



# The Sedona Conference

## *U.S. Biometric Systems Privacy Primer*

(May 2024)

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The Sedona Conference Working Group 11 on Data Security and Privacy Liability (WG11) developed the *U.S. Biometric Systems Privacy Primer* (“*Primer*”) to provide a general introduction to biometric systems and a summary of existing U.S. laws regulating the collection, use, and sharing of the biometric information these technologies collect.

The *Primer* is written as a resource for lawyers, judges, legislators, and other policymakers. It provides a general guide to the relationships among the technical, legal, and policy aspects of biometric systems—with a particular focus on privacy and related concerns these systems may raise.

Part I is the introduction to the *Primer*. Part II of the *Primer* provides an overview of biometric recognition systems (which include both identity verification and identification systems) by private organizations. Part III discusses biometric system benefits and drawbacks. Part IV details the U.S. biometric privacy legal landscape, focusing in particular on U.S. state biometric privacy laws. Part V identifies several general considerations organizations should consider when selecting or designing biometric recognition systems.

The full text of The Sedona Conference *U.S. Biometric Systems Privacy Primer*, is available free for individual download from The Sedona Conference website at

[https://thesedonaconference.org/publication/Biometric\\_Systems\\_Privacy\\_Primer](https://thesedonaconference.org/publication/Biometric_Systems_Privacy_Primer)

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