



## What's New at IRBsearch

### IRBsearch Launches IRBstore

It's official! IRBsearch has opened the newest online store for covert video equipment, digital video recorders and tracking devices. IRBstore.com is the place for affordable surveillance solutions.



With hand-selected products chosen by professionals for professionals, IRBstore.com distinguishes itself by supplying quality products at exceptionally low prices. Current IRBsearch customers receive 10% off their first order, and will receive ongoing special offers throughout the year. IRBstore.com is committed to giving IRBsearch

customers a satisfying shopping experience.

In addition to audio, video, and GPS equipment, IRBstore.com also carries safety products and personal protection items. IRBsearch has been helping you get the data information you need on your subjects for nearly a decade; now IRBsearch is adding sophisticated surveillance equipment to its suite of investigative tools through its newest venture: IRBstore.com.

IRBstore.com offers the smartest products available, with the latest technology developed. Plus, with IRBstore.com's hottest deals to all IRBsearch current customers, IRBstore.com will be your first and last stop for all your investigative needs.

Visit the store online at [www.IRBstore.com](http://www.IRBstore.com), give us a call at 866.946.9952 or email us at [customerservice@IRBstore.com](mailto:customerservice@IRBstore.com).

### Special Company Event Webinars Available

Contact IRBsearch to schedule a complimentary web-based, interactive training session for you and your employees! We will tailor a special company event to cover all the specific information you and your employees need to know. Our IRBsearch

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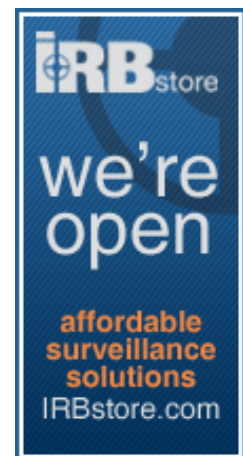
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### Quick Links

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experts will conduct the event, demonstrate the products that interest you, and answer your questions. You can have as many attendees as you like, and you can schedule the event at a time convenient for you and your staff. To schedule a special company event, please contact us toll-free at 800.447.2112 between the hours of 8:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. Eastern Standard Time Monday through Friday to schedule an appointment, or email us at [marketing@irbsearch.com](mailto:marketing@irbsearch.com). As always, you can also attend one of our weekly group webinars. See the event webinar schedule below.

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## Webinar Schedule

### Need IRBsearch Training?

Register for classes today! As always, all training sessions are complimentary. Our classes cover running reports, popular searches, the comprehensive report, advanced search techniques, and the best practices for using IRBsearch. See our schedule below.



Date	Time	Topic
February 26	4:00 PM EST	Best Practices
March 4	4:00 PM EST	Popular Searches
March 10	4:00 PM EST	The Finder Report
March 19	4:00 PM EST	Best Practices
March 25	4:00 PM EST	Running Reports

All times are Eastern Standard Time. [Click here to register.](#)

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## Special Offer

### Attention IRBsearch Customers:

As a special offer to all IRBsearch customers, receive **10% off** your first purchase at [IRBstore.com](http://IRBstore.com). Don't miss this special offer, [click here for more details.](#)

Want to know about more special offers from [IRBstore.com](http://IRBstore.com)? [Click here to sign up for alerts.](#)

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## Up Close & Personal

### Linda Braswell, MCBA President, [Professional Bail Agents of the United States](#)

Linda B. Braswell is a Master Certified Bail Agent by the Professional Bail Agents of the United States. She was licensed as a bail agent in 1974 after working for several years in a bail bonds office as a secretary. She was the youngest ever licensed female Bail Agent in the State of Florida at that time.



Linda has owned Braswell Bail Bonds in Stuart, Florida since 1975 and has served as the President of Braswell Surety Services, Inc. since 1981. In addition, she is the exclusive Florida Managing General Agent for Baltimore, Maryland based Lexington National Insurance Corporation.

