PRESS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release

PRIVACY AND CIVIL LIBERTIES OVERSIGHT BOARD TO HOLD PUBLIC FORUM ON FISA SECTION 702 WITH GENERAL NAKASONE TO KEYNOTE

WASHINGTON, DC – The Privacy and Civil Liberties Oversight Board (PCLOB) will hold a public forum on Thursday, January 12th in connection with its oversight of Section 702 of the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act (FISA). General Paul M. Nakasone, United States Army, Commander, United States Cyber Command, Director, National Security Agency/Chief, Central Security Service, will deliver the keynote address for the forum which will be held online from 1 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. ET, and will be livestreamed at www.pclob.gov.

Following General Nakasone’s remarks, the PCLOB’s forum will feature two panels.

The forum’s first panel will feature NSA General Counsel April Doss, ODNI General Counsel Christopher Fonzone, former Cato Senior Fellow Julian Sanchez, and Electronic Privacy Information Center Senior Counsel Jeramie Scott.

The second panel includes Electronic Frontier Foundation Executive Director Cindy Cohn, FBI Senior Operations Advisor Mike Herrington, U.S. Naval Academy’s Dr. Jeff Kosseff, and Princeton University’s Dr. Jonathan Mayer.

“We look forward to holding a wide-ranging public discussion of Section 702’s important role in counterterrorism efforts, as well as questions that continue to be raised about the law’s impact on privacy and civil liberties,” PCLOB Board Chair Sharon Bradford Franklin said. Franklin noted that one of the Board’s primary goals is to help inform upcoming congressional deliberations over the law, which is currently set to expire at the end of 2023.

The forum will also help to inform the Board’s own oversight of Section 702, including its policy analysis and recommendations. Board Members plan to release a new report on Section 702 in the spring of 2023, in time to inform the upcoming public and congressional debate. The new report will update the PCLOB’s landmark 2014 report on the law in light of new developments over the past several years.

Section 702 permits the Attorney General and the Director of National Intelligence to jointly authorize surveillance targeting persons who are not U.S. persons, and who are reasonably
believed to be located outside the United States, with the compelled assistance of electronic communication service providers, in order to acquire foreign intelligence information.

Both panel discussions will cover a range of topics, potentially including but not limited to:

- the overall value and importance of Section 702;
- key privacy and civil liberties issues regarding Section 702;
- oversight, accountability, and transparency related to Section 702;
- U.S. Person queries of information collected under Section 702;
- ‘upstream’ collection conducted pursuant to Section 702; and
- Section 702 targeting procedures and decisions.

For further information, please contact Public and Legislative Affairs Officer Alan Silverleib at alan.silverleib@pclob.gov or pao@pclob.gov.

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*The Privacy and Civil Liberties Oversight Board is an independent agency within the Executive Branch established by the Implementing Recommendations of the 9/11 Commission Act of 2007. The Board’s mission is to ensure that the federal government’s efforts to prevent terrorism are balanced with the need to protect privacy and civil liberties. The Board’s current Members are Sharon Bradford Franklin, Chair, Edward W. Felten, Travis LeBlanc, Beth A. Williams, and Richard E. DiZinno.*