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## The Alliance for Public Technology Calls For Online Privacy Protection

*Users Must Be Secure Online Or Benefits Of Advanced  
Services Could Be Reduced*

**Washington, D.C., January 30, 2003** – The Alliance for Public Technology (APT) ([www.apt.org](http://www.apt.org)), a leading consumer interest organization, today continues its support for the efforts of the Electronic Frontier Foundation (EFF) and others in pursuit of online consumer privacy in the case of *RIAA vs. Verizon*. APT signed on to EFF's first amicus brief which argued that Internet Service Providers should not be compelled to divulge the activity of users without due process.

"Consumers must feel secure in their online activity. If they are fearful about their private information being available to anyone, they are much less likely to utilize advanced telecommunications services, which can improve the quality of life," said Matt Bennett, Policy Director of APT. "If this happens with online music, what is going to be the case with medical information used for telemedicine? This is about privacy, not piracy."

A Washington, D.C. District Court judge ruled that Verizon must turn over information about one of its subscribers who is suspected of downloading digital music files. An appeal of this decision is expected.

For more information on EFF and the *RIAA vs Verizon* case, please visit: [http://www.eff.org/Cases/RIAA\\_v\\_Verizon/](http://www.eff.org/Cases/RIAA_v_Verizon/)

### About the Alliance for Public Technology

The Alliance for Public Technology is a nonprofit membership organization based in Washington, D.C. Membership is open to all nonprofit organizations and individuals, who are not members of the affected industries, concerned with fostering access to affordable and useful information and communications services and technologies by all people.

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