

The following is the response from FBI Assistant Director Patrick G. Findlay, Facilities and Logistics Services Division:

"The FBI understands that the Senate Appropriations Committee was focusing on the physical security of the J. Edgar Hoover Building, not information security or handling of intelligence.

From an information security standpoint, FBI information is secure. All intelligence and sensitive information are properly safeguarded and classified information is properly contained, to include being processed and/or discussed in accredited SCIF (Sensitive Compartmented Information Facility) space.

The Interagency Security Committee (ISC) criteria deal only with physical security of federal facilities. The J. Edgar Hoover Building, which is a GSA-owned federal building, does not meet the ISC (physical security) criteria, in terms of standoff distance and other blast mitigation measures. These criteria do not have anything to do with information security or handling intelligence or sensitive information. The FBI and GSA, continue to take steps to mitigate risks and increase our physical access control measures, such as vehicle screening, restricted parking around the building, and constructing (through GSA) a new visitors screening center."