



PRESS RELEASE

Colorado Department of Law
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**COLORADO ATTORNEY GENERAL JOINS \$7 MILLION MULTISTATE SETTLEMENT
OVER GOOGLE STREET VIEW**

DENVER —Attorney General John Suthers today announced Colorado joined 37 states and the District of Columbia in a \$7 million settlement with Google over the company's collection of data from unsecured wireless networks while Google took photographs for its Street View service between 2008 and March 2010. Colorado's share of the settlement is approximately \$125,000.

Google's Street View cars were equipped with antennae and open-source software that the company acknowledged collected network identification information for use in future geolocation services. At the same time, Google collected and stored data frames and other "payload data" being transmitted over those unsecured business and personal wireless networks.

While Google represented it was unaware the payload data was being collected, the agreement of voluntary compliance it signed with the states Tuesday acknowledged the information may have included URLs of requested Web pages, partial or complete email communications, and any confidential or private information being transmitted to or from the network user while the Street View cars were driving by.

"This is a fair resolution of the states' complaints and recognizes the privacy rights of individuals whose information Google collected without their permission," said Suthers "Google is banned from unauthorized data collection, is required to train employees on privacy and to execute a national campaign that educates consumers on how to safeguard their online information."

Google has since disabled or removed the equipment and software used to collect the payload data from its Street View vehicles, and agreed not to collect any additional information without notice and consent.

The information collected was segregated and secured, and under terms of the agreement, will be destroyed as soon as legally practicable. Further, Google agreed that the payload data was not used, and will not be used, in any product or service, and that the information collected in the United States was not disclosed to a third party.

Other key elements of the agreement require Google to run an employee training program about privacy and confidentiality of user data and continue the program for at least 10 years. It must also conduct a public service advertising campaign to help educate consumers about steps they may take to better secure their personal information while using wireless networks.

The executive committee that negotiated the settlement included the Attorneys General of Connecticut, Arizona, Florida, Illinois, Kentucky, Massachusetts, Missouri and Texas. Connecticut was the lead state.

Additional states that participated in the settlement include: Alaska, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Delaware, Hawaii, Iowa, Kansas, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Michigan, Mississippi, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Tennessee, Vermont, Virginia and Washington.

View the Assurance of Voluntary Compliance here: <http://bit.ly/ZFDSv3>

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