

Lawsuit seeks access to more secret court opinions

May 1 2014, by Jack Gillum

A new lawsuit says the Obama administration has refused to hand over secret court documents about the National Security Agency's surveillance activities.

The Electronic Frontier Foundation says the Justice Department missed deadlines in providing documents in four requests under the U.S. Freedom of Information Act. Those requests seek documents from the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Court exploring in part whether the NSA violated the law in collecting Americans' Internet communications.

The lawsuit comes as President Barack Obama has promised to be more transparent on how the intelligence agencies conduct surveillance. The administration has so far declassified hundreds of pages of documents regarding those programs.

Independent reviews of the spy programs and members of Congress have called for more transparency in the surveillance court.

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