Linda serves on the PBUS board and is the Past President Florida Surety Agents Association. In 1995, she was inducted into the Professional Bail Agents of the United State Hall of Fame. She received the distinguished honor as the 2003 PBUS Bail Agent of the Year. She served on the Florida Department of Insurance Bail Bond Blue Ribbon Panel and is a Certified Florida Pre-Licensing Instructor, Certified Florida Continuing Education Instructor, and PBUS Certified Bail Agents Program Instructor.

To learn more about Linda and PBUS, visit [www.pb-us.com](http://www.pb-us.com).

*Is there someone you would like to see featured? [Let us know by clicking here.](#)*

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## Did You Know?

### Patriot Act Search

The Patriot Act is formally known as "The Uniting and Strengthening America by Providing Appropriate Tools Required to Intercept and Obstruct Terrorism Act of 2001." It was signed by Former President George W. Bush on October 26, 2001 in response to the terrorist attacks against the United States, dramatically expanding the authority of American law enforcement for the stated purpose of fighting terrorism in the United States and abroad.

Search our entire database of Patriot Act records using the following criteria:

- **Full name, business or vessel name.** (Providing the most complete name will retrieve the best response.)
- **Search Type:** individual, non-individual or both
- **Threshold:** Select 100% through 70% to set how closely the search terms should match the results. A threshold of 100% means that the search and result has to match exactly. A threshold of 70% means that additional (uncertain) search logic will be used to look for spelling and name variations. The default is 80% match criteria. Flexible matching algorithms are used in searching to reduce false positive hits and take into account name variations. The matching score is displayed in the results with the highest scored records appearing first.
- **Country:** Default to all countries or search a specific country to search individually or with a full name. When the only search entry is a single country, the Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) Sanctioned Country list will be searched.

You can also choose to only search the OFAC List, which includes the Palestinian Legislative Council (PLC) list, by checking the OFAC search-only box. When searching OFAC only, your results may also contain aliases for an individual.

Patriot Act results may include: full name, address, source, and remarks (e.g., name type, other names, date and place of birth, expiration date, vessel owner and type).

*For more information about this feature, call us toll-free at 800.447.2112. You may also email us at [customerservice@irbsearch.com](mailto:customerservice@irbsearch.com).*

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## In the News

### Using Shotguns During Bail Enforcement Operations

**Author:** Ruffin Blaylock

**Source:** [Pursuit Magazine](#)

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One of the most common questions I am asked by new investigators working bail fugitive recovery assignments is, “Should I carry a shotgun while attempting an apprehension?” It is certainly common to see law enforcement officers employ shotguns during arrests and other disturbances when working with a partner but a shotgun is still considered a secondary weapon to the handgun in law enforcement operations. Our work, of course, is very different altogether and a “long gun” is simply not a practical weapon for bail enforcement agents to carry into the field for the following reasons:



1) **Weight:** A shotgun is heavy and cumbersome which becomes an issue in foot chases, grappling with a hostile subject or while in cramped quarters searching for your fugitive.

2) **Searches and Frisking:** What do you do with your shotgun while having to climb into attics, basements, rooftops, fireplaces, crawl spaces, tunnels, etc? Where do you safely put your shotgun while conducting a pat down of the defendant while looking for weapons or contraband? Managing such a large weapon will not allow you to keep your hands free in these situations.

3) **Hand-to-hand Combat:** What if the defendant decides to fight you during the apprehension? In most situations you will not be justified in shooting an unarmed assailant. What will you do with an assault rifle or shotgun? Say, “Excuse me, Mr. Fugitive, while I secure my shotgun and then we will fight?”

4) **Legality:** Another point to ponder is, “What do you do with the shotgun during a field interview?” Imagine that you develop a lead on your fugitive at a secondary residence; you knock on the door and the residents answer. You begin the interview, questioning them whether or not the defendant is home and if they know where he or she is hiding, and there you are holding this awesome, intimidating piece of firepower. How do you think an innocent third party is going to react to the presence of a shotgun? District Attorneys in some of the counties in which we often work have already told us that displaying a shotgun in this manner is a crime in itself and furthermore, we can be charged simply for resting a hand on our holstered sidearm during an interview. A sharp attorney will introduce this simple act into court as a “threatening and menacing gesture, placing the people being questioned in severe fear of their lives” and you will have a lawsuit on your hands.

