

Ted Claypoole Discusses The Challenges When Schools Monitor Social Media

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The legal implications of social media monitoring by colleges and school districts are analyzed by Womble Carlyle's own [Ted Claypoole](#) and others in a recent [Center for Digital Education article](#). Reporter [Tanya Roscorla](#) spoke with Claypoole about a new trend among some educational institutions of monitoring students' social media accounts in an effort to identify possible problems like bullying, suicidal intentions and potential threats.

Claypoole is a senior partner with the firm's Intellectual Property practice group and heads up the firm's Privacy and Data Management Team. He also co-authored "[Protecting Your Internet Identity: Are You Naked Online?](#)" with former White House CIO Theresa Payton.

In the article, Claypoole argues the monitoring efforts by educational institutions can be overreaching and likely a waste of time and money.

"Who and why would you pay to go look at the banal and silly things that most students are talking about online," Claypoole asks in the article. "But more than that, it is in general an infringement of their rights to essentially get a generalized warrant just to go look for wrongdoing, either out here in the physical world or in the electronic world."

Claypoole's practice focuses on information security risk management and cross-border data transfer issues, including those involving the European Union and the Data Protection Safe Harbor. He also negotiates and prepares business process outsourcing, distribution, branding, software development, hosted application and electronic commerce agreements for all types of companies. His practice includes addressing legal issues around media and advertising, legal problems in payment systems and financial data processing and advising clients on complex intellectual property development and licensing programs.

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