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(54) BLOCKING COMMUNICATIONS BASED ON UNSUCCESSFUL RESPONSES TO **CHALLENGES**

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(57)ABSTRACT

A challenge is transmitted to a sender. An unsuccessful response to the challenge is received from the sender. Responsive to determining that the unsuccessful response is received from the sender, routing of future communications from a telephone number associated with the sender is blocked for a duration of time. The duration of time can be based on a number of unsuccessful responses received from the telephone number.