5) **Liability:** Shotguns are not designed for bail enforcement close quarter battle (CQB) operations. A bail enforcement agent’s primary objective is to re-apprehend the defendant in the least confrontational, low profile manner as possible thereby eliminating or reducing the chances of civil liability. Presenting a shotgun in a house, apartment, mobile home, business or other location is overkill and completely

reckless on the part of the bail recovery agent.

6) Lethality: A lot of fugitive recovery agents claim they carry "Less Than Lethal" (LTL) rounds in their shotguns, i.e., rubber slugs, bean bag rounds, pepper-balls, etc.; that may be all well and good but the single safety factor they are overlooking is the manufacturer's warning regarding the safe distances required to discharge these rounds, which in most cases is no closer than 10 feet of the target.

In this author's opinion, shotguns, rifles and other long guns, while "cool," "awesome," and intimidating are just not simply practical for civilian bail fugitive recovery operations due to safety, legal and liability reasons.

## **The American Bar Association's Resolution 301**

**Author: Bruce Hulme, NCISS Legislative Director**

**Source: [The NCISS Report](#)**

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### About Resolution 301

The ABA's section of Science and Technology Law passed Resolution 301 in response to a recent trend of state legislatures and regulatory bodies requiring that persons engaged in providing computer or forensic and network testing services, including expert testimony, be state-licensed private investigators. In their judgment, the "traditional role of private investigators is significantly different from that of a computer forensic or network testing professional and many licensed private investigators have little or no training in those areas."



The ABA is particularly concerned with a Texas Department of Public Safety's Private Security Bureau definition of the term "private security consulting company" to include firms engaged in network scans and vulnerability testing, as well as other state laws requiring the licensing of computer forensic investigators. I have discussed this issue with representatives of IASIR and the Texas Association of Licensed Investigators. The main thrust of the ABA argument is that private investigator licenses are not needed to ensure reliable evidence in litigation and that trial judges can best determine whether court testimony is relevant and reliable, negating the need of state licensing requirements. Furthermore, they state that "a patchwork of differing state licensing requirements for computer forensic and network testing assistance will create jurisdictional complexities that will hamper business operations and court proceedings, disadvantage litigants, and may deprive courts of hearing the best available evidence."

An underlying motive of Resolution 301 is to enable a number of organizations to engage in testing the qualifications of computer forensic investigators. The resolution not only urges state regulatory agencies to refrain from requiring private investigator licenses but supports efforts to establish professional certification or competency requirements based on the current state of technology and science.

[Read more >>](#)

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## **Upcoming Conferences**

Stop by the IRBsearch booth at the following conferences. The red asterisk (\*) indicates an IRBsearch training session.

- Tennessee Professional Investigators Association CPE Seminar | March 13 - 14 | Glenstone Lodge | Gatlinburg, TN | [www.tpia.com](http://www.tpia.com)

- Professional Association of Wisconsin Licensed Investigators Annual Conference | April 2 - 4 | Country Springs Hotel, Water Park & Convention Center | Waukesha, WI | [www.pawli.com](http://www.pawli.com)\*
- Georgia Association of Professional Private Investigators Spring Seminar | April 24 | Chattahoochee Technical College | Marietta, GA | [www.gappi.org](http://www.gappi.org)\*
- National Association of Professional Process Servers Annual Conference | April 30 - May 2 | Rio Hotel & Casino | Las Vegas, NV | [www.napps.org](http://www.napps.org)
- Associations One Investigations & Security Conference | May 13 - 15 | Detroit Marriott at the Renaissance Center | Detroit, MI | [www.associationsone.org](http://www.associationsone.org)
- Florida Associations of Licensed Investigators Annual Conference | May 21 - 24 | Renaissance Orlando Airport Hotel | Orlando, FL | [www.fali.org](http://www.fali.org)\*

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## Comments?

We welcome your feedback! If you have any comments or concerns about the contents of this newsletter, please share them by emailing us at [marketing@irbsearch.com](mailto:marketing@irbsearch.com).

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