

## Information for Law Enforcement Authorities

These operational guidelines are for law enforcement officials seeking records from Facebook. For private party requests, including requests from civil litigants and criminal defendants, visit: [facebook.com/help/?page=1057](https://facebook.com/help/?page=1057). Users seeking information on their own accounts can access Facebook's "Download Your Information" feature from their account settings. See [facebook.com/help/?page=18830](https://facebook.com/help/?page=18830). This information may change at any time.

These guidelines can also be [downloaded as a PDF](#).

## US Legal Process Requirements

We disclose account records solely in accordance with our terms of service and applicable law, including the federal Stored Communications Act ("SCA"), 18 U.S.C. Sections 2701-2712. Under US law:

- A valid subpoena issued in connection with an official criminal investigation is required to compel the disclosure of basic subscriber records (defined in 18 U.S.C. Section 2703(c)(2)), which may include: name, length of service, credit card information, email address(es), and a recent login/logout IP address(es), if available.
- A court order issued under 18 U.S.C. Section 2703(d) is required to compel the disclosure of certain records or other information pertaining to the account, not including contents of communications, which may include message headers and IP addresses, in addition to the basic subscriber records identified above.
- A search warrant issued under the procedures described in the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure or equivalent state warrant procedures upon a showing of probable cause is required to compel the disclosure of the stored contents of any account, which may include messages, photos, videos, wall posts, and location information.
- We interpret the national security letter provision as applied to Facebook to require the production of only 2 categories of information: name and length of service.

## International Legal Process Requirements

We disclose account records solely in accordance with our terms of service and applicable law. A Mutual Legal Assistance Treaty request or letter rogatory may be required to compel the disclosure of the contents of an account. Further information can be found here: [facebook.com/about/privacy/other](https://facebook.com/about/privacy/other).

## **Account Preservation**

We will take steps to preserve account records in connection with official criminal investigations for 90 days pending our receipt of formal legal process. You may expeditiously submit formal preservation requests through the Law Enforcement Online Request System at [facebook.com/records](https://facebook.com/records), or by email, fax or mail as indicated below.

## **Emergency Requests**

In responding to a matter involving imminent harm to a child or risk of death or serious physical injury to any person and requiring disclosure of information without delay, a law enforcement official may submit a request through the Law Enforcement Online Request System at [facebook.com/records](https://facebook.com/records). Important note: We will not review or respond to messages sent to this email address by non-law enforcement officials. Users aware of an emergency situation should immediately and directly contact local law enforcement officials.

## **Child Safety Matters**

We report all apparent instances of child exploitation appearing on our site from anywhere in the world to the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC), including content drawn to our attention by government requests. NCMEC coordinates with the International Center for Missing and Exploited Children and law enforcement authorities from around the world. If a request relates to a child exploitation or safety matter, please specify those circumstances (and include relevant NCMEC report identifiers) in the request to ensure that we are able to address these matters expeditiously and effectively.

## **Data Retention and Availability**

We will search for and disclose data that is specified with particularity in an appropriate form of legal process and which we are reasonably able to locate and retrieve. We do not retain data for law enforcement purposes unless we receive a valid preservation request before a user has deleted that content from our service.

Details about data and account deletion can be found in our Data Use Policy ([facebook.com/policy.php](https://facebook.com/policy.php)), Statement of Rights and Responsibilities ([facebook.com/terms.php](https://facebook.com/terms.php)), and Help Center ([facebook.com/help/?faq=224562897555674](https://facebook.com/help/?faq=224562897555674)).

## **Form of Requests**

We will be unable to process overly broad or vague requests. All requests must identify requested records with particularity and include the following:

- The name of the issuing authority, badge/ID number of responsible agent, email address from a law-enforcement domain, and direct contact phone number.
- The email address, user ID number (<http://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=1000000XXXXXXXX>) or username (<http://www.facebook.com/username>) of the Facebook profile.

## **User Consent**

If a law enforcement official is seeking information about a Facebook user who has provided consent for the official to access or obtain the user's account information, the user should be directed to obtain that information on their own from their account. For account content, such as messages, photos, videos and wall posts, users can access Facebook's "Download Your Information" feature from their account settings. See [facebook.com/help/?page=18830](https://www.facebook.com/help/?page=18830). Users can also view recent IP addresses in their Account Settings under Security Settings/Active Sessions. Users do not have access to historical IP information without legal process.

## **Notification**

Law enforcement officials who believe that notification would jeopardize an investigation should obtain an appropriate court order or other process establishing that notice is prohibited. Law enforcement officials may also request nondisclosure if notice would lead to risk of harm. If your data request draws attention to an ongoing violation of our terms of use, we will take action to prevent further abuse, including actions that may notify the user that we are aware of their misconduct.

## **Testimony**

Facebook does not provide expert testimony support. In addition, Facebook records are self-authenticating pursuant to law and should not require the testimony of a records custodian. If a special form of certification is required, please attach it to your records request.

## **Cost Reimbursement**

We may seek reimbursement for costs in responding to requests for information as provided by law. These fees apply on a per account basis. We may also charge additional fees for costs incurred in responding to unusual or burdensome requests.

We may waive these fees in matters investigating potential harm to children, Facebook and our users, and emergency requests.

## Submission of Requests

### Online

Law enforcement officials may use the Law Enforcement Online Request System at [facebook.com/records](https://facebook.com/records) for the submission, tracking and processing of requests.

Please note that a government-issued email address is required to access the Law Enforcement Online Request System. You may also submit requests by email or fax as indicated below.

### Email

[records@facebook.com](mailto:records@facebook.com)

### Fax

United States: +1 650 472-8007

Ireland: +353 (0)1 653 5373

### Mail

United States Mail Address: 1601 Willow Road, Menlo Park CA 94025

Ireland Mail Address: Hanover Reach | 5-7 Hanover Quay, | Dublin 2

Attention: Facebook Security, Law Enforcement Response Team

Law enforcement officials who do not submit requests through the Law Enforcement Online Request System at [facebook.com/records](https://facebook.com/records) should expect longer response times.

## Notes

- Acceptance of legal process by any of these means is for convenience and does not waive any objections, including lack of jurisdiction or proper service.
- We will not respond to correspondence sent by non-law enforcement officials to the addresses above.