounts and supervised Google Accounts for users under age 13 from the invasion of privacy and intrusion upon

seclusion Classes. Enterprise and supervised Google Accounts for users under age 13 are still included in the Classes certified for violations of the CDAFA.

Enterprise and supervised Google Accounts for users under age 13 are within all Classes that have been certified to seek changes to Google's practices.

All users under 18 who fit the above class definitions were ordered to be part of their respective classes and ordered by the Court to receive class notice, as described below.

Email notices

- The Court has ordered that notice be sent to Enterprise accounts that had their WAA and/or sWAA setting turned off from July 1, 2016 to September 23, 2024 to inform them of their "change in status"—i.e., that they are no longer members of the class for all claims but may still be eligible for damages recovery for one claim, and injunctive relief for all claims.
- On or around September 23, 2024, Google will provide the court-appointed Class Notice Administrator (Epiq) with the names and email addresses of End Users if Google's records indicate that they may be Class Members. The Class Notice Administrator, will be sending notice by email starting September 23, 2024 to all End User Accounts that had their WAA and/or sWAA setting turned off from July 1, 2016 to September 23, 2024 regardless of who turned off the setting (either, End User or Administrator) using information provided by Google and designated by Google as Highly Confidential - Attorneys' Eyes Only under the court approved Protective Order in this case.
- Epiq will be allowed to share limited information, including information pertaining to individual Class Members, with Plaintiffs' lawyers ("Class Counsel") but only subject to appropriate steps to maintain the security of that data (such as remote access to Class Counsel without transferring the table). Class Counsel may seek access to this information, for example, in the event they receive inquiries from potential Class Members. The information will remain stored and secured by Epiq, and Class Counsel will not print or transfer copies of the list or portions of it (electronic or otherwise), outside of Epiq.

Additional information

If you have any questions or need additional information, please visit www.GoogleWebAppActivityLawsuit.com or call (855) 822-8821.