

RE: Smartphone and tablet exemption of the DMCA

Class of work: 5

To whom it may concern,

Please continue to allow "jailbreaking" of smartphones and gaming consoles as an exemption of the DMCA. As a consumer and knowledgeable product user, I believe that consumers should be allowed the right to use and modify a product that they've purchased. I have jailbroken devices in the past, namely the Apple iPhone, as it allows me to install additional software and functionalities that the non-jailbreak functionality does not allow. True multitasking, advanced and modifiable notification features, as well as content that Apple simply deems "inappropriate" are a few functionalities that I should be allowed to pursue within the law.

Additionally, there is an entire paid-app jailbreak community that helps our nation's economy and provides a livelihood for programmers and small business owners. This should not be stifled and made illegal. I pay for jailbreak software, as most end-users do, and have spent a considerable amount of money supporting this community. Jailbreaking is not simply an avenue for piracy and treating it as such would harm consumers and entrepreneurs alike.

Please side with consumers and programmers and continue to allow the exemption of jailbreaking from the DMCA. Allow consumers to legally modify products that they own, should they so choose and have the technical capabilities to do so. Putting a new stereo in a car that I own is legal, and allows me to greater enjoy the vehicle that I own. I paid for the car and the stereo, so why would a phone and its software be any different? Mobile devices, such as smartphones and tablets, are property of the consumers who own them. Should I wish to modify or purchase additional software to allow my product to better suit my needs, please do not turn me into a criminal.

Thank you,

Josh Patrick

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