

Events of Interest: Cato Forum on Location-Tracking Technology and Privacy (Jan. 26)

The Cato Institute will be holding a forum discussing privacy issues connected with location-tracking technology. From [the Web site](#):

Featuring Sen. **Ron Wyden** (D-OR); **Julian Sanchez**, Research Fellow, Cato Institute; and **Jim Harper**, Director of Information Policy Studies, Cato Institute.

As location-sensitive cell phones, GPS devices, and digital assistants become more integral to daily living, law enforcement and intelligence agencies are rushing to exploit their potential. Records of the geolocation data these devices generate can provide the kind of detailed portrait of a person's movements and activities that once required costly, 24/7 surveillance. Applications range from tracking fugitives to reconstructing a suspect's travels to analyzing the movements of whole populations in search of "suspicious" behavior patterns.

As courts wrestle with the Fourth-Amendment status of this new form of monitoring, Sen. Ron Wyden (D-OR) is drafting legislation to set standards for government access to geolocation data under both criminal law and the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act. Senator Wyden will discuss his forthcoming proposal and Cato scholars Julian Sanchez and Jim Harper will comment, placing it in the context of the larger shifting legal and technological landscape. Join us for a discussion of geolocation data and the prospects for privacy protection in this emerging technological area.

Cato events, unless otherwise noted, are free of charge. To register for this event, please fill out the form below and click submit or email events@cato.org, fax (202) 371-0841, or call (202) 789-5229 **by noon, Tuesday, January 25, 2011**. Please arrive early. Seating is limited and not guaranteed. News media inquiries only (no registrations), please call (202) 789-5200.

If you can't make it to the Cato Institute, watch this forum live online.

Register here: <http://www.cato.org/event.php?eventid=7706>

Date: Wednesday, January 26, 2011 at noon

Location: The Cato Institute; 1000 Massachusetts Avenue, NW; Washington, DC 20001

For more information: <http://www.cato.org/event.php?eventid=7706>