

The Reporters Inc.'s Internet Privacy Policy

(As of January 2014)

The Reporters Inc. places a high priority on protecting your privacy. This privacy policy was created in order to demonstrate our commitment to the privacy of website users. This policy explains what types of information are collected by The Reporters Inc. website, and how this information is used.

The Reporters Inc. reminds users that when they visit any website, they are automatically providing personal information to the website operator simply by virtue of browsing, reading, and downloading material. This information includes Internet Protocol (IP) addresses, user configuration settings, and information about the website that referred the user to the site, among other things. This type of information is being collected automatically on standard web server access logs.

Use of Your Internet Protocol (IP) Address

The Reporters Inc. uses your Internet Protocol (IP) address for statistical metrics used to track website visitor traffic. An IP address is a numerical label assigned to each device (e.g. computer, printer) participating in a computer network that uses the Internet Protocol for communication.

All computers and servers on the Internet use IP addresses to recognize and communicate with each other. We collect IP addresses to administer and analyze our site and report aggregate, non-personal information (such as how many visitors we have). When you call up our site on your computer, our servers enter the IP address of that computer into a log. To maintain our users' anonymity, we do not associate IP addresses with records containing personal information.

We may also collect personal information about you via registration for newsletters, commenting, donations, membership and other areas. Where you have an opportunity to supply information about yourself you may choose not to provide requested information but in such cases you may not be able to use certain functions on this website.

We do not and cannot use IP address tracking to retrieve personal information from your computer.

Use of Cookies

The Reporters Inc. may use "cookies" to identify you as a repeat visitor or customer of the website, to maintain session information for logged in users, and to track usage trends and patterns in order to better understand and improve areas of our website.

A cookie is a small amount of data, which often includes an anonymous unique identifier that is sent to your browser from a web site's servers and stored on your computer. Each web site can send its own cookies to your browser if your browser's preferences allow it, but (to protect your privacy) most browsers only permit a web site to access the cookies that the same web site has already sent to you, not the cookies sent to you by other sites. You are always free to decline our cookies if your browser permits, but you may not be able to take full advantage of our site's features.

We do not and cannot use cookies to retrieve personal information from your computer.

Who Has Access

Only authorized employees or consultants of The Reporters Inc. are allowed access to personal information about our users. Any employee or consultant who violates our privacy and security policies is subject to disciplinary action.

When the Privacy Policy Doesn't Apply

Remember that any information you share in public areas, such as the The Reporters Inc. website comments area, becomes public and therefore this Privacy Policy does not apply to any information you choose to make public. We encourage visitors to www.thereporters.org to be cautious about what they disclose and that they do not post any personal information that they expect to keep private. Personally Identifiable Information is information that can be used to contact you or determine your specific identity. If other information is linked to this information, it also becomes Personally Identifiable Information.

The Reporters Inc. website includes links and pointers to external websites as a convenience to users. These links do not fall under The Reporters Inc. domain, and we are not responsible for the privacy practices or the content of external websites. Your use of any linked website is solely at your own risk.

Visitors May Request Changes

Visitors to The Reporters Inc. website can request changes to any of the personally identifying information collected and/or stored by emailing us with the changes to info@thereporters.org.

Discontinue Policy for E-mail and Other Communications

Individuals voluntarily sign up to receive e-communications from us, such as name and e-mail address. We may use this information for specific, limited purposes. You may always "opt out," either now or at any time in the future, if you do not wish to receive our messages. You may do so by either emailing us at info@thereports.org or clicking on the "Opt out" link at the bottom of our email

newsletters or call us at 612-333-3180.

Access to Users Private Information

The Reporters Inc. does not provide, sell, or rent any private information about our users (including email addresses) to anyone outside the organization. However, The Reporters Inc. also reminds users that we may have to disclose user information in response to warrants, subpoenas, or other valid legal process.

Third Party Usage

We occasionally have service contractors, third party agents, subsidiaries, affiliates, and joint ventures that perform functions on our behalf, including but not limited to credit card processing and website hosting. They have access to personal information needed to perform their functions, and are contractually obligated to maintain the confidentiality and security of the data. They are restricted from using or altering this data in any way other than to provide the requested services to The Reporters Inc.

Transfer of Information

In addition, we may always share, disclose, and transfer all information, postings, and any and all other personal and non-personal information we have collected to a successor-entity in the case of the sale of the assets of The Reporters Inc., corporate reorganization, merger, change in control, or other similar transaction.

Children

This website's content is intended for adults and we will not knowingly collect personal information from children under 13 years of age. If you are a parent or legal guardian of a child under age 13 who you believe has submitted personal information to this site, please contact us immediately at info@thereporters.org.

Changes to our Privacy Policy

We may amend this privacy policy from time to time; please review it periodically. We maintain the option to modify this privacy at any time by electronic notice posted on our website. Your continued use of our website after the date that such notices are posted will be deemed to be your agreement to the changed terms.

Security

The Reporters Inc. employs a number of security methods designed to prevent unauthorized access, maintain data accuracy, and ensure correct use of information. Your personal data will be stored within a database that is located behind a firewall for added security.

No data transmission over the Internet or any wireless network can be guaranteed to be secure. As a result, while we try to protect your personal information, we cannot ensure or guarantee the security of any information you transmit to us, and you do so at your own risk. We are not liable for the illegal acts of any third party.

We do not encrypt normal web sessions; however, any transmission to The Reporters Inc. website or service of credit card information uses SSL encryption to help protect the data.

Disclaimers and Limitations of Liability

Although we take reasonable steps to prevent the introduction of viruses, worms, or other destructive materials and programs to our site, we do not guarantee or warrant that our site, or materials that may be downloaded from our site, are free from such destructive features. We are not liable for any damages or harm attributable to such features. We are not liable for any claim, loss or injury based on errors, omissions, interruptions or other inaccuracies in our site, nor for any claim, loss or injury that results from your use of this site or your breach of any provision of this agreement.

Questions

If you have any questions regarding our Privacy Policy or our use of your information, please email info@thereporters.org.