

# ACLU will appeal NY NSA phone surveillance ruling

December 27 2013, by Larry Neumeister

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A civil rights lawyer says the American Civil Liberties Union is very disappointed that a New York judge has found that a [government program that collects millions of Americans' telephone records is legal](#).

Attorney Brett Max Kaufman said the ACLU will appeal Friday's ruling by federal Judge William Pauley in Manhattan. The judge concluded that the program was legal and a valuable part of the nation's efforts to combat the threat of terrorism. The judge said the phone collection program only works because it collects everything.

Kaufman said he hopes a [federal appeals court](#) in New York agrees with the reasoning of a Washington D.C. [federal judge](#) who concluded earlier this month that the program likely violates the Constitution.

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