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OFFICE OF THE
CHIEF COUNSEL
RULES DOCKET

Date: 4/20/99 11:29 PM
Sender: Andrew Howey <AHowey@verisign.com>
To: 9-NPRM-CMTS
cc: Andrew Howey <AHowey@verisign.com>
Priority: Normal
Subject: Regarding CAPS

1999 MAY -3 P 4:18

I find this computer-assisted passenger screening system to be highly invasive to personal privacy. If the FAA should attempt to profile me or my family, I WILL file a lawsuit against the FAA and the airline who performs the "search and seizure" operation, in which I will seek damages in excess of 10 times your annual operating budget. I will also file a lawsuit against Gore for proposing and championing this travesty. The FAA is not a police agency and you have no right to impose such measures on American citizens. However, you must be guilty of the same lapse of memory that bedevils the FBI -- you forget that you work for the American people, not against, and that it's our tax dollars that pay for your budget. This CAPS system is as invasive to civil liberty and personal privacy as the FBI's "roving wiretap" authority and the "Know your customer" proposal from the Treasury. This will amount to a waste of tax money, won't deter a determined terrorist (organization), and will quite likely result in innocent people being subjected to humiliating searches and possibly even detention and imprisonment. Instead of trying to rely on computers to do your job for you, get all the people that are currently sitting behind desks out into the field to tighten security. Coordinate with the CIA, FBI, NSA, DIA, etc. to find out what the various terrorist groups, both international and domestic, are doing and where they are. Put your people to work doing something useful.

By the way, I am not a technophobe. I work as a Unix system administrator, and prior to that, I was a SIGINT/Electronic Warfare Voice Intercept Operator in the U.S. Army for 15 years. Computers have their place in today's society, just not the way in which you want to use them.

Sincerely:

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DEPT. OF TRANSPORTATION
DOCKETS
99 MAY 18 PM 3:14