

Apple unlocked at least 70 iPhones before refusing to hack into terrorist's device

This news makes Apple's refusal to aid in stopping terror on US soil even more mystifying. From the [fighting the FBI over a court order](#) requiring the tech giant to unlock a terrorist's iPhone – but it appears the company had no problem breaking into at least 70 other protected smartphones.

The California-based tech giant unlocked dozens of iPhones at federal investigators' requests between 2008 and 2015, a prosecutor argued last year.

Apple [Motherboard reported at the time](#). Each request was made under the All Writs Act, a 1789 statute that grants federal courts broad power to issue “necessary or appropriate” writs.

“(Apple) had an established procedure to routinely take any of these requests, comply with them, processing them,” Assistant U.S. Attorney Saritha Komatireddy said in court.

While Apple lawyers did not object to the claim, they insisted the 70 figure was a government estimate and not a number vetted by the tech company.