

MySpace won't give up sex offender data

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Thursday, 17 May 2007 04:36

MySpace said this week it will not comply with a request by attorneys general from eight states, including North Carolina, to hand over the names of registered sex offenders who use the site.

MySpace, a social networking website, cited federal privacy law in its decision. The chief security officer said he was "disheartened" the attorneys general chose to send a letter. He said the company regularly discloses information to law enforcement officials, but said the federal Electronic Communications Privacy Act says it can only do so when proper legal processes are followed. A letter is not one of the processes. The letter, sent earlier this week and signed by attorneys general from North Carolina, Connecticut, Georgia, Idaho, Mississippi, New Hampshire, Ohio and Pennsylvania asked MySpace to provide information about registered sex offenders on the website and where they live.