



U.S. Department of Justice

Office of Legislative Affairs

Office of the Assistant Attorney General

Washington, D.C. 20530

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DEPT. OF JUSTICE  
EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT  
2010-09-09 11:13

The Honorable John Conyers, Jr.  
Chairman  
Committee on the Judiciary  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

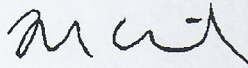
Section 107 of the USA PATRIOT Improvement and Reauthorization Act of 2005 imposes on the Department of Justice (DOJ) an annual reporting requirement relating to emergency disclosures of the contents of communications by public electronic communication service providers or public remote communication service providers. 18 U.S.C. § 2702(b)(8). Specifically, this statute requires that DOJ provide: (1) the "number of accounts from which the Department of Justice has received voluntary disclosures under subsection (b)(8)"; and (2) "a summary of the basis for disclosure" in circumstances in which the voluntary disclosures were made to DOJ and "the investigation pertaining to those disclosures was closed without the filing of criminal charges."

This report covers the period from January 1, 2009 through December 31, 2009. During this period, DOJ received voluntary disclosures from 91 accounts pursuant to section 2702(b)(8). In this period, three investigations were closed without the filing of criminal charges; two disclosures involved a kidnapping, ransom or death threat, and the other involved a terrorist threat. Additionally, voluntary disclosures from 11 accounts were requested on behalf of foreign governments in emergency situations. We have information that three of these disclosures resulted in criminal charges by the foreign government.

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We hope this information is helpful. Please do not hesitate to contact this office if we may provide additional assistance regarding this or any other matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R Weich', written in a cursive style.

Ronald Weich  
Assistant Attorney General

cc: The Honorable Lamar S. Smith  
Ranking Minority Member