



## **MEDIA RELEASE**

### **Academy of Model Aeronautics**

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## **AMA's Rich Hanson to join ACLU First Wednesdays panel discussion: "Where do we draw the line on government surveillance?"**

MUNCIE, IN – Monday, June 2 - The Academy of Model Aeronautics' director of public relations and government affairs, Rich Hanson, has been invited to join a panel set to discuss privacy concerns and new technology being used by the government and other organizations in the state of Indiana during the First Wednesdays meeting hosted by the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) of Indiana. The discussion will be held Wednesday, June 4, noon, at Innovation Connector, Digital A&B Room, 1208 W. White River Blvd., Muncie, IN 47303.

About the discussion:  
*(Information provided by American Civil Liberties Union of Indiana)*

Are we being watched? Or are we just being paranoid? Are police departments and government officials doing what they should to keep us safe, or is our privacy and freedom being whittled down to nothing? Last summer, revelations to the news media by former National Security Agency (NSA) contractor Edward Snowden made clear that the government was engaged in far-reaching, intrusive and likely unconstitutional surveillance of Americans' communications. The rapid development of Unmanned Aerial Vehicles, or drones, raises the prospect of a significant new avenue for the surveillance of American life. Technological innovations have given the government new and powerful tools with which to watch, record and listen to our activities, like smartphones in every pocket and purse that make monitoring our whereabouts and listening to our conversations temptingly easy. Where do we draw the line between efficient and effective public safety measures and our legal and constitutional protections of privacy? What's happening here in Indiana—in our own back yards?

The program will be moderated by Phil Bremen, Ball State University Department of Telecommunications. Other panelists include, State Representative Sue Errington (D-Muncie) and Jane Henegar, ACLU of Indiana Executive Director.

To learn more about this event and others being held by ACLU in the state [click here](#).

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The Academy of Model Aeronautics has been the nation's collective voice for approximately 164,000 modelers in 2,400 clubs in every state and Puerto Rico since 1936. A nonprofit association headquartered in Muncie IN, AMA sanctions more than 2,000 events and competitions each year under the auspices of the National Aeronautic Association.