



## **Rep. Nadler Calls for End Dragnet Surveillance**

On May 7<sup>th</sup>, Congressman Jerrold Nadler (NY-10), a veteran member of the House Judiciary Committee, delivered a statement during the markup of the USA Freedom Act. The USA Freedom Act will directly address PATRIOT Act Section 215 and FISA Section 702, which provide legal justification for the mass collection and surveillance of phone records and Internet communications.

“Since the 9/11 terrorist attacks, the United States government has aggressively expanded surveillance in and outside the United States at a high cost to individual liberty and privacy. Americans have been subjected to warrantless wiretapping, national security letters have been issued without proper authorization and claiming an emergency when none existed, and the National Security Agency has collected, warehoused, and searched the daily phone records of everyday Americans who have absolutely no ties to terrorism,” said Congressman Nadler. “Congress never authorized this type of unchecked, sweeping surveillance of our citizens.”

## **Rep. Nadler Announces Congressional Art Competition Winners**

On May 5<sup>th</sup>, Congressman Jerrold Nadler (NY-10) hosted a reception for local participants in the 2014 Congressional Art Competition at The Art Institute of New York City to recognize the accomplishments of local student-artists. Catherine Labarca from Fiorello H. Laguardia High School was announced as the local winner of this prestigious national award. Her winning artwork will be exhibited for a full year at the U.S. Capitol and she will receive two round-trip tickets to Washington D.C. for the annual awards ceremony and launch of the exhibition.

“I am always impressed by the creativity and skills of these student-artists and I look forward to showcasing their amazing talent,” said Rep. Nadler. “I am proud to represent a Congressional District that produces some of the world’s leading artists. It remains a particular honor to recognize these young local artists and, quite possibly, the next generation of New York’s great artists.”

The Congressional Art Competition began in 1982 to provide an opportunity for Members of Congress to encourage and recognize the artistic talents of their young constituents. Since then, more than 650,000 high school students have been involved with the nationwide competition.

## **Rep. Nadler Repeats Long Standing Demand for Greater Email Privacy Standards in Light of White House Privacy Report on “Big Data”**

On May 2<sup>nd</sup>, Congressman Jerrold Nadler (D-NY), the Ranking Member of the House Judiciary Subcommittee on Courts, Intellectual Property and the Internet, renewed his call to enact major legislative updates to our nation’s privacy laws in light of the White House’s recently released “Big Data” privacy report.

“The White House’s report calling for an update to the laws impacting electronic communications and privacy is a good first step, but more needs to be done. With communications technology evolving at an exponential rate, we must revise our privacy laws in a corresponding manner,” said Rep. Nadler. “The Electronic Communications Privacy Act (ECPA) was passed in 1986, well before we commonly used the Internet for e-mail or the countless other functions that the Internet and technology play in our daily lives. In an era of increased government surveillance and the ability of the NSA to seemingly access almost anything on the internet, Congress must act to update the law to reflect our new ideas of what it means for ‘the right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects against unreasonable searches and seizures.’”

As Chair of the Constitution and Civil Justice Subcommittee of the House Judiciary Committee from 2007-2010, Congressman Nadler held multiple hearings on ECPA reform. During the 112th Congress, Congressman Nadler and Congressman John Conyers, Jr. (D-MI), the Ranking Member of the House Judiciary Committee, introduced the Electronic Communications Privacy Act Modernization Act of 2012, which would have required law enforcement to obtain a warrant based on probable cause before searching email. That approach, now embodied in the Yoder-Polis

“Email Privacy Act,” has the support of 207 House co-sponsors.

“Our nation’s laws must be brought up to date with the advances in technology and to clarify issues of electronic privacy. We must now redouble our efforts to achieve reform and in doing so ensure that our laws strike the right balance between the interests and needs of law enforcement and the privacy interests of the American people,” said Rep. Nadler.

## **Rep. Nadler: “Guantanamo Bay is a Stain on Our National Honor”**

On May 1<sup>st</sup>, Rep. Nadler released the following statement on the continued detention of prisoners at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba:

“We are told by some in the majority that enemy soldiers should not have constitutional rights. But Mr. Speaker, a majority, concededly, of those at Guantanamo was never involved in hostile acts against the United States; 86% were turned in for bounties. We don’t know whether these people are enemy soldiers—some of them may be, and some of them are probably not—and we don’t know that they’re terrorists. That—those facts must be determined in a fair proceeding of some sort; but at Guantanamo there are no proceedings. They haven’t managed to hold military trials and we can’t hold civilian trials there. So we are holding people for no purpose, with no proceedings, no hearings, no opportunity, essentially forever.

