

§ 1901.23

timely or complete, they shall promptly:

(1) Make the amendment as requested;

(2) Write to all other identified persons or agencies to whom the record has been disclosed (if an accounting of the disclosure was made) and inform of the amendment; and

(3) Inform the Coordinator of such decisions.

(c) *Action otherwise on amendment request.* If the CIA component records manager declines to make the requested amendment or declines to make the requested amendment but agrees to augment the official records, that manager shall promptly:

(1) Set forth the reasons for refusal; and

(2) Inform the Coordinator of such decision and the reasons therefore.

(d) *Referrals and coordinations.* As applicable and within ten (10) days of receipt by the Coordinator, any CIA records containing information originated by other CIA components shall be forwarded to those entities for action in accordance with paragraphs (a), (b), or (c) of this section and return. Records originated by other federal agencies or CIA records containing other federal agency information shall be forwarded to such agencies within ten (10) days of our completion of initial action in the case for action under their regulations and direct response to the requester (for other agency records) or return to the CIA (for CIA records).

(e) *Effect of certain exemptions.* This section shall not be construed to allow access to systems of records exempted by the Director of Central Intelligence pursuant to subsections (j) and (k) of the Privacy Act or where those exemptions require that the CIA can neither confirm nor deny the existence or non-existence of responsive records.

**§ 1901.23 Notification of decision and right of appeal.**

Within ten (10) days of receipt of responses to all initial taskings and subsequent coordinations (if any), and dispatch of referrals (if any), the Agency will provide disclosable records to the requester. If a determination has been

32 CFR Ch. XIX (7-1-99 Edition)

made not to provide access to requested records (in light of specific exemptions) or that no records are found, the Agency shall so inform the requester, identify the denying official, and advise of the right to administrative appeal.

ADDITIONAL ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

**§ 1901.31 Special procedures for medical and psychological records.**

(a) *In general.* When a request for access or amendment involves medical or psychological records and when the originator determines that such records are not exempt from disclosure, the Agency will, after consultation with the Director of Medical Services, determine:

(1) Which records may be sent directly to the requester and

(2) Which records should not be sent directly to the requester because of possible medical or psychological harm to the requester or another person.

(b) *Procedure for records to be sent to physician.* In the event that the Agency determines, in accordance with paragraph (a)(2) of this section, that records should not be sent directly to the requester, the Agency will notify the requester in writing and advise that the records at issue can be made available only to a physician of the requester's designation. Upon receipt of such designation, verification of the identity of the physician, and agreement by the physician:

(1) To review the documents with the requesting individual,

(2) To explain the meaning of the documents, and

(3) To offer counseling designed to temper any adverse reaction, the Agency will forward such records to the designated physician.

(c) *Procedure if physician option not available.* If within sixty (60) days of the paragraph (a)(2) of this section, the requester has failed to respond or designate a physician, or the physician fails to agree to the release conditions, the Agency will hold the documents in abeyance and advise the requester that

## Central Intelligence Agency

## § 1901.41

this action may be construed as a technical denial. The Agency will also advise the requester of the responsible official and of his or her rights to administrative appeal and thereafter judicial review.

### **§ 1901.32 Requests for expedited processing.**

(a) All requests will be handled in the order received on a strictly "first-in, first-out" basis. Exceptions to this rule will only be made in circumstances that the Agency deems to be exceptional. In making this determination, the Agency shall consider and must decide in the affirmative on all of the following factors:

- (1) That there is a genuine need for the records; and
- (2) That the personal need is exceptional; and
- (3) That there are no alternative forums for the records sought; and
- (4) That it is reasonably believed that substantive records relevant to the stated needs may exist and be deemed releasable.

(b) In sum, requests shall be considered for expedited processing only when health, humanitarian, or due process considerations involving possible deprivation of life or liberty create circumstances of exceptional urgency and extraordinary need. In accordance with established judicial precedent, requests more properly the scope of requests under the Federal Rules of Civil or Criminal Procedure (or equivalent state rules) will not be granted expedited processing under this or related (e.g., Freedom of Information Act) provisions unless expressly ordered by a federal court of competent jurisdiction.

### **§ 1901.33 Allocation of resources; agreed extensions of time.**

(a) *In general.* Agency components shall devote such personnel and other resources to the responsibilities imposed by the Privacy Act as may be appropriate and reasonable considering:

- (1) The totality of resources available to the component,
- (2) The business demands imposed on the component by the Director of Central Intelligence or otherwise by law,

(3) The information review and release demands imposed by the Congress or other governmental authority, and

(4) The rights of all members of the public under the various information review and disclosure laws.

(b) *Discharge of Privacy Act responsibilities.* Components shall exercise due diligence in their responsibilities under the Privacy Act and must allocate a reasonable level of resources to requests under the Act in a strictly "first-in, first-out" basis and utilizing two or more processing queues to ensure that smaller as well as larger (i.e., project) cases receive equitable attention. The Information and Privacy Coordinator is responsible for management of the Agency-wide program defined by this Part and for establishing priorities for cases consistent with established law. The Director, Information Management through the Agency Release Panel shall provide policy and resource direction as necessary and shall make determinations on administrative appeals.

(c) *Requests for extension of time.* While the Privacy Act does not specify time requirements, our joint treatment of requests under the FOIA means that when the Agency is unable to meet the statutory time requirements of the FOIA, the Agency may request additional time from a requester. In such instances the Agency will inform a requester of his or her right to decline our request and proceed with an administrative appeal or judicial review as appropriate.

### ACTION ON PRIVACY ACT ADMINISTRATIVE APPEALS

### **§ 1901.41 Establishment of appeals structure.**

(a) *In general.* Two administrative entities have been established by the Director of Central Intelligence to facilitate the processing of administrative appeals under the Freedom of Information Act. Their membership, authority, and rules of procedure are as follows.

(b) *Historical Records Policy Board ("HRPB" or "Board").* This Board, the successor to the CIA Information Review Committee, acts as the senior corporate board in the CIA on all matters of information review and release.