

**§ 270.206 Public briefings and requests for information.**

(a) NIST will establish methods to provide updates to the public on its planning and progress of an investigation. Methods may include:

- (1) A public Web site;
- (2) Mailing lists, to include an emphasis on e-mail;
- (3) Semi-annual written progress reports;
- (4) Media briefings; and
- (5) Public meetings.

(b) Requests for information on the plans and conduct of an investigation should be submitted to the NIST Public and Business Affairs Division.

**Subpart D—Collection and Preservation of Evidence; Information Created Pursuant to an Investigation; and Protection of Information****§ 270.300 Scope.**

During the course of an investigation conducted pursuant to the Act, evidence will be collected, and information will be created by the Team, NIST, and other investigation participants. This subpart sets forth the policy and procedures for the collection, preservation, and protection of evidence obtained and information created pursuant to an investigation.

**§ 270.301 Policy.**

Evidence collected and information created by Team members and all other investigation participants will be collected, preserved, and protected in accordance with the procedures set forth in this subpart.

## COLLECTION OF EVIDENCE

**§ 270.310 Evidence collected by investigation participants who are not NIST employees.**

Upon receipt of evidence pursuant to an investigation under the Act, each investigation participant who is not a NIST employee shall:

- (a) As soon as practicable, transfer the original evidence to NIST, and retain a copy of the evidence only if necessary to carry out their duties under the investigation; and

- (b) For any evidence that cannot reasonably be duplicated, retain the evidence in accordance with NIST procedures for preserving evidence as described in § 270.330 of this subpart, and upon completion of the duties for which retention of the evidence is necessary, transfer the evidence to NIST.

[68 FR 4694, Jan. 30, 2003, as amended at 68 FR 24345, May 7, 2003]

**§ 270.311 Collection of evidence.**

(a) In the course of an investigation, evidence normally will be collected following the procedures described in §§ 270.312 through 270.315 of this subpart.

- (b) Upon a written showing by the Lead Investigator of urgent and compelling reasons to believe that evidence may be destroyed, or that a witness may become unavailable, were the procedures described in §§ 270.312 through 270.314 of this subpart followed, the Director, with the concurrence of the General Counsel, may immediately issue a subpoena for such evidence or testimony, pursuant to § 270.315 of this subpart.

**§ 270.312 Voluntary submission of evidence.**

After the Director establishes and deploys a Team, members of the public are encouraged to voluntarily submit to the Team non-privileged evidence that is relevant to the subject matter of the pending investigation.

[68 FR 4694, Jan. 30, 2003, as amended at 68 FR 24345, May 7, 2003]

**§ 270.313 Requests for evidence.**

(a) After the Director establishes and deploys a Team, the Lead Investigator, or their designee, may request the testimony of any person by deposition, upon oral examination or written questions, and may request documents or other physical evidence without seeking prior approval of the Director.

(b) Requests for responses to written questions will be made in writing and shall include:

- (1) A statement that the request is made to gather evidence necessary to an investigation being conducted under the Act;