“Indeed, I wonder, if some of the people in Guantanamo broke out of jail, and inflicted injuries on American personnel in so doing, and were caught, how we would defend ourselves when they said we were just victims of kidnapping, the United States government kidnapped us with no claim of right and we have every right to use force to escape an illegal kidnapping by a government acting essentially under no law.

“Because of this momentous challenge to the founding principles of the United States, that no person may be deprived of liberty without due process of law—and certainly may not be deprived of liberty indefinitely without due process of law—we must close the detention facility at Guantanamo now, in order to restore our national honor,” said Congressman Nadler.

### **Rep. Nadler Questions Attorney General on Administration’s Bulk Telephone Metadata Collection Program**

On April 10<sup>th</sup>, Congressman Jerrold Nadler (NY-10), a veteran member of the House Judiciary Committee, sent a letter to U.S. Attorney General Eric Holder regarding his April 8, 2014 [testimony](#) about the Administration’s bulk telephone metadata collection program and its use of National Security Letters (NSLs).

“While there has been a lot of attention focused on the government’s bulk collection of telephone metadata under Section 215 of the USA PATRIOT Act, National Security Letters are often used to get at the same kind of information without involving any form of court approval. This is deeply troubling,” said Congressman Nadler. “My question for the Attorney General: ‘Do you support or oppose the Review Group on Intelligence and Communications Technologies’ recommendations on the use of NSLs and Section 215?’” The full text of the letter can be found on the Congressman’s website.

### **Rep. Nadler Votes against Ryan Budget Proposal**

On April 9<sup>th</sup>, Congressman Nadler voted no on the Ryan Budget Proposal. Instead, he voiced his support for the Congressional Progressive Caucus’ Better Off Budget.

“The Better Off Budget puts an end to a system where CEOs pay a lower tax rate than their secretaries, and corporations get unneeded tax breaks. This budget restores full funding to food stamps and strengthens Medicare and Medicaid. It makes a clear choice to support working and middle class families, seniors and those in need, and to reinstate fairness in our economy.

For the fourth year in a row, the Republicans choose to hurt the many while lavishing benefits on the wealthy few. They choose to slash 3 million jobs and destroy the safety net. They choose to dismantle Medicare and Medicaid and slash aid to college students. They choose huge tax cuts for billionaires and tax increases for the middle class. The Republican budget makes a clear choice: billionaires before working Americans and seniors.

The Better Off Budget is about building an economy that creates jobs and supports working and middle class families, not just the richest 1%. It will protect our most vulnerable citizens from economic insecurity. And it will restore faith in the American dream,” said Congressman Nadler.

### **Rep. Nadler Addresses Preservation and Reuse of Copyrighted Works**

On April 2<sup>nd</sup>, Congressman Jerrold Nadler (NY-10), the Ranking Member of the House Judiciary Subcommittee on Courts, Intellectual Property and the Internet, delivered an opening statement at the hearing on the “Preservation and Reuse of Copyrighted Works.”

“Ensuring the preservation of creative works is unquestionably important. Our libraries, archives, and museums have always played a critical role in compiling and preserving this nation’s rich cultural and historical heritage, and we all want to ensure that they have the tools necessary to continue their important work. At the same time – and as our copyright law

appropriately reflects – authors, artists and other creators have the exclusive right to control and exploit their works. Our goal is to ensure that we strike the right balance.”

This hearing addressed serious questions about preservation and copyright issues in light of recent technological changes that facilitate bulk digitization of content.

## **Rep. Nadler Introduces Bill to Stop Companies, Like GM, from Hiding Safety Flaws**

On April 1<sup>st</sup>, Congressman Jerrold Nadler (NY-10), a veteran member of the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee and the House Judiciary Committee, re-introduced the Sunshine in Litigation Act. This legislation would prevent companies, such as General Motors, from concealing evidence of wrongdoing that puts our public health and safety at risk.

“For years, America’s number one automaker, General Motors, was able to hide a defect in its cars which lead to at least 13 deaths. A company should not be allowed to use courtroom settlements to keep lifesaving information from the public,” said Congressman Nadler. “Current federal court rules make it too easy for defendants subject to lawsuits to protect their profits over saving lives. Were there a requirement to inform the public about a product’s deadly safety flaws, we would have been able to save lives and GM’s manufacturing mistake would have been corrected much sooner.”

Major corporations and manufacturers use protective orders to broadly shield vast amounts of information, vital to health and safety, from public scrutiny. Defendants also often require, as part of settlement agreements, that documents or other records revealing critical dangers uncovered during litigation be kept secret.

“As early as 2005, GM reached settlements with victims that required the parties to keep the issues confidential. If the critical safety information had been disclosed to the public, as would be required by the Sunshine in Litigation Act, many lives likely would have been saved,” said Congressman Nadler.

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