

**§ 2001.11 Classification authority [1.4].**

(a) *General.* Agencies with original classification authority shall establish a training program for original classifiers in accordance with subpart D of this part.

(b) *Requests for original classification authority.* Agencies not possessing such authority shall forward requests to the Director of the Information Security Oversight Office (ISOO). The agency head must make the request and shall provide a specific justification of the need for this authority. The Director of ISOO shall forward the request, along with the Director's recommendation, to the President through the Director of the Office of Management and Budget within 30 days. Agencies wishing to increase their assigned level of original classification authority shall forward requests in accordance with the procedures of this section.

**§ 2001.12 Duration of classification [1.6].**

(a) *Determining duration of classification for information originally classified under the Order—(1) Establishing duration of classification.* When determining the duration of classification for information originally classified under this Order, an original classification authority shall follow the sequence listed in paragraphs (a)(1)(i), (ii), and (iii) of this section.

(i) The original classification authority shall attempt to determine a date or event that is less than 10 years from the date of original classification and which coincides with the lapse of the information's national security sensitivity, and shall assign such date or event as the declassification instruction.

(ii) If unable to determine a date or event of less than 10 years, the original classification authority shall ordinarily assign a declassification date that is 10 years from the date of the original classification decision.

(iii) The original classification authority may assign an exemption designation to the information only if the information qualifies for exemption from automatic declassification as described in section 1.6(d) of the Order. Unless declassified earlier, such information contained in records deter-

mined by the Archivist of the United States to be permanently valuable shall remain classified for 25 years from the date of its origin, at which time it will be subject to section 3.4 of the Order.

(2) *Extending duration of classification for information originally classified under the Order.* Extensions of classification are not automatic. If an original classification authority with jurisdiction over the information does not extend the classification of information assigned a date or event for declassification, the information is automatically declassified upon the occurrence of the date or event. If an original classification authority has assigned a date or event for declassification that is 10 years or less from the date of classification, an original classification authority with jurisdiction over the information may extend the classification duration of such information for additional periods not to exceed 10 years at a time.

(i) For information in records determined to have permanent historical value, successive extensions may not exceed a total of 25 years from the date of the information's origin. Continued classification of this information beyond 25 years is governed by section 3.4 of the Order.

(ii) For information in records not determined to have permanent historical value, successive extensions may exceed 25 years from the date of the information's origin.

(3) *Conditions for extending classification.* When extending the duration of classification, the original classification authority must:

(i) Be an original classification authority with jurisdiction over the information;

(ii) Ensure that the information continues to meet the standards for classification under the Order; and

(iii) Make reasonable attempts to notify all known holders of the information.

(b) *Information classified under prior orders—(1) Specific date or event.* Unless declassified earlier, information marked with a specific date or event for declassification under a prior order is automatically declassified upon that

date or event. However, if the information is contained in records determined by the Archivist of the United States to be permanently valuable, and the prescribed date or event will take place more than 25 years from the information's origin, the declassification of the information will instead be subject to section 3.4 of the Order.

(2) *Indefinite duration of classification.* For information marked "Originating Agency's Determination Required," its acronym "OADR," or with some other marking indicating an indefinite duration of classification under a prior order:

(i) A declassification authority, as defined in section 3.1 of the Order, may declassify it;

(ii) An authorized original classification authority with jurisdiction over the information may re-mark the information to establish a duration of classification consistent with the requirements for information originally classified under the Order, as provided in paragraph (a) of this section; or

(iii) Unless declassified earlier, such information contained in records determined by the Archivist of the United States to be permanently valuable shall remain classified for 25 years from the date of its origin, at which time it will be subject to section 3.4 of the Order.

(c) *Foreign government information.* The declassifying agency is the agency that initially received or classified the information. When foreign government information is being considered for declassification or appears to be subject to automatic declassification, the declassifying agency shall determine whether the information is subject to a treaty or international agreement that would prevent its declassification at that time. Depending on the age of the information and whether it is contained in permanently valuable records, the declassifying agency shall also determine if another exemption under section 1.6(d) (other than section 1.6(d)(5)) or 3.4(b) of the