

United States of America; (2) the identity, habits, conduct, movements, whereabouts, affiliations, associations, transactions, reputation, or character of any person, association, organization, society or groups of persons, firms, or corporations; (3) the credibility of witnesses or other persons; (4) the whereabouts of missing persons; (5) the location or recovery of lost or stolen property; (6) the causes and origin of, or responsibility for, fires, accidents, damage, injuries, or losses to persons, firms, associations, or corporations, or to real or personal property; (7) the affiliation, connection, or relation of any person, firm, or corporation with any official member or representative thereof; (8) with reference to the conduct, honesty, efficiency, loyalty, or activities of employees, agents, contractors and subcontractors; (9) the securing of evidence to be used before any investigating committee, board of award, board of arbitration, or in the trial of any civil or criminal cause. However, the term does not include a person, firm, association, or corporation engaged exclusively in the business of making investigations and reports as to the financial standing, credit and financial responsibility of persons, firms, associations, or corporations nor to electrically controlled burglar or fire alarm systems with a central unit, nor to any person, firm, association, or corporation exclusively engaged in the business of making reports for insurance or credit purposes except when the making of those reports involves investigation or surveillance normally performed by persons, firms, associations, or corporations otherwise subject to this section. Also it means the furnishing for hire or reward of watchmen or guards or private patrolmen or other persons to protect persons or property, either real or personal, or for any other purpose whatsoever, except marine guards or ship watchmen, whether stationed aboard ship or on a pier. The term does not include and this subtitle does not apply to any lawful activity of any board, body, commission, or agency of the United States of America or of any state, territory, or possession of the United States of America or any county, municipality, or other political subdivision thereof, or any officer or employee solely, exclusively, and regularly employed by any of the foregoing; nor to any attorney or counsellor at law in connection with the regular practice of his profession, nor to any person employed regularly as a full-time or part-time employee by any [such] attorney or counsellor at law when engaged upon his employer's business; nor to any employee, investigator, or investigators solely, exclusively and regularly employed by any person, firm, association, or corporation which is not engaged in any of the businesses hereinbefore described in items numbered one to nine, both inclusive, of this subsection insofar as their acts may relate solely to the business of their respective employers; nor to any person, firm, association, or corporation licensed to do a business of insurance of any nature under the insurance laws of this State, nor to any employee or licensed agent thereof, NOR TO ANY INDEPENDENT INSURANCE ADJUSTER; nor to any person, firm, association, or corporation conducting any investigation