

Today's Lead: NYPD Secretly Labeled Mosques As Terrorist Organizations

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NYPD Secretly Labeled Mosques As Terrorist Organizations

The New York Police Department has secretly been labeling mosques as terrorist organizations to allow it to spy on imams and have informants record sermons; in many cases without any evidence a crime had been committed according to a [report from The Associated Press](#). The NYPD has labeled at least a dozen mosques this way to investigate them for terrorism. The investigations can last for years even without proof a crime has been committed and without any charges being brought. Mayor Michael Bloomberg and Ray Kelly [defended their actions](#)

. "What we do is we try to keep this city safe, totally consistent with what the laws require," Bloomberg said. "We believe that we are compliant with those laws." Arab American groups and civil liberties groups said they were horrified by the news and some have called for a federal investigation into the practice.

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