



FISA 702

A Compilation of Headlines From Across the US Intelligence Community

Section 702 of the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act (FISA) authorizes the Intelligence Community (IC) to gather critical foreign intelligence on overseas targets with the compelled assistance of U.S. electronic communication service providers. Section 702 has proven indispensable to U.S. national security.

Value of U.S. Person Queries

The government cannot use Section 702 to target U.S. persons or anyone in the United States.

There are circumstances where foreign targets may communicate with or discuss a U.S. person. When it is necessary to identify foreign intelligence, IC analysts can query existing 702 data using U.S. person identifiers (like an email address or phone number) with the proper justification, authorization, and oversight.

Prevent Terrorist Attacks



The IC used Section 702 collection against overseas ISIS attack plotters to uncover U.S. homeland threats, resulting in several FBI investigations and the seizure of firearms and ammunition.

Locate U.S. Hostages



FISA Section 702 information, including information identified through the approved use of U.S. person queries, provided U.S. diplomats with critical insights about U.S. hostages who had been detained in foreign countries ahead of U.S. efforts to negotiate their releases. This information contributed to the safe return of several U.S. hostages.

Identify Possible Victims



The FBI used U.S. person queries against Section 702-acquired information to identify the extent of a foreign government's efforts against an activist, who was located in the U.S., which included a kidnapping and assassination plot. The timely identification of the foreign government's plans and intentions in Section 702-acquired information contributed to the FBI's disruption of the plot.

Section 702 includes significant safeguards to protect civil liberties and the privacy of U.S. persons. With these protections in place, Section 702 has proven highly effective in identifying threats and keeping our citizens safe.

702 Fast Facts

100%

of the **President's Intelligence Priorities** topics reported on by NSA were supported by FISA Section 702 information in 2025.

90%

of **synthetic drug disruptions** that CIA enabled in 2025 relied in some way on FISA Section 702 data.

63%

of articles in the **President's Daily Brief** contained FISA Section 702 information reported by NSA in 2025.

24%

of NSA's **intelligence reports** in 2025 contained FISA Section 702 information.



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Mission Successes

Every day, FISA Section 702 helps protect Americans from a host of enduring and emerging threats by hostile actors that seek to undermine U.S. dominance.

Seizes Deadly Narcotics



FISA Section 702 information deepened the IC understanding of a key foreign drug production network and enabled our foreign allies to seize large quantities of fentanyl, preventing their delivery into the U.S.

Protects Critical Infrastructure



The IC continues to use FISA Section 702 information to detect and disrupt adversarial plots against U.S. critical infrastructure and defense industrial base networks.

Foils High-Profile Terrorist Plots



FISA Section 702 information helped the IC discover and thwart a planned ISIS-inspired terrorist attack targeting a high-profile concert in Europe. This information enabled foreign law enforcement to identify, monitor, and arrest the plotters, preventing a mass casualty attack.

Safeguards the Homeland



The IC used Section 702 collection to identify multiple Central Asians with ties to an overseas ISIS-linked travel facilitation network. This enabled more thorough screening and vetting of U.S.-bound travelers.

Disrupts Terrorist Activities



FISA Section 702 information enabled the IC to find key plotters in the Middle East and Africa who were involved in terrorist operations, resulting in military action by U.S. partners and arrests by foreign partners. This disrupted terrorist organizations in those regions and reduced the threat to the homeland. The terrorists successfully targeted included senior leadership figures as well as individuals heavily involved in extremist global outreach, foreign recruitment, and attack plotting.

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These vignettes are a compilation from across the U.S. Intelligence Community. Additional resources can be found at intel.gov/fisa