

They're baaack!

The Mississippi Department of Information Technology, that is.

As previously reported at usmnews.net,

[s]ometimes the Mississippi government visits www.usmnews.net more than once a day, like today (they don't visit on the weekends or holidays.). Either Mississippi state employees are spending a lot of taxpayers' money on their personal visits to usmnews.net or the Mississippi government is monitoring our website daily. This has been going on for years. Mississippi Department of Information Technology refuses to provide information about their monitoring of our website when requested through freedom of information requests.

We are a long-time critic of the University of Southern Mississippi administrations and have won our legal battle against them to preserve my [freedom of speech](#).

Last May, the *Chronicle of Higher Education* published a must read article, entitled "[Why Privacy Matters Even If You Have 'Nothing To Hide'](#)". It was an opportunity to publicly discuss the habit that someone(s) in Mississippi state government had of monitoring usmnews.net. Here's one of the comments:

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Low and behold, the Mississippi, Department of Information Technology suddenly stopped visiting usmnews.net. We published the following comment in response to the abrupt change in behavior of the Mississippi state government.

Curious, the Mississippi Department of Information Technology has not visited www.usmnews.net since I reported its habit of monitoring it in the comments section of this article--two weeks ago [May 2011]. That may be a coincidence, of course, but the Mississippi Department of Information Technology has visited every weekday for years, often multiple times per day.

Now, six months after *The Chronicle* article and public exposure of Mississippi state monitoring usmnews.net, THEY'RE BAAACK!

Mississippi, Department Of Information Technology (205.144.228.132) [Label IP Address] **0 returning**

Jackson, Mississippi, United States

		www.google.com — usmnews.net6
21	16:44:3	www.usmnews.net/
Nov	7	

If employees of the Department of Information Technology are officially monitoring the speech of a citizen, it is shameful. It is the practice of totalitarian governments. If employees of the Department of Information Technology have nothing better to do than visit a website unrelated to their jobs, sometimes several times a day, who is in charge of this kind of waste and incompetence.

YOUR TAX DOLLARS AT WORK!

usmnews.net does welcome personal visits by state employees when they are not on duty.