

Jefferson County Privacy Policy

Revised 6/30/2009

I. Purpose

The Jefferson County Privacy Policy defines how personal and/or confidential information is collected from visitors to this site. Non-sensitive information provided by visitors to our site (e.g., name, email address, etc.) is used for the purposes of customer service and user request fulfillment. Information of this type may be internally forwarded (electronically or in print) to appropriate parties in order to resolve inquiries or visitor-supplied requests. Additionally, we may collect non-personal information regarding your visits to the County's website(s) for the purpose of statistical analysis. This data collection includes, but is not limited to:

- The frequency, date and time of visits to our site
- Pages and/or areas of the site visited
- Browser type and operating system used during site visitation
- Screen Resolution
- Number of pages viewed during each site visit

Confidential (private) information, where credit card/bank information is collected, (e.g., vehicle registration) is used solely for the purpose of conducting online transactions. Information collected is administered and supervised by Jefferson County.

II. Cookies

A cookie is a text file placed on your computer for purpose of using various Jefferson County online services via the Web. The text file allows the County to communicate with your Web browser for such uses as authentication (identifying each individual user successfully), statistical analysis (tracking County site usage) and session timing when an online submission process has been initiated. This feature may be used in instances of electronic payments and data collection/posting through a specific web application.

Cookies used on this site are safe and undamaging to your computer hardware.

III. Compliance

In compliance with local, state and federal regulations, Jefferson County has established and continues to improve various protocols in observance of guidelines related to the display, collection and distribution of Personally Identifiable Information (PII).

Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA)

In an effort to protect patient rights, unauthorized Jefferson County employees will not discuss nor disclose patient medical information regarding any employee, resident, patient, inmate or other individual to any unauthorized party that is not in accordance with federal law. For additional information on HIPAA, please visit: <http://www.hhs.gov/ocr/privacy/index.html>

Sarbanes-Oxley Act Compliance (SOX)

Jefferson County is aware of and continues to adapt SOX compliance with regards to internal systems and controls in place to secure sensitive data and prevent criminal activity. For additional information on the Sarbanes-Oxley Act, please visit the following government-affiliated web sites:

- NIST.gov: http://csrc.nist.gov/groups/SNS/rbac/sarbanes_oxley.html

- U.S. Department of Labor:
http://www.dol.gov/oasam/library/law/lawtips/sarbanes_oxley.htm

Children's Online Privacy Protection Act (COPPA)

Jefferson County does not direct nor solicit any of its services towards minors (specifically, children under the age of 13) and individuals that are not legally of age to take part in any services without parental/legal guardian approval. As such, the County recognizes and endorses the need for child privacy protection and safety on the Internet.

Additionally, Jefferson County does not ask nor entice children under the age of 13 to participate in any activity, event, program or service unless permission is granted by the parent or legal guardian of the child in question. Acceptable participation from a child/minor in a county-sponsored activity may be permitted in cases where parental approval is previously implied and/or granted and in areas that are designated for children with parental knowledge/approval being required before information obtained is used for any purpose by Jefferson County or any county-related affiliate.

For additional information related to child privacy, please review the following:

- FBI Publications – A Parent's Guide to Internet Safety:
<http://www.fbi.gov/publications/pguide/pguidee.htm>
- The Federal Trade Commission – COPPA Privacy Initiatives:
<http://www.ftc.gov/privacy/privacyinitiatives/childrens.html>

For issues related to child safety, please use the following contact information:

Jefferson County Sheriff's Office
2200 8th Avenue North
Birmingham, AL 35203
Telephone: 205-731-2852
Email: reachj@jccal.org
<http://www.jeffcosheriff.net>

IV. Third-Party Involvement

Jefferson County may (for approved works) employ trusted, third-party vendors to perform services related to the County Web site. This may involve temporarily accessing both sensitive and non-sensitive user data for the purposes of design, development or testing work-related services. Jefferson County will only employ the services of vendors that have experience in handling sensitive data for these purposes and evidence of doing so without incident. Additional evidence of a vendor's standing can be demonstrated through a solid and noteworthy client base and a valid length of experience in such matters.

V. Modifications to the Jefferson County Privacy Policy

Jefferson County reserves the right to modify, add and/or delete any aspect of this policy, as solely determined by the County. By utilizing this Web site, visitors accept the conditions of the most recent version of this Privacy Policy and understand its conditions being in effect upon its release date and subsequent posting on the Jefferson County Web site.