

Federal Depository Library Council

Meeting and Conference

October 19, 2010

10:30 – 12:00 Authentication of Digital Government
Information—Why Does It Matter? (Panel discussion)

Stuart Basefsky, Senior Reference Librarian, School of
Industrial & Labor Relations, Cornell University

Perspective from the Social Sciences

- Define what I am talking about
- Give specific examples
- Relate the significance

CURRENCY

(insured deposits are) backed by
the full faith and credit of the U.S. Government ->



U.S. Code TITLE 12 > CHAPTER 16 > § 1828
§ 1828. Regulations governing insured depository institutions
<http://uscode.house.gov/download/pls/12C16.txt>
or
http://www.law.cornell.edu/uscode/html/uscode12/usc_sec_12_00001828----000-.html

INTELLECTUAL CURRENCY

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"You are entitled to your opinion. But you are **not entitled to your own facts.**"
attributed to *Daniel Patrick Moynihan*

"Get the facts first. **You can distort them later.**"
attributed to *Mark Twain*

- National Archives
- **Electronic Records Management Guidance on Methodology for Determining Agency-unique Requirements**

Context for Electronic Records Management [ERM]

<http://www.archives.gov/records-mgmt/initiatives/context-for-erm.html>

*The International Council on Archives document *Guide for Managing Electronic Records from an Archival Perspective* states "**The reliability of a record is its ability to serve as reliable evidence....Authenticity refers to the persistence over time of the original characteristics of the record with respect to context, structure and content. An authentic record is one that retains its original reliability.**"

- **CHAIN OF RELIABILITY**



- Census Example--

Federal Register / Vol. 71, No. 184 / Friday, September 22, 2006 / Notices
OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET

Standards and Guidelines for Statistical Surveys

http://www.whitehouse.gov/sites/default/files/omb/assets/omb/fedreg/2006/092206_stat_surveys.pdf

“Statistics collected and published by the Federal Government constitute a significant portion of the available information about the United States’ economy, population, natural resources, environment, and public and private institutions. These data are used by the Federal Government and others as a basis for actions that affect people’s lives and well-being. It is essential that they be **collected, processed, and published** in a manner that guarantees and **inspires confidence in their reliability.**”

Unauthenticated Publishing = Reliability Questioned

- **BROKEN CHAIN**



The screenshot shows the Cornell University ILR School Digital Commons website. The header includes the Cornell University ILR School logo and navigation links (Home, About, Help, My Account). The main content area is titled "KEY WORKPLACE DOCUMENTS" and includes a search bar, a description of the collection, and a list of sub-collections under the heading "Browse the Key Workplace Documents Collections: Associations and Institutes".

KEY WORKPLACE DOCUMENTS

Formerly the Electronic Archive, Key Workplace Documents is a unique collection of materials which encompass aspects of the employer-employee relationship. The collection includes selected key government documents, public policy position papers, and statistics.

Key Workplace Documents are selected by **Stuart Basefsky** an Information Specialist and Instructor at Catherwood Library and Director of the IWS News Bureau for the **Institute for Workplace Studies (IWS)** in the New York City Office of the ILR School.

Browse the *Key Workplace Documents* Collections:

Associations and Institutes

Federal Publications

- Dunlop Commission
- Women's Bureau
- Publications of the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics
- U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission
- Congressional Research Service (CRS) Reports and Issue Briefs
- Glass Ceiling Commission (1991-1996)


Cornell University
ILR School
Institute for Workplace Studies

SEARCH CORNELL: go

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Related Resources

- [Daily Postings Website](#)
- [Weekly Bulletin Website](#)
- [International Postings Website](#)
- [ILR in the News](#)

IWS News Bureau

The IWS News Bureau helps members of the ILR community keep up with the latest in workplace information, trends, reports, and statistics by disseminating the *IWS Documented News Service*. Under the directorship of Stuart Basefsky, the news service offers the latest information related to ILR disciplines, as it becomes available, for the purposes of research, understanding, and debate. The news service is unique in that it provides the original source documentation, via links, behind the news and research of the day. Postings are selected to meet the research needs and interests of our faculty, staff, and students, but are useful to anyone interested in workplace-related issues. It is a free service, published on a daily and weekly basis, with an option to receive posted links through email. A section devoted to international postings is also available.

Via Email

- **Daily Postings**—an email service providing 3-10 postings daily, Monday -Friday, with content indicators
- **Weekly Bulletin**—one email per week that includes all of the daily postings, with titles and links to full-text documentation

Via the Web

- **Daily Postings Website** —a place to find the postings of each day with title, links, and content indicators
- **Weekly Bulletin Website**—a place to find the Weekly Bulletin with its titles and links
- **International Postings Website**—a subset of postings with an international focus

- **Scholarly Method (Scholarship)**— is the body of principles and practices used by scholars to make their claims about the world as valid and trustworthy as possible, and to make them known to the scholarly public.
- **Citation**—Purpose is to identify, distinguish, and locate documentation (material relied upon) in producing studies, etc. This is done so that others may validate the findings and methods used. Original source documentation is preferred – often produced by the government.

- Important elements of citation in online environment

author's name and/or corporate author, date of publication, publisher, place of publication, version/edition (if indicated), format, date retrieved, URL, Digital Object Identifier (DOI) if available, **clearly authenticated documentation is preferred and encouraged**, any additional information can be added parenthetically if it helps locate the actual source utilized

PURPOSE—verify the specific, authentic, reliable sources used so others may replicate the findings.

- Beyond scholarship is RELIANCE

- By consumers; marketers, educators, service providers, policy makers, and anyone making decisions based on facts and data presumed to be accurate, reliable, and authentic (TRUST)

- Social Contract with government

- Issues of –
 - Governance
 - Trust
 - Reliance
 - Confidence

In brief, the role of government is at stake as well as the reputations of scholars and scholarship itself.

[Approved 5/22/00 TAMPERING WITH PUBLIC RECORDS OR INFORMATION ...](#)

File Format: PDF/Adobe Acrobat - [Quick View](#)

The indictment charges the defendant with the crime of *tampering* with public records or ... to, or received or kept by, the *government* for *information* or ...

www.judiciary.state.nj.us/criminal/charges/tamper6.pdf - [Similar](#)

[710-1017 Tampering with a government record - HI Legislature](#)

(3) *Tampering* with *government* records is a misdemeanor. ... Nor does this section require that the *information* made part of the public record, ...

www.capitol.hawaii.gov/hrs2008/Vol14.../HRS_0710-1017.htm - [Cached](#)

[Texas Penal Code, Section 37.10 - Tampering with Governmental Record](#)

TAMPERING WITH **GOVERNMENTAL** RECORD. (a) A person commits an offense if he: ... entry or false **information** could have no effect on the **government's** purpose ...

penalcode.austintexascriminaldefense.com/37.10.html - [Cached](#) - [Similar](#)