

PATRIOT Act: Judge Ordered FBI to Stop Issuing Spying Orders, Called “National Security Letters” (NSLs)

By [Global Research News](#)

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[Electronic Frontier Foundation](#)

Theme: [Law and Justice](#), [Police State & Civil Rights](#)

We did it! Hours ago, a federal judge ordered the FBI to stop issuing spying orders, called national security letters (NSLs), which forced companies to disclose customer data while simultaneously censoring them from discussing the order with the press or public. It’s a landmark ruling that strikes at one of the most domineering powers amplified by the infamous USA PATRIOT Act.

The government will likely file an appeal. But EFF is invigorated by this victory and plans to battle every step of the way. In the words of EFF Senior Staff Attorney Matt Zimmerman: “The public has long known that it is inappropriate for the government to hide its questionable NSL practices behind a veil of secrecy. The court has confirmed that.”

We couldn’t have done this without dedicated supporters who join us in challenging injustice and overreach. EFF members are the backbone of our operation—[please](#) join us in celebrating this victory by donating to EFF!

With great thanks and pride,
Richard Esguerra
EFF Development Director

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