

U.S. Appeals Court Rules NSA Bulk Data Collection is Illegal



Washington, May 9 (RHC)-- A U.S. federal appeals court has ruled the National Security Agency's bulk collection of millions of Americans' phone records is illegal. The program was exposed by NSA whistleblower Edward Snowden; the ACLU filed its lawsuit based largely on Snowden's revelations.

In a unanimous decision, a three judge panel of the Second Circuit Court of Appeals in New York called the bulk phone records collection "unprecedented and unwarranted." The ruling comes as Congress faces a June 1st deadline to renew the part of the Patriot Act that authorizes the NSA's bulk data surveillance. Another measure, the USA Freedom Act, would reform some of the NSA's programs.

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