



The Assignment on Information Security
(UE19CS347)

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1. If you were in Cook's shoes, would you comply with the court order to help the FBI access the data on the iPhone used in the San Bernardino shooting? Why or why not?

A.

With the court order enforced, it's onerous to deviate from the law. After the disastrous incident at San Bernardino, one has to bite the bullet to take the appropriate decision. I perhaps would forbid the FBI from attaining access to the targeted device. For, a fortunate brute force approach of all possible passcode combinations could lead to mistrust among the customers, leading their business to plummet. Since this could lead the customers to mistake the strength of an iPhone's security, I would preferably not comply with the court order.

2. What are Apple's responsibilities for public safety?

A.

Apple had quite a bunch of responsibilities for public safety. Since customers bestowed trust upon them (Apple), they found it imperative to maintain it.

- They forbid direct access to their servers by the government.
- By encryption, they augmented the safeguarding of data.
- They kept personal data veiled from any cyber thief's reach.
- They exonerated themselves from monetising any information stored on one's device(s).

3. What are Apple's responsibilities for customer privacy? Does Cook have additional responsibilities to take into account in this situation? If so, what are they?

A.

Privacy carried weight to Apple's reputation in the public eye. A couple of responsibilities upon them are as follows:

- They guaranteed the encryption of their hardware products.
- With encrypted messages, they magnified the privacy that their customers required.
- Since all the data that remained vital to their customers were bound to be veiled, Apple exercised an encryption key tied to the user passcode.
- They vetoed the installation of backdoors in Apple's devices.

Yes, Cook had to pull upon his head a few additional responsibilities. On receiving the court order to install backdoors, Cook defied it and thwarted the idea. Furthermore, his statement that the US government's demand is bound to persuade Apple to proceed with unprecedented steps illuminates the additional

responsibilities Cook undertook; this could lead to hazardous outcomes, making Apple plummet in the market.

4. Does your answer to providing access vary with the government agency or national government requesting the data? Why or why not?

A.

Perhaps, no. After foiling the FBI from enabling access to the data, providing them with the requested data breaks the faith bestowed by the customers upon the company. In time, the company's reputation in the market would be a rotten apple, massively impacting their business and destroying the company into pieces. Also, the competence posed to Google adds advantage (to Google), leading to an extreme loss for Apple.

5. Is there a way for Cook to resolve the apparent tension among these various responsibilities?

A.

A possibility to solve the apparent tension is by attaining special permissions from the central government. Cook attempting to convince the government to comply with his principles poses an eminent challenge he's bound to overcome. If he triumphs, then the intricate anxieties are magically solved, elevating the company's esteem. With immaculate politics in place, Cook can get the government to understand the hurdles Apple must face to shield the privacy and safety of its customers. These are plausible solutions to resolve the apparent tension among the various responsibilities.
