

## Homeland Security Questions Man for Wearing Google Glass in Movie Theater

5:22 PM PST 1/21/2014 by Aaron Couch

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Kyle Bastien

Managers of an AMC theater in Ohio contacted the MPAA -- which in turn called in the DHS -- after a man was wrongly suspected of attempting to pirate "Jack Ryan" over the weekend.

Could wearing Google Glass to the movies soon be considered a no-no?

A man who wore the high-tech device to an AMC theater in Ohio over the weekend says he was pulled from the screening and interrogated by agents from The Department of Homeland Security for an hour.

"About an hour into the movie (*Jack Ryan: Shadow Recruit*), a guy comes near my seat, shoves a badge that had some sort of a shield on it, yanks the Google Glass off my face and says, 'Follow me outside immediately,'" the man told [The Gadgeteer](#). "It was quite embarrassing and outside of the theater there were about five to 10 cops and mall cops. Since I didn't catch his name in the dark of the theater, I asked to see his badge again and I asked what was the problem and I asked for my Glass back. The response was 'you see all these cops you know we are legit, we are with the 'federal service' and you have been caught illegally taping the movie.'"

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An AMC spokesperson tells *The Hollywood Reporter* that theater managers at AMC Easton 30 in Columbus, Ohio, contacted the MPAA, as is policy when someone is suspected of movie piracy. The MPAA, in turn, contacted Homeland Security, which has a hand in investigating piracy.

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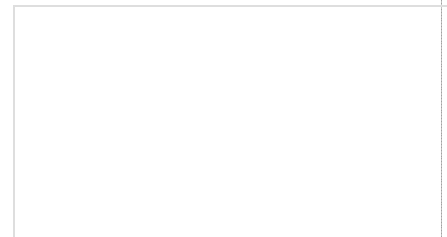


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The man, who was not named, said his Google Glass was turned off, but he kept wearing them in the theater because they are prescription. After an hour of questioning, agents plugged his Google Glass into a computer and found he had not been attempting to pirate the movie.

In a statement, the MPAA called Google Glass "an incredible innovation in the mobile sphere" and said it has "seen no proof that it is currently a significant threat that could result in content theft."

"The MPAA works closely with theaters all over the country to curb camcording and theater-originated piracy, and in this particular case, no such activity was discovered," the statement continued.

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The Department of Homeland Security also issued a statement on the incident:





"On Jan. 18, special agents with ICE's Homeland Security Investigations and local authorities briefly interviewed a man suspected of using an electronic recording device to record a film at an AMC theater in Columbus. The man, who voluntarily answered questions, confirmed to authorities that the suspected recording device was also a pair of prescription eye glasses in which the recording function had been inactive. No further action was taken."

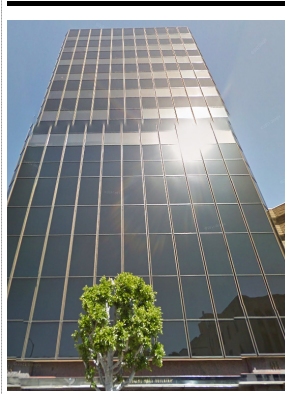
As for the man, he received four AMC movie passes.

*Pamela McClintock contributed reporting.*

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Im Sorry did you say Homeland Security has a hand in investigating PIRACY?! Why is this in Guantanamo Bay?

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**Troy McQuinn**

I guess it's pretty clear at this point that Homeland Security isn't about fighting terrorism; control regular citizens. They did little more than harass and intimidate the man but it's still the seizure and search of his Google Glass device seems to run afoul of his 4th Amendment

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**nathan**

After what this guy went through, he should have also got free popcorn.

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**Joe Mahma** → nathan

"This guy" is an idiot.

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• 4 days ago  
**Player\_L**

I am a foreigner, and not particularly well versed on your justice system, but I thought your seizure. Also, the legality of his detention would be questionable since he was neither form could probably prove that both his constitutional and civil rights were violated. But at least, almost-piracy of a Tom Cruise movie, so all is well.

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• 5 days ago  
**Don Logan**

if you wear something ridiculous like Google Glass you should be arrested on general principle

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**Joe Mahma**

What kind of jagoff wears a \*recording device\* in a movie theatre. Was this guy born yesterday?

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• 3 days ago  
**DesertYote** → Joe Mahma

Read the article.

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• 3 days ago  
**Joe Mahma** → DesertYote

I did read the article and he had a \*recording device\* on his stupid head during the

"About an hour into the movie (Jack Ryan: Shadow Recruit), a guy comes out with a shield on it, yanks the Google Glass off my face and..."

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