



US Department of Homeland Security  
Federal Protective Service  
Threat Management Division

**FPS INFORMATION BULLETIN**

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<b>Approved By:</b>	(b)(6), (b)(7)c	

**(U) Photographing the Exterior of Federal Facilities**

~~(U//FOUO)~~ This information bulletin is intended to raise the awareness of FPS personnel, management and Protective Security Officers of the public's right to photograph the exterior of federal facilities. All information contained within this product was obtained through open source, law enforcement and intelligence community channels and is unclassified; however, this report is to be handled as ~~FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY~~. It may be disseminated to those within the law enforcement, security and intelligence community who have a need-to-know. At no time is any of this information to be provided to the general public or any individual or organization associated with a media affiliate.

**(U//FOUO) GEOGRAPHIC AREAS OF CONSIDERATION:**

~~(U//FOUO)~~ Nationwide

**(U) OVERVIEW:**

~~(U//FOUO)~~ This Information Bulletin (IB) is being released to raise awareness of the public's right to photograph the exterior of federally owned and leased facilities, [Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted] Law enforcement and PSOs are advised to review the guidance provided in this IB when encountering individuals photographing or videotaping the exterior of federal buildings and apply the guidance in the performance of their everyday duties to enhance the protection of federal facilities. It is important that law enforcement and PSOs uphold the public's general right to photograph the exterior of federal structures while being vigilant with respect to suspicious indicators of terrorist or criminal activity.

**(U) DETAILS:**

~~(U)~~ Title 41, Section 102-74.420 of the Code of Federal Regulations provides federal "policy concerning photographs for news, advertising or commercial purposes." It states that: "Except where security regulations, rules, orders, or directives apply or a Federal court order or rule prohibits it, persons entering in or on Federal property may take photographs of—

- (a) Space occupied by a tenant agency for non-commercial purposes only with the permission of the occupying agency concerned;
- (b) Space occupied by a tenant agency for commercial purposes only with written permission of an authorized official of the occupying agency concerned; and
- (c) Building entrances, lobbies, foyers, corridors, or auditoriums for news purposes."

