

[Home](#) » [Our Work](#) » [Free Speech](#)

Bloggers' Rights



If you're a blogger, this page is for you.

One of EFF's goals is to give you a basic roadmap to the legal issues you may confront as a blogger, to let you know you have rights, and to encourage you to blog freely with the knowledge that your legitimate speech is protected.

To that end, we have created the [Legal Guide for Bloggers](#), a collection of blogger-specific FAQs addressing everything from fair use to defamation law to workplace whistle-blowing.

In addition, EFF continues to battle for bloggers' rights in the courtroom:

Bloggers can be journalists (and journalists can be bloggers). We're battling for legal and institutional recognition that if you engage in journalism, you're a journalist, with all of the attendant rights, privileges, and protections. (See [Apple v. Does.](#))

Bloggers are entitled to free speech. We're working to shield you from frivolous or abusive threats and lawsuits. Internet bullies shouldn't use copyright, libel, or other claims to [chill](#) your legitimate speech. (See [OPG v. Diebold.](#))

Bloggers have the right to political speech. We're working with a number of other public-interest organizations to ensure that the Federal Election Commission (FEC) doesn't gag bloggers' election-related speech. We argue that the FEC should adopt a presumption against the regulation of election-related speech by individuals on the Internet, and interpret the existing media exemption to apply to online media outlets that provide news reporting and commentary regarding an election - including blogs. (See our [joint comments to the FEC](#) [PDF, 332K].)

Bloggers have the right to stay anonymous. We're continuing our [battle](#) to protect and preserve your constitutional right to anonymous speech online, including providing a guide to help you with strategies for keeping your identity private when you blog. (See [How to Blog Safely \(About Work or Anything Else\).](#))

Bloggers have freedom from liability for hosting speech the same way other web hosts do. We're working to strengthen [Section 230 liability protections](#) under the Communications Decency Act (CDA) while spreading the word that bloggers are entitled to them. (See [Barrett v. Rosenthal.](#))

If you'd like to spread the word about our work, consider adding an [EFF Bloggers' Rights Badge](#) to your blog or website.

Litigation

[Apple v. Does](#)
[Online Policy Group v. Diebold](#)
[Eli Lilly Zyprexa Litigation](#)
[Spocko and ABC/KSFO](#)
[Barrett v. Rosenthal](#)

In The News

ARS TECHNICA | June 23, 2010
[News giants: limit free riders from rewriting "our" facts](#)

ARS TECHNICA | June 22, 2010
[Google and Twitter pour cold water on "hot news"](#)

MEDIAPOST | June 22, 2010
[Google And Twitter Ask Court To Reconsider 'Hot News'](#)

[» All Bloggers' Rights News Articles](#)

Deeplinks Posts

September 02, 2010
[Righthaven's Brand of Copyright Trolling](#)

August 25, 2010
[EFF Seeks to Help Righthaven Defendants](#)

July 27, 2010
[LIGATT Security Tries to Silence its Online Critics With an Unsubstantiated Lawsuit](#)

[» All Bloggers' Rights Posts](#)

Press Releases

July 21, 2009
[A Practical Guide to Internet Technology for Political Activists in Repressive Regimes](#)

Documents and Files

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[Common Sense and Security: Body Scanners, Accountability, and \\$2.4 Billion Worth of Security Theater](#)
[EFF Tool Offers New Protection Against 'Firesheep'](#)

PROJECTS

[Bloggers' Rights](#)
[Coders' Rights](#)
[FOIA Project](#)
[Follow EFF](#)
[Patent Busting](#)
[Surveillance Self-Defense](#)
[Teaching Copyright](#)
[Takedown Hall of Shame](#)
[TOSBack](#)
[Ways To Help](#)

Other Resources

[June 2005 Comments to the FEC on Bloggers' Freedom of Speech](#) [cdt.org]

[Badges for Your Blog](#)

[Legal Guide for Bloggers](#)

Whitepapers

2009

[Avoiding Gripes About Your Gripe \(or Parody\) Site](#)

2005

[How to Blog Safely \(About Work or Anything Else\)](#)

March 13, 2006

[Open Letter Urging Withdrawal of Assembly Bills A1327 and A2623](#) [PDF, 159.35 KB]

A letter sent by EFF and others in opposition to a proposed law that would have curtailed bloggers' rights to free speech and anonymity.



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