



# NATIONAL SECURITY LAW BRANCH

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## National Security Letters

As of April 2005, some FBI field divisions are not fully complying with congressional reporting requirements regarding the use of National Security Letters (NSLs), as prescribed by law.

All field divisions should ensure that when an NSL is utilized, a copy of the EC is properly reported and uploaded via established FBIHQ control files:

- 66F-HQ-C1303375 - Subscriber and Toll Billing Records
- 66F-HQ-C1303371 - Financial Records
- 66F-HQ-C1213150 - Consumer Credit Records

In addition, for mandatory reporting purposes, it must be recorded in the EC the actual number(s) and/or accounts being sought. This information should be recorded on the second page of the EC. In the first paragraph which starts with "This Electronic communication documents..."

### Delegation of NSL Authority

An [EC of 10/26/01](#) explained the new legal standard for issuance of a "National Security Letter," i.e., that the records sought be "relevant" to an authorized FCI/IT investigation. Pursuant to [section 505](#) of the Anti-Terrorism bill passed 10/26/01, an [EC dated 11/09/01](#) delegates authority to sign NSL's to the Deputy Director, the ADIC's and all DAD's of the National Security Division and the Counterterrorism Division; the General Counsel and the Deputy General Counsel for National Security Affairs; the ADIC's and all SAC's of the New York, Washington and Los Angeles field offices; and the SACs in all other field divisions.

The Director's EC notes that the National Security Law Unit will issue comprehensive guidance on the preparation of NSL's, as well as the relevant reporting requirements. On 12/11/2001 the Director approved the [EC transmitting NSLU's guidance](#) for implementing this new NSL authority. Any questions regarding this communication or NSL's in general should be directed to Patrice Kopistansky at (202) 324-3951.

Note that the enclosures to this EC are in WordPerfect format; this was in response to requests from the field for more user-friendly ponies. Your feedback as to the effectiveness of formatting them in WordPerfect would be appreciated. We have also had complaints from several people that they cannot access many of documents using Netscape Navigator, and they don't have Internet Explorer. There's not much NSLU can do about that, except forward your problems/comments to IRD for resolution. Your first – and probably

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4/28/2005

best -- line of defense is your own computer specialists.

Names and addresses of appropriate offices/persons to whom NSL's should be addressed are also provided, broken down by telephone companies, financial institutions, Internet service providers, and credit bureaus.

The NSL lists are subject to revision/correction from time to time. We have added the "last updated" feature so that in the future you will be able to tell when these lists were last modified. If you become aware of changes to these lists, please forward that information to Barb Colvin by e-mail. You may also call her at 202-324-6651, although e-mail is preferred.

Service on [redacted]

As of [redacted] will no longer be able to process requests for any records.

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Last Updated: Monday, April 11, 2005

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