



# Ifrah Law's Semi-monthly Blog Wrap-up, January 15-31

January 28, 2011

This is the first of a regular series of posts that summarize and wrap up our latest thoughts that have appeared recently on Ifrah Law's two blogs.

## 1. Can Police Read a Suspect's Text Messages Without a Warrant?

What happens when the usual rules of search and seizure collide with the new world of information in which a tiny phone can hold as much data as a computer? On January 19, we looked at a California Supreme Court decision that in a warrantless police search after an arrest, a cell phone in a defendant's pocket isn't treated any differently from a pack of cigarettes or a note pad.

[Read the full post here on the CrimeInTheSuites blog.](#)

## 2. E-Cigarettes, the Internet, and the FTC

Electronic cigarettes are battery-operated nicotine delivery devices that are meant to replicate the flavor and sensation of smoking a tobacco cigarette. On January 20, we made some predictions about how the FTC will be regarding online advertising strategies for this new product and what online advertisers should do about it.

[Read the full post here on the FTCBeat blog.](#)



### 3. 'Fake' Reviews and Endorsements Catch the FTC's Attention

On January 24, we took a look at the FTC's first case that focused on "fake" product reviews and explained what this means for other affiliate marketers. The FTC alleged that a PR firm called Reverb Communications had its employees pose as ordinary consumers when they posted online iTunes product reviews and that it didn't disclose the relationship. We discuss why Reverb's settlement set important precedent for online advertisers, affiliate marketers and bloggers.

[Read the full post here on the FTCBeat blog.](#)

### 4. An Unfair Sentence for Slaughterhouse Plant Manager?

A few months ago, Sholom Rubashkin, the former plant manager at Agriprocessors, Inc., in Iowa, was sentenced to 27 years in prison for fraud in his operation of the kosher slaughterhouse. The case drew national attention. Recently, three influential legal advocacy groups filed amicus briefs in a federal appeals arguing that the sentence is excessive and urging that Rubashkin be resentenced. On January 25, we examined these amicus briefs and their arguments.

[Read the full post here on the CrimeInTheSuites blog.](#)

*Crime in the Suites is authored by the [Ifrah Law Firm](#), a Washington DC-based law firm specializing in the defense of government investigations and litigation. Our client base spans many regulated industries, particularly e-business, e-commerce, government contracts, gaming and healthcare.*

*The commentary and cases included in this blog are contributed by Jeff Ifrah and firm associates Rachel Hirsch, Jeff Hamlin, Steven Eichorn and Sarah Coffey. These posts are edited by Jeff Ifrah and Jonathan Groner, the former managing editor of the Legal Times. We look forward to hearing your thoughts and comments!*