



United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

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Office of the Chief  
Information Officer

1400 Independence  
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Washington, DC  
20250

TO: Agency Chief Information Officers  
Agency Information System Security Program Managers

FROM: Charles R. Christopherson, Jr.  
Chief Financial Officer/Chief Information Officer

SUBJECT: Temporary Ban on Use of Apple iPhones in USDA

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "C. Christopherson", with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

The protection of privacy is a key element in USDA's enterprise security architecture and is an essential part of USDA's mission and business processes.

The new Apple iPhone allows hackers to find entry points that when exploited could possibly expose the privacy of potential users. Until the iPhone's enterprise security capabilities can be fully evaluated, the iPhone is not authorized for use in USDA through December 31, 2007.

If you have any questions regarding this memorandum, please contact Lynn Allen, the Associate CIO for Cyber Security, at (202) 690-0048, or via e-mail at [Lynn.Allen2@usda.gov](mailto:Lynn.Allen2@usda.gov).