



LAW ENFORCEMENT GUIDE

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URL for latest version

<http://omegle.com/leo/guide.pdf>

Contact

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Basic info

Omegle is an anonymous chat site where users are matched at random (within topics, if selected). There are two main modes, “text” for plain text-based chats, and “video” which allows the use of webcams.

Omegle does not have usernames, accounts, or registration. It does collect IP addresses, and also uses a cookie for identification.

Primary records

Type of record	Standard retention period		Typical search criteria
Chat history metadata Like phone records; contains IP address info, but no chat contents	Typically 120 days		IP address and/or ID cookie, and date range
	At least 90 extra days after CyberTip		
Chatlogs saved by users Text contents of chats; option to save these is offered at the end of chats; IP info is saved alongside	Indefinitely once saved by a user		IP address and/or ID cookie for party involved in the chat
			(Old chatlogs only record info of party who saved log)
Webcam moderation snapshots Automatically captured near the beginning of video chats (except in the unmoderated section) to be reviewed by human moderators	Typically several hours		(CyberTip)
	Once submitted to NCMEC:		
	Contents	90 days	
	Metadata	Indefinitely	

ID cookies

In general, records can be searched based on an IP address and/or an ID cookie. It is best to include an ID cookie when requesting records if possible. A dynamic IP address can change between when an incident occurs and when a law enforcement officer becomes involved, and this can sometimes make it difficult to determine the IP address in use at the time of incident. Omegle's ID cookie is a random value stored on users' computers, and it remains constant unless the user deletes it. To find a user's ID cookie on their computer, you can visit: <http://omegle.com/id>. You must use the same browser which was used to access Omegle.

Legal process

Omegle.com LLC will release available records when compelled to do so in accordance with applicable law, including 18 USC § 2702. Email is preferred for service of process: leif@omegle.com. Documents may also be mailed to the following address:

Omegle.com LLC
 C/O Northwest Registered Agent, LLC.
 906 West 2nd Ave. STE 100
 Spokane, WA 99201

Preservation requests are accepted from both domestic and foreign law enforcement agencies, but please send these requests by email only. Emergency requests for Omegle to voluntarily release records to law enforcement will be evaluated.

Sample of chat history metadata records

The following sample contains fake data. It includes the header used when these records are sent out.

This file is a formatted excerpt of Omegle.com LLC chat records.
Please contact Leif K-Brooks (leif@omegle.com) with any inquiries.
Law enforcement guide: <http://omegle.com/leo/guide.pdf>

Target(s): 123.123.123.123, ASDF1234
Time zone: UTC
Time range: 2013-11-01 00:00:00 through 2013-11-01 23:59:59

Each line in this file represents a chat which occurred on Omegle. They each contain the following info:

- * A timestamp, representing the time the chat began.
- * For each party in the chat:
 - * - IP address.
 - * - Port number. (May be omitted in some cases.) This is required by some ISPs to personally identify a subscriber, in addition to the IP and timestamp.
 - * - An ID cookie assigned by Omegle. (May be omitted in some cases.)

Please note that Omegle does not have accounts or registration. IP addresses and randomly-generated ID cookies are the only forms of identification used by the site.

Number of chats listed in this file: 2

2013-11-01 13:37:27 123.123.123.123:1234|ASDF1234 1.2.3.4:4567|AAAA1111
2013-11-01 13:50:21 123.123.123.123:9876|ASDF1234 2.3.4.5:7654|B2B2B2B2