OMNIPRESENT TECHNOLOGY: POLITICS, PRIVACY & PROBLEMS

Technology is omnipresent in the world today, but while our new electronic, mobile reality can improve our quality of life, it can also have dramatic, long-lasting impacts on our personal privacy. What is a reasonable expectation of privacy in today's electronic, mobile world? As we blaze new frontiers with technology, what are the bounds? Should it be regulated? Who makes the rules? Congress is struggling with this, but it is you who will have to live with it.

Few times in history does our world dramatically change as rapidly as technology is changing life today. This poses infinite possibilities but also endless options to get it wrong. While some like the “wild, wild west” approach to see where technology takes us, there will be others who insist on some bounds, and when things go wrong, who is going to determine justice?

Law enforcement wants to use technology to track and record your every movement, but the Supreme Court has already limited this approach. Artificial intelligence will change the workforce, the way we fight wars, and help educate future generations. Drone technology is already here, but politicians can't figure out how to make it work. Facial recognition is a reality, but where and how should it be used? Does the First Amendment protect every bit of free speech? When an autonomous vehicle is hacked and crashes, who are you going to call and who is responsible?

From your refrigerator to your drone to your walking down the street, technology touches our lives at every moment. This creates enormous new challenges for today’s public policy makers.

Study discussions:

**Tuesday, Sept. 19: Introduction**

**Omnipresent Technology: Politics, Privacy, and Problems**

Join Congressman Jason Chaffetz as he outlines his experience in Congress on these topics and provides an overview of the new challenges facing today’s generation.
Tuesday, Sept. 26: Facial Recognition

*Guest Speaker:* Brett Tolman, Former U.S. Attorney & Staff Director, United States Senate Judiciary Committee

Technology exists to capture your unique facial characteristics. Private companies, law enforcement and the federal government are building facial recognition databases for a wide variety of uses. If you are a suspicion-less American, what is your reasonable expectation of privacy? Do minors have rights? Currently the FBI has memorandums of understanding with no less than 14 states populating their databases. When you get your driver’s license, it populates the federal database. Private companies are scanning your face when you walk into their store and using the data to drive purchases. This discussion will debate the challenges for public policy makers.

DATE TBD *Internet of Things & The New Paradigm for Policy Makers*

*Guest Speaker:* Harvey Levin, Executive Producer, TMZ.com

What have we not imagined? What if? What is the proper balance of our right to privacy and technology in a more productive society? What will our world look like for generations yet to come? What are the public policy issues that need to be addressed?


Tuesday, Oct. 3: Autonomous Vehicles & Drone Technology. Who is in Charge?

*Guest Speaker:* Paul Misener, Amazon Vice President of Innovation

It won’t be long before vehicles drive themselves and we are all passengers. This poses new political questions regarding regulations, liabilities, and law enforcement. Who is responsible, who do you call when your car is hacked, and what could possibly go wrong with cars with no drivers? This presents interesting political challenges as an entire industry transforms creating opportunities for some and major disruption for others.

Drone technology is already a reality but politicians at all levels are struggling to understand and approve this new technology, much to the frustration of innovative technology oriented companies. New public policies must be addressed and debated. For instance, who controls the air space and at what heights? The FAA? Your local municipality? Who do you call when a drone is surreptitiously peering in your bedroom window? How can first responders use the technology and take it down when it is
causing problems? If you’re at the beach and need sunscreen and grapes, should a retailer be able to deliver them to you in the air?

https://www.wsj.com/articles/that-drone-hovering-over-your-home-its-the-insurance-inspector-1501839002

Tuesday, Oct. 17: Technology & Law Enforcement: Adults v. Minors

Guest Speaker: Mark Holden, General Counsel Koch Industries

Younger generations are growing up in a world with omnipresent technology recording their every move and capturing an untold number of images. What happens when a young person makes a mistake? Should that be captured and potentially used against them for a lifetime? If you break the law, when have you paid your debt to society so you can continue your life and pursuit of happiness? Our criminal justice system needs to address this sensitive topic.


Tuesday, Oct. 24: Law Enforcement & The Use of Technology

Guest Speaker: Greta Van Susteren, Formerly with MSNBC, Fox News, CNN

Unlimited use of technology makes law enforcement easier. If we want to protect our country, why not let law enforcement use technology to read license plates, break encryption on our phones, track our geolocation 24/7, and monitor our phone calls? What could go wrong? What are the bounds of law enforcement’s use of technology for the public good and what is Congress looking to do to set limits? What is the local role?

http://www.nextgov.com/cio-briefing/2017/08/if-fbi-has-your-biometrics-it-doesnt-have-tell-you/139952/