**Privacy within the Los Medanos College Network**

**Audience:**

All members of the Los Medanos College Community and users of the College network.

**Definition:**

Clarification of the privacy that users can expect within the Los Medanos College network.

**Policy Statement:**

The Los Medanos College network is owned and operated by Los Medanos College for its own use for academic, research, and administrative purposes. It is the policy of Los Medanos College to treat all transmissions over the Los Medanos College network as private; however, the use of the Los Medanos College network and of College computing resources is strictly by permission of the College and confidentiality is not guaranteed.

**Background Issues:**

**Computer, System, or Network Use**

All users of the College's computing and network resources must be aware that privacy of electronic communication and/or stored data files may be routinely compromised by:

* inadvertent capture of transmission contents during network performance monitoring or troubleshooting,
* uncovering of transmission contents in computer memory within the store-and-forward systems that move data through the network,
* other maintenance activities that trap, copy, archive, or otherwise unintentionally preserve portions of messages within the University networks.

If the College inadvertently discovers messages or data files within its network that leads it to suspect the presence of illegal activities or activities that violate College policies, then the College will be free to use that discovered information to pursue investigations or to inform the appropriate authorities.

**Computer, System, or Network Administration**

The College reserves the right to take whatever steps are necessary to investigate possible network security threats, to investigate suspected violations of College regulations, or to assist appropriate authorities to investigate suspected illegal activities. On rare occasions, and with the approval of the Senior Dean of Information Technology and Services, the College President, or the Chief Security Officer, files belonging to individuals and/or communications between individuals may be captured, logged, and examined.

**Original Issue Date:**

December 2002

**Revision Dates:**

July 2003

Last Updated: 17 June 2008