

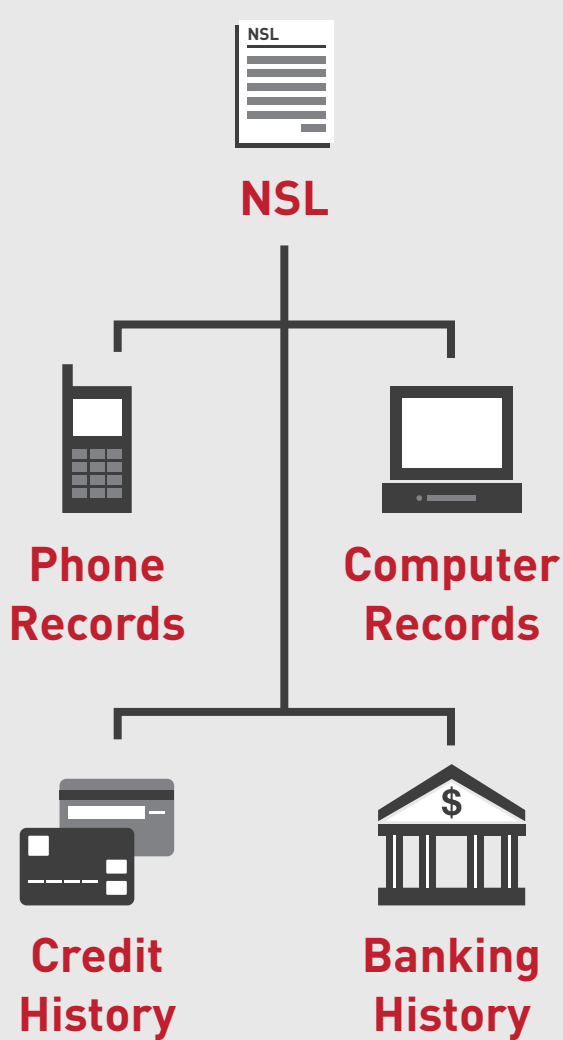
SURVEILLANCE UNDER THE PATRIOT ACT

Hastily passed 45 days after 9/11 in the name of national security...

The Patriot Act was the first of many changes to surveillance laws that made it easier for the government to spy on ordinary Americans by expanding the authority to monitor phone and email communications, collect bank and credit

reporting records, and track the activity of innocent Americans on the Internet. While most Americans think it was created to catch terrorists, the Patriot Act actually turns regular citizens into suspects.

National Security Letters (NSLs) are issued by FBI agents, without a judge's approval, to obtain personal information...



"I want to deliver a warning... when the American people find out how their government has secretly interpreted the Patriot Act, they will be stunned and they will be angry."

Senator Ron Wyden (D-OR),
May 26, 2011

SOURCE: 1

FBI

Between 2003 and 2006, the FBI issued **192,499 NSLs**

Which led to **1 terror-related conviction**

SOURCE: 2

The conviction would have occurred even without the Patriot Act.

SOURCE: 3

Abuse of Privacy:

The Patriot Act does not require information obtained by NSLs to be destroyed – even if the information is determined to concern innocent Americans.



At least **34,000** law enforcement and intelligence agents have access to phone records collected through NSLs.

In response to **9 NSLs**, **11,100** Americans' telephone account records were turned over to the FBI.

