

Matt Blaze

Matt Blaze is the McDevitt chair in Computer Science and Law at Georgetown University, a joint interdisciplinary professorship spanning the university's computer science department and law school that is focused on research and teaching at the intersection of technology and law and policy. Before joining Georgetown in 2019, he was a professor of computer and information science at the University of Pennsylvania. Prior to joining Penn, he was part of the research staff at AT&T Bell Laboratories, where he was a founding member of its secure systems research department. Prof. Blaze holds a PhD in computer science from Princeton University (1993), an MS in computer science from Columbia (1988), and a BS from the City University of New York (1986).

For more than 30 years, a major focus of his research and scholarship has concerned the protection of modern communications infrastructure against the growing threat of eavesdropping and tampering by malicious actors, a broad category that can include everything from casual pranksters, to organized criminals, to well-funded industrial rivals, to domestic and international terrorists, and to hostile state actors. Much of this work has concerned the risks and tradeoffs introduced by so-called "lawful access" systems that are intended to facilitate court-authorized surveillance, but that inadvertently might expose our nation to illegal wiretaps or espionage.