MEMORANDUM FOR:
STAFF DIRECTOR AND MINORITY STAFF DIRECTOR,
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

SUBJECT: (TS//SI//NF) Congressional Notification – NSA Acquisition and Use of
Telephony Metadata from Cellular Network Call Detail Records –
INFORMATION MEMORANDUM

(TS//SI//NF) This is to inform the Committee that, in addition to the
telephony metadata the National Security Agency (NSA) has been acquiring since
2006 under its counterterrorism Business Records (BR) Foreign Intelligence
Surveillance Act (FISA) program, NSA has begun to acquire and analyze telephony
metadata derived from cellular network or “mobility” call detail records (CDRs)
The cellular telephony metadata is being produced pursuant
to an order issued by the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Court (FISC) pursuant
to Section 501 (50 U.S.C. § 1861) of FISA. As the Committee is aware, the orders
issued by the FISC strictly control the circumstances under which NSA may access
(query), use, and disseminate information obtained under this bulk collection
program.

(TS//SI//NF) NSA analyzes this metadata to discover and develop the
networks and associations of known and suspected terrorists. Until this change,
NSA had been acquiring approximately [REDACTED] CDRs per day for billed long
distance telephone calls to or from landline telephones either (a) between the U.S.
and abroad; or (b) wholly within the U.S., including local telephone calls.

(TS//SI//NF) Before initiating the acquisition of mobility data, NSA undertook
extensive testing to ensure strict compliance with the terms of the FISC Orders.
The Court's Orders are designed to protect the civil liberties and privacy interests of
Americans. Following completion of the testing, on 29 August 2011, NSA began to
receive approximately [REDACTED] CDRs per day and enter these records
into our BR FISA bulk metadata architecture.
(TS//SI//NF) NSA requested that the [redacted] remove the cell location information [redacted] before providing the CDRs to NSA. Consequently, NSA is not currently receiving this field as part of the data being acquired.

(TS//SI//NF) The collection and processing of [redacted] is critical to the success of NSA’s BR FISA program. We will continue to keep you informed of our progress in this area. Should you have questions or want additional information, please contact me at [redacted]

ETHAN L. BAUMAN
Director, Legislative Affairs Office
MEMORANDUM FOR:
STAFF DIRECTOR AND MINORITY STAFF DIRECTOR,
SENATE COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

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(TS//SII/NF) NSA analyzes this metadata to discover and develop the networks and associations of known and suspected terrorists. Until this change, NSA had been acquiring approximately ____ CDRs per day for billed long distance telephone calls to or from landline telephones either (a) between the U.S. and abroad; or (b) wholly within the U.S., including local telephone calls.

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The collection and processing of [redacted] is critical to the success of NSA's BR FISA program. We will continue to keep you informed of our progress in this area. Should you have questions or want additional information, please contact me at [redacted].

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