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NEWS RELEASE

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**Program Manager for the Information Sharing Environment
Releases Privacy Guidelines**

Please click [here](#) to view the privacy guidelines.

The Program Manager for the Information Sharing Environment (ISE), Ambassador Thomas E. McNamara, today released guidelines to ensure that information privacy and other legal rights of Americans are protected in the development and use of the ISE. These guidelines have been approved by the President and are being issued to the heads of all executive departments and agencies.

On Dec. 16, 2005, the President issued a memorandum to the heads of executive departments and agencies titled, “*Guidelines and Requirements in Support of the Information Sharing Environment.*” Guideline 5 of that memorandum directed the Attorney General and the Director of National Intelligence, in coordination with the heads of executive departments and agencies that possess or use intelligence or terrorism information, to develop guidelines to ensure that the information privacy and other legal rights of Americans are protected in the development and use of the ISE. These guidelines fulfill the requirements of section 1016(d) of the Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Prevention Act of 2004 (IRTPA).

“These guidelines will be instrumental in ensuring that those responsible for protecting our Nation from future terrorist attacks have the information they need to carry out their mission while protecting the information, privacy and legal rights of all Americans,” said Ambassador Thomas E. McNamara, Program Manager for the ISE. “Protecting information privacy and civil liberties is a core tenet of the ISE.”

McNamara today also announced the creation of the ISE Privacy Guidelines Committee, which includes privacy officials from the departments and agencies that comprise the Information Sharing Council. The Office of the Director of National Intelligence’s Civil Liberties Protection Officer, Alexander Joel, and Privacy and Civil Liberties Officer of the Department of Justice, Jane Horvath, will serve as the ISE Privacy Guidelines Committee co-chairs. McNamara has also asked Mr. Joel and Ms. Horvath to ensure that the Committee works closely with the President’s Privacy and Civil Liberties Oversight Board to ensure adequate oversight as these guidelines are being implemented.

The IRTPA called for creation of the Information Sharing Environment (ISE). IRTPA also established the Office of the Program Manager for the Information Sharing Environment (PM-ISE) and provided it with government-wide authority to plan, oversee and manage the ISE. Its mandate is to assist the president and government agencies in developing and operating the ISE and to monitor and assess its progress. The ISE is an approach that facilitates the sharing of terrorist related information. It is composed of the policies, processes, protocols and technology that enable the sharing of this information among federal, state, local, tribal and private sector entities, as well as our foreign partners.

For additional information, contact the ODNI Public Affairs Office at 202-201-1111.

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