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**From:** Mike McCormick  
**Sent:** Monday, June 22, 2020 4:55 PM  
**To:** dig-comments-RFC <dig-comments-rfc@nist.gov> **Subject:**  
Comments on Digital Identity Guidelines RFC

NIST editors,

The following comments apply to the latest draft of SP800-63B:

**4.2.2** While it makes sense to disqualify smartphone unlock as a factor, please clarify whether proving possession of the smartphone that was bound to the user during enrollment allows the device to qualify as a SYH factor.

**4.3.2** Same smartphone comment as 4.2.2.

**5.1.3.2** We are pleased that the threat to deprecate OOB using SMS has been removed. However some warning that SMS is an insecure channel would still be appropriate.

**5.2.2** A ceiling of 100 consecutive failed attempts is too high, well in excess of industry best practice and most organizations' policies.

**5.2.3** Fixing the FMR limit globally at 1:1000 does not allow for consideration of risk. Set a different limit for each AAL instead.

**5.2.3** We agree liveness testing (PAD) should be mandatory at all AAL levels.

**7.1.1** In the spirit of CCPA and GDPR, session cookies should not contain cleartext PII. Their contents should generally be limited to an opaque session ID or token.

**7.2** Session secrets should also not persist after a user logs out.

**10.1** Under User experience (first bullet) offer the option to unmask display text *after* entry as well as during entry. This may be accompanied by a warning that unmasking facilitates shoulder surfing.

Thanks for the opportunity to comment on SP800-63.

Taproot Security is a cybersecurity consulting firm providing guidance to leaders of business and government agencies.

Michael McCormick.