



## ACLU EYE on the FBI:

The San Francisco FBI conducted a years-long Mosque Outreach program that collected and illegally stored intelligence about American Muslims' First Amendment-protected religious beliefs and practices!"

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FBI documents obtained through the Freedom of Information Act reveal that from 2004 through at least 2008, the San Francisco FBI conducted a "mosque outreach" program through which it compiled intelligence on American Muslim religious organizations and their leaders' and congregants' constitutionally-protected beliefs and activities, without any suspicion of wrongdoing. The ACLU previously disclosed that the FBI

[individual's complaint](#) of travel delays during the Hajj pilgrimage caused by the No Fly list, as well an [individual's conversation](#) about the Hajj, "Islam in general," Muslims' safety in the U.S., and community fears regarding an FBI investigation of imams in Lodi, California. Two memoranda from [2006](#) and [2007](#) contain no descriptive information apart from the name and location of mosques contacted by the FBI, which might be appropriate to record in a normal community outreach context, but these documents were instead classified as "secret," labeled "positive intelligence," and disseminated outside the FBI.

A 2005 FBI [memorandum](#) described contacts with a representative of the South Bay Afghan Community Center and failed attempts to set up an outreach meeting with the Afghan Cultural Center. The document identifies the representatives of each organization, and lists the address and phone number of the Afghan Cultural Center. This information was described as "positive intelligence" and disseminated outside the FBI.

A 2006 FBI [memorandum](#) documented a contact with a named representative of the Islamic Network Group to discuss a recently written article, the name of which was redacted. This information was labeled "positive intelligence" and disseminated outside the FBI.

A 2005 FBI [memorandum](#) contained a detailed description of the Islamic Center of Santa Cruz, and documented a meeting with a congregant, including his name and religious affiliation, and his discussion of congregants' financial contributions to the Center and community support for Islam. The document was classified as "secret," marked "positive intelligence," and disseminated outside the FBI.

A 2005 FBI [memorandum](#) described a meeting with a representative of the Granada Islamic School at the Santa Clara Muslim Community Association. The document detailed the school's facilities and summarized a conversation regarding the school's structure and its relationship with its parent organization. This information was described as "positive intelligence" and disseminated outside the FBI.

A 2007 FBI [memorandum](#) entitled "Mosque Liaison Contacts" reports FBI contacts with 20 northern California mosques. The name, address, and cont

FBI begins its "outreach" with questions about possible hate crimes against the Muslim community, but none of the documents appear connected to [a mosque protection effort initiated after 9/11 by the FBI Civil Rights Unit](#) to guard against anti-Muslim hate crimes. That effort operated under a "44" FBI case file number (see for example, this