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The CVSA is sold only to law enforcement/government agencies... The CVSA is not

The phrase is used both for the physical **seal** itself, which is kept by the United States Secretary of State, and more generally for the design impressed upon it. The **Great Seal** was first used publicly in 1782. The obverse of the **Great Seal** is used as the national coat of arms of the United States.



From the [U.S. Department of State \(www.state.gov\)](http://www.state.gov)

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Use of the Great Seal of the United States is governed by Public Law 91-651, Title 18 of the United States Code. This is a criminal statute with penal provisions, prohibiting certain uses of the Great Seal that would convey or reasonably be calculated to convey a false impression of sponsorship or approval by the Government of the United States or any department, agency, or instrumentality thereof.

You can ultimately be fined and imprisoned for up to 6 months for use of the seal without written permission. You can read the details of the legislation here: