

To the recipient,

In recent years, the proliferation of the internet across the world has opened many more avenues for law enforcement and persons involved in civil litigation to obtain information gleaned from the trace of an IP address, the address that represents the entry point of a person or persons on the internet.

This address is however not representative of a person nor the account owner, as many people are living in share house accommodation, have unsecured or less secured wifi or compromised wifi credentials, and in many cases these people will be using a consumer level modem and/or router which will not be able to log more identifying information at the client side, in any case these examples show the difficulties in obtaining an identity from an IP address.

Further, to place responsibility on the account holder would be disproportionate since they themselves may not know that their network is compromised and being used by a 3rd party.

Both of these issues come to a head when dealing with civil litigation, as with criminal litigation there will be a higher degree of emphasis and effort placed in the investigation process, that cannot be guaranteed for civil litigation.

For the reasons stated above, I request that proposed changes to allow retained data to be used in civil litigation to be stopped before they are implemented.

Regards,

Geoff Topolski