

Facebook Subpoena / Search Warrant Guidance

This document describes the procedure for requesting data from Facebook, Inc. and its corporate affiliates (“Facebook”) along with the types of data available. Please note that this document is dated November 2006. If it is more than 3 months old, please contact Facebook for any updates. This document is confidential and intended for law enforcement only and should not be redistributed without the express permission of Facebook.

In general, data retrieval is based upon a Facebook user id or group id. While we will accept requests without these ids, they will take additional time to process while we search our systems for potential user or group matches. When the Facebook ID is not available, an email address associated with the account is often the most useful information for locating an account. In cases where the data may cross a retention threshold, IP logs for instance, we may purge data before we are able to identify a particular user or group if a user id or group id is not provided.

How to find the Facebook ID

Facebook ids are intrinsic in our URLs. If you have a subject’s profile page URL, you can find the id by looking for the string “id” in the URL and passing along the number immediately following.

For instance, the userid for the following profile is “123456789”

<http://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=123456789>

Group ids follow a similar pattern, but the string to look for is “gid”. The group id of the following URL is 2204894392.

<http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=2204894392>

How to submit a request

Please contact our legal department at legal@facebook.com or phone 650.543.4800 to inform us that a request may be coming, this is especially important if you are interested in IP logs and the timeframe is approaching 30 days.

Please have as much of the following information as possible available:

Facebook User id/Group id
full name:
school/networks:
birthdate:

known email addresses:
aim id:
known phone numbers:
full address:
url to facebook profile:
other known websites:
ip addresses:

We may take steps to preserve relevant data, but will not work on producing data until a valid subpoena or warrant is received. These should be faxed to (650) 644-0239 with a followup email to legal@facebook.com and a paper copy to:

Facebook
Attn: Legal Department
156 University Ave
Palo Alto, CA
94301

Facebook will generally respond via email. If the volume of returned data is larger than a few megabytes, Facebook will respond via read only media (CDROM or DVDROM).

Types of information available

User Neoprint

The Neoprint is an expanded view of a given user profile. It contains their current profile information, and all wall postings and messages to and from the user that have not been deleted by the user.

Neoprints are delivered in pdf format.

If a profile is changed or updated, deleted content is not retained, and cannot be produced. Any messages or wall postings deleted by the user are not retained and cannot be produced.

User Photoprint

The Photoprint is a compilation of all photos uploaded by the user that have not been deleted, along with all photos uploaded by any user which have the user tagged in them.

Photoprints are delivered in pdf format.

Deleted photos are not retained.

User Contact Info

All user contact information input by the user and not subsequently deleted by the user is available, regardless of whether it is visible in their profile. This information may include the following:

Name
Birthdate
Contact email addresses
Address
City
State
Zip
Phone
Cell
Work phone
Screen name (Usually for AOL Messenger / iChat)
Website

With the exception of contact email and activated mobile numbers, Facebook validates none of this information.

User contact info is delivered as a text file.

No historical data is retained.

Group Contact Info

Where a group is known, we will provide a list of users currently registered in a group. We will also provide a pdf of the current status of the group profile page. Group contact info is delivered as a text file. Group profiles are delivered as pdf. No historical data is retained.

IP Logs

IP logs can be produced for a given user ID.

The log contains the following information:

- Script – script executed. For instance, a profile view of the url (<http://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=000000000>) would populate script with “profile.php”
- Scriptget- additional information passed to the script. in the above example, scriptget would contain “id=000000000”
- Userid – the facebook user id of the requestor
- Viewtime – date of execution
- IP – source IP address

IP Logs are delivered as a tab delimited text file.

IP Log data is generally retained for 30 days.