Apple Lawyer, FBI Director Face Off in Congress on iPhone Encryption

FBI Director James Comey told a congressional panel on Tuesday that a final court ruling forcing Apple Inc. to give the FBI data from an iPhone used by one of the San Bernardino shooters would be “potentially precedential” in other cases where the agency might request similar cooperation from technology companies, **reports Reuters**.

Comey’s remarks at the hearing vary slightly from a statement he made last week that ordering Apple to unlock the phone was “unlikely to be a trailblazer” for setting a precedent for other cases.

“Tuesday’s testimony from Comey and remarks before the same U.S. House Judiciary Committee by Apple’s general counsel, Bruce Sewell, brought to Congress a public fight between Apple and the government over the dueling interests of privacy and security that has so far only been heard in the courts,” Reuters says.

Read the story.