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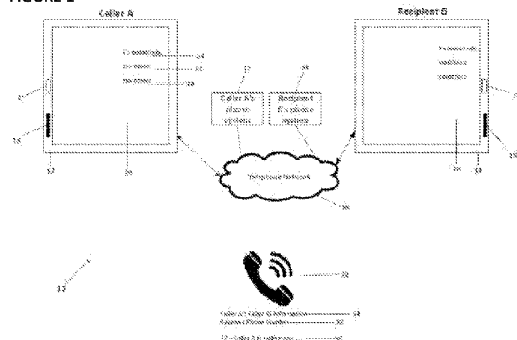
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(54) Title: A SYSTEM AND A METHOD OF USING SEQUENTIAL NUMBERING TO DETECT A FRAUDULENT TELEPHONE CALL WITHIN A TELEPHONE SYSTEM

FIGURE 1



(57) **Abstract:** Disclosed herein is a method of verifying the authenticity of telephone calls from a caller to a recipient, the telephone calls having a caller's telephone number and recipient's telephone number, respectively, and an accessible field within the caller ID system for receiving content. The method includes the steps of first identifying the recipient for a call to be made by the caller. A current sequence marker for the recipient is then generated. The current sequence marker represents the next sequence identifier in a sequence of telephone calls between the caller and the recipient. The current sequence marker is then inserted into the accessible field of the caller ID information for the telephone call and the call is then placed to the recipient. Potentially fraudulent telephone calls are flagged for the recipient to help prevent telephone-based phishing and other phone fraud attempts. The content of the caller ID information within the accessible field may be visible to the recipient upon receiving a telephone call or other alert messages or warnings such as a text message, a differentiated ring tone, colored lights, flashing lights, an audio signal, an audio message, or other means may be presented to the call recipient to warn them before the telephone call is answered.

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