

SIX MONTHS

Six months. That's how long Comcast keeps its records that allow it to track the activity of a Comcast Internet subscriber. At least that's what [Comcast's Cable Law Enforcement Manual](#), which somebody liberated and got into the hands of [Secrecy News](#), says.

- Because Comcast's system of allocating IP addresses uses Dynamic Host Configuration Protocol (DHCP), its subscribers are not assigned a single, constant or static IP address. Instead, a dynamic IP address is assigned and has the potential to change several times throughout the course of a month. As a result, it is necessary to include in all requests for information the specific date and time of incident when an IP address was alleged to have been used.
- Comcast currently maintains its IP log files for a period of 180 days. If asked to make an identification based upon an IP address that was used more than 180 days prior to receipt of the request, Comcast will not have information to provide.

I'm still waiting to see a copy of [Amway's complaint against 30 bloggers](#), but I wonder if

they've missed their opportunity to find out their identities?

And if it's phone call data the snoops want, they can get it up to two years after the phone call.