

United States Information Agency

§ 505.12

a patient undergoing emergency treatment).

(9) *Disclosure to the Congress.* For matters within the jurisdiction of any House or Senate committee or subcommittee, and/or joint committee or subcommittee, pursuant to a written request from the Chairman of the committee or subcommittee.

(10) *Disclosure to the General Accounting Office (GAO).* For matters within the jurisdiction of the duties of the GAO's Comptroller General.

(11) *Disclosure pursuant to court order.* Pursuant to the order of a court of competent jurisdiction. This does not include a subpoena for records requested by counsel and issued by a clerk of court.

§ 505.11 Fees.

(a) The first copy of any Agency record about an individual will be provided free of charge. A fee of \$0.15 per page will be charged for any additional copies requested by the individual.

(b) Checks or money orders should be made payable to the United States Treasurer and mailed to the Freedom of Information Act/Privacy Act Unit, Office of the General Counsel, 301 4th Street, SW, Washington, DC 20547. The Agency will not accept cash.

§ 505.12 Civil remedies and criminal penalties.

(a) *Grounds for court action.* An individual will have a remedy in the Federal District Courts under the following circumstances:

(1) *Denial of access.* Individuals may challenge an Agency decision to deny them access to records to which they consider themselves entitled.

(2) *Refusal to amend a record.* Under conditions prescribed in 5 U.S.C. 552a(g), an individual may seek judicial review of the Agency's refusal to amend a record.

(3) *Failure to maintain a record accurately.* An individual may bring suit against the Agency for any alleged intentional and willful failure to maintain a record accurately, if it can be shown that the individual was subjected to an adverse action resulting in the denial of a right, benefit, entitlement or employment the individual could reasonably have expected to be

granted if the record had not been deficient.

(4) *Other failures to comply with the Act.* An individual may bring an action for any alleged failure by the Agency to comply with the requirements of the Act or failure to comply with any rule published by the Agency to implement the Act provided it can be shown that:

(i) The action was intentional or willful;

(ii) The Agency's action adversely affected the individual; and

(iii) The adverse action was caused by the Agency's actions.

(b) *Jurisdiction and time limits.* (1) Action may be brought in the district court for the jurisdiction in which the individual resides or has a place of residence or business, or in which the Agency records are situated, or in the District of Columbia.

(2) The statute of limitations is two years from the date upon which the cause of action arises, except for cases in which the Agency has materially and willfully misrepresented any information requested to be disclosed and when such misrepresentation is material to the liability of Agency. In such cases the statute of limitations is two years from the date of discovery by the individual of the misrepresentation.

(3) A suit may not be brought on the basis of injury which may have occurred as a result of the Agency's disclosure of a record prior to September 27, 1975.

(c) *Criminal penalties*—(1) *Unauthorized disclosure.* It is a criminal violation of the provisions of the Act for any officer or employee of the Agency knowingly and willfully to disclose a record in any manner to any person or agency not entitled to receive it, for failure to meet the conditions of disclosure enumerated in 5 U.S.C. 552a(b), or without the written consent or at the request of the individual to whom the record pertains. Any officer or employee of the Agency found guilty of such misconduct shall be fined not more than \$5,000.

(2) *Failure to publish a public notice.* It is a criminal violation of the Act to willfully maintain a system of records and not to publish the prescribed public notice. Any officer or employee of

the Agency found guilty of such misconduct shall be fined not more than \$5,000.

(3) *Obtaining records under false pretenses.* The Act makes it a criminal offense to knowingly and willfully request or gain access to a record about an individual under false pretenses. Any person found guilty of such an offense may be fined not more than \$5,000.

§ 505.13 General exemptions (Subsection (j)).

(a) General exemptions are available for systems of records which are maintained by the Central Intelligence Agency (Subsection (j)(1)), or maintained by an agency which performs as its principal function any activity pertaining to the enforcement of the criminal laws (Subsection (j)(2)).

(b) The Act does not permit general exemption of records compiled primarily for a noncriminal purpose, even though there are some quasi-criminal aspects to the investigation and even though the records are in a system of records to which the general exemption applies.

§ 505.14 Specific exemptions (Subsection (k)).

The specific exemptions focus more on the nature of the records in the systems of records than on the agency. The following categories of records may be exempt from disclosure:

(a) *Subsection (k)(1).* Records which are specifically authorized under criteria established under an Executive Order to be kept secret in the interest of national defense or foreign policy, and which are in fact properly classified pursuant to such Executive Order;

(b) *Subsection (k)(2).* Investigatory records compiled for law enforcement purposes (other than material within the scope of subsection (j)(2) as discussed in § 505.13(a)). If any individual is denied any right, privilege, or benefit for which she/he would otherwise be eligible, as a result of the maintenance of such material, the material shall be provided to the individual, unless disclosure of the material would reveal the identify of a source who has been pledged confidentiality;

(c) *Subsection (k)(3).* Records maintained in connection with protection of the President and other VIPs accorded special protection by statute;

(d) *Subsection (k)(4).* Records required by statute to be maintained and used solely as statistical records;

(e) *Subsection (k)(5).* Records compiled solely for the purpose of determining suitability, eligibility, or qualifications for Federal civilian employment, military service, Federal contracts, or access to classified information, but only if disclosure of the material would reveal the identify of a confidential source that furnished information to the Government;

(f) *Subsection (k)(6).* Testing or examination records used solely to determine individual qualifications for appointment or promotion in the Federal service when the disclosure of such would compromise the objectivity or fairness of the testing or examination process;

(g) *Subsection (k)(7).* Evaluation records used to determine potential for promotion in the armed services, but only if disclosure would reveal the identify of a confidential source.

§ 505.15 Exempt systems of records used.

USIA is authorized to use exemptions (k)(1), (k)(2), (k)(4), (k)(5), and (k)(6). The following Agency components currently maintain exempt systems of records under one or more of these specific exemptions: Executive Secretariat; Education and Cultural Exchange Program; Legal Files; Privacy Act and Freedom of Information Act Files; Employee Grievance Files; Recruitment Records; Employee Master Personnel Records; Foreign Service Selection Board Files; Employee Training Files; Personnel Security and Integrity Records; International Broadcasting Bureau Director's Executive Secretariat Files; and International Broadcasting Bureau Employee Personnel Files.

PART 506—PART-TIME CAREER EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM

- Sec.
- 506.1 Purpose of program.
- 506.2 Review of positions.