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Bibliographic Cover Sheet

Title **'Blue Box' Brings Fine Plus 200 Volunteer Hours**

Publication *Los Angeles Times*

Date 1978-07-06

Abstract Beverly Hills man convicted of using a blue box to defraud the
telephone company.

Keywords Beverly Hills, CA; Richard Faun (convicted); Pacific Telephone and
Telegraph Company (PTT); blue box; William Chaney (investigator,
PTT)

Source ProQuest

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'Blue Box' Brings Fine Plus 200 Volunteer Hours

A Beverly Hills man has been ordered to donate 200 hours of community service and to pay the telephone company \$1,257 for illegally making long distance calls.

Richard Faun, 45, was convicted in May of using an electronic device, a so-called "blue box," to bypass the Pacific Telephone Co. billing system.

In addition to the community service, Municipal Judge Jack Newman ordered Faun to pay \$257 for his phone calls and \$1,000 for the phone company's costs for investigating the case.

Faun also was placed on two years probation.

Faun was charged after the telephone company, suspecting fraud, taped his telephone calls.

Dep. City Atty. Douglas Felchin, who handled the case, said Faun's "blue box" conviction appears to be the first in the United States in which the electronic device itself was not produced as evidence.

Pacific Telephone investigator William Chaney testified that Faun made \$520 in free telephone calls over a two-month period.