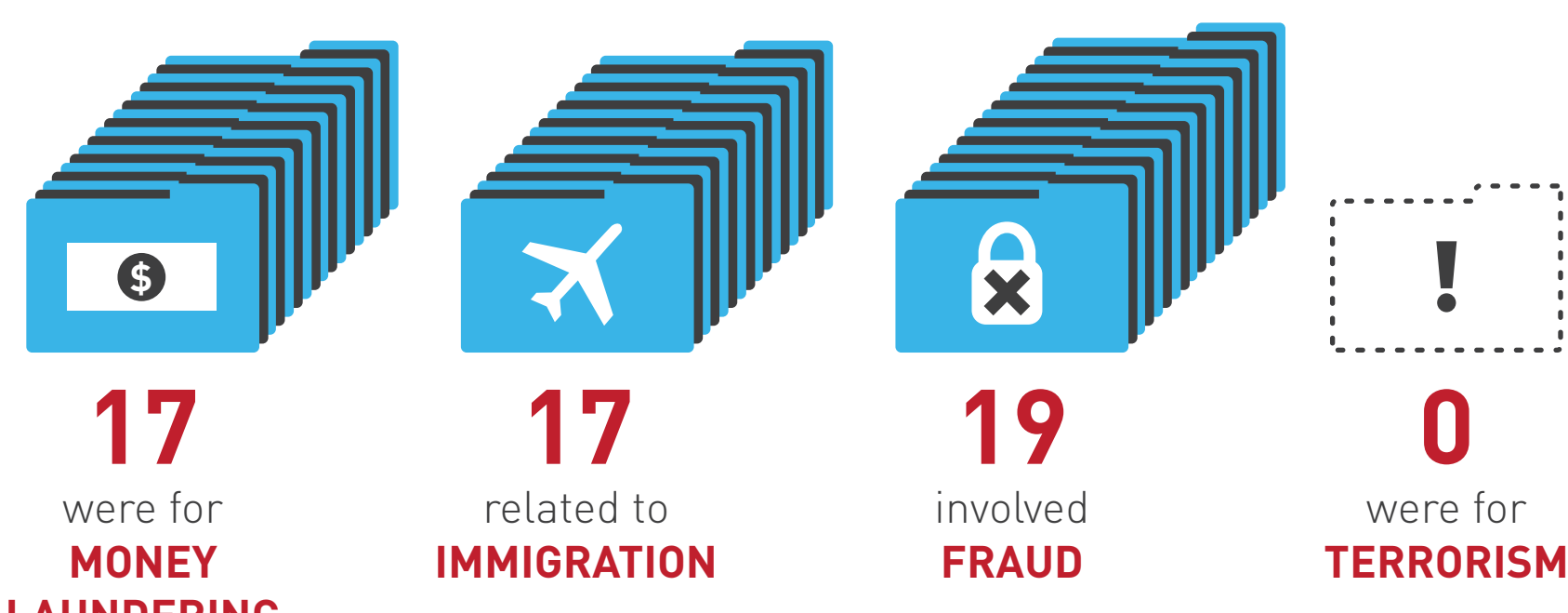
SOURCE: 4

The Patriot Act prohibits Americans who receive NSLs from telling anyone. These "gag order" provisions have been held unconstitutional in several legal cases.

Between 2003 and 2005, the FBI made **53 reported criminal referrals to prosecutors** as a result of **143,074 NSLs**.

143,074 NSLs

53 REPORTED CRIMINAL REFERRALS:



SOURCE: 5

"Sneak & Peek" Searches:

The Patriot Act allows federal law enforcement agencies to delay giving notice when they conduct secret searches of Americans' homes and offices—a fundamental change to Fourth Amendment privacy protections and search warrants. This means that government agents can enter a house, apartment or office with a search warrant when the occupant is away, search through his/her property and take photographs—in some cases seizing property and electronic communications—and not tell the owner until later.

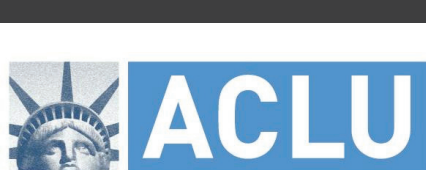
Of the **3,970 Sneak & Peeks in 2010:**

76% drug-related

24% other

<1% terror-related

SOURCE: 6



TO LEARN MORE, VISIT [ACLU.ORG/PATRIOT](http://aclu.org/patriot)

[FACEBOOK.COM/ACLU.NATIONWIDE](https://www.facebook.com/aclu.nationwide)

[TWITTER.COM/ACLU](https://twitter.com/aclu)

Source:

1. <http://wyden.senate.gov/newsroom/press/release/?id=34eddadb-2541-42f5-8f1d-19234030d91e>

2. <http://www.justice.gov/oig/special/s0803b/final.pdf>

3. http://thescienceofsecurity.org/blog/CT%20Since%209-11_by_Breakthrough.pdf

4. <http://www.justice.gov/oig/special/s0703b/final.pdf>

5. <http://www.justice.gov/oig/special/s0803b/final.pdf>

6. Report of the Director of the Administrative Office of the United States Courts on Applications for Delayed-Notice Search Warrants and Extensions for fiscal year 2010, on file with the Administrative Office of the United States Courts.