

STANDARD ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURE

29.01.03.M1.28

Information Resources – Security Surveillance

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Standard Administrative Procedure Statement

This Standard Administrative Procedure establishes transparent processes and controls for using audiovisual surveillance equipment and any resulting recorded material.

Definitions

Audiovisual Surveillance - cameras or similar technology used to enhance security, safety, and quality of life for the TAMU campus community.

AVST - audiovisual surveillance technology.

Active AVST Installation - cameras or similar technology that are viewing/recording activities within the area of surveillance.

Official Procedure/Responsibilities/Process

1. General

Texas A&M University strives to provide a secure environment for members of its community and to protect state property. Ensuring a secure environment can be assisted by audiovisual surveillance technology. Such technologies must be used responsibly and within the intended scope of the purpose for their deployment.

2. Applicability

All installations of audiovisual surveillance technology must comply with these

procedures except those installations authorized by the University Police Department (UPD) or System Internal Audit. The Qatar campus follows separate procedures set forth by Qatar administration.

3. Procedures

3.1 An Audiovisual Surveillance Technology (AVST) Committee has been established by the Associate Vice President for Information Technology & Chief Information Officer to review AVST installations to verify compliance with [AVST Operational Standards](#), consistent application of surveillance controls, and to review complaints regarding the use or placement of AVST. The AVST Committee shall be composed of representatives of the University community including, but not limited to, the Associate Vice President for Information Technology & Chief Information Officer, Chief Information Security Officer (CISO), University Police Department (UPD), Human Resources, Student Affairs, Office of General Counsel (OGC), Students, Faculty Senate, and Staff Council.

3.1.1 The purpose of the AVST Committee is to provide recommendations to the Associate Vice President for Information Technology & Chief Information Officer (or designee) regarding the use of AVST.

3.1.2 The AVST Committee will maintain criteria for evaluating requests for location and deployment of AVST equipment.

3.2 AVST equipment must not be located in or monitor a campus housing resident's room or restroom/shower area. Requests for the deployment and location of AVST equipment in other portions of campus housing buildings must be submitted for approval to the Associate Vice President for Information Technology & Chief Information Officer (or designee), who will review the request in consultation with the Vice President for Student Affairs.

3.3 Conspicuous, public signage must be displayed at all main entrances to buildings or immediate area of monitoring for active AVST installations. Not all surveillance installations are monitored continuously. Therefore, units with active AVST installations must post signage stating "This area is subject to electronic surveillance and may or may not be actively monitored."

3.4 The Office of Associate Vice President for Information Technology & Chief Information Officer (or designee) is responsible for the oversight of AVST installations and must maintain a database of all approved installations, including temporary installations. UPD installations for law enforcement purposes shall not be included in the database.

3.5 Equipment operators must be assigned the designated training by their unit and supervised in the responsible use of surveillance technology, including the

technical, legal, and ethical parameters of such use. The AVST Committee will determine the content of the training and standards. Operators must receive a copy of the [AVST Operational Standards](#), and must acknowledge that they have read and understood its contents. Such standards include monitoring of people only for suspicious behavior or authorized observation functions (e.g., Becky Gates Children’s Center). These standards prohibit monitoring based on perceived individual characteristics or classifications such as race, sex, ethnicity, sexual orientation, or disability.

- 3.6 Generally, installation of new or temporary AVST equipment must be in consultation with the Associate Vice President for Information Technology & Chief Information Officer or his/her designee. If it is desired to change the location (i.e., a different surveillance space/room) of an approved AVST installation, then approval must be requested and granted based on the new location. If the rationale upon which an approval was based becomes invalid or no longer applicable, then a new approval must be requested and granted or the AVST must be removed. The Associate Vice President for Information Technology & Chief Information Officer (or designee) should be informed of the removal of AVST installations and appropriate updates to the database of installations made.
- 3.7 Those faculty, staff, and students who have a complaint arising from the presence of surveillance equipment may file a complaint with the Associate Vice President for Information Technology & Chief Information Officer or designee. The Associate Vice President for Information Technology & Chief Information Officer will bring the concern to the AVST Committee for disposition.
- 3.8 Units administering AVST equipment must design monitoring locations to prevent tampering with recorded material. Cameras and similar technologies must have sufficient security measures (e.g., encryption) to prevent unauthorized access to the output of the equipment. Access must require authentication over a secure channel (e.g., SSL). Video output need not be encrypted, but reasonable measures should be taken to mitigate interception as approved by the AVST. Web cameras intended for general access to public events must be approved in advance, and privacy concerns must be specifically addressed in the request.
- 3.9 Recorded surveillance material shall be stored in secure locations accessible only to designated individuals. Such records are deemed “Transitory Information” and shall be retained for no less than fourteen (14) days and no longer than 31 days. Records preserved for longer than 31 days relevant to a specific official investigation are to be deleted when no longer needed for the investigation. Surveillance material kept by UPD is an *exception* to this requirement. Exceptions to this retention period must be approved in advance by the Associate Vice President for Information Technology & Chief Information Officer or designee. Documented retention periods for existing equipment that

cannot meet this requirement must be submitted to the Associate Vice President for Information Technology & Chief Information Officer or designee.

- 3.10 Requests for the review/release of recorded AVST data/recordings must be reviewed and approved by the information resource owner (or designee) unless release is required by State or Federal law.
- 3.11 AVST data/recordings will be treated as confidential with regard to internal University procedures. The data/recordings may only be released for review as a result of normal procedures and regulations for the release or disclosure of information such as investigations by authorized University officials, subpoenas/court orders, or Public Information Requests. Requests and any needed approvals for the review/release of data/recordings shall be fully documented.

Related Statutes, Policies, or Requirements

Supplements [University SAP 29.01.03.M0.01 Security of Electronic Information Resources](#)

[AVST Operational Standards](#)

Contact office

CONTACT: Office of the Chief Information Security Officer

OFFICE OF RESPONSIBILITY: [Associate Vice President for Information Technology & Chief Information Officer](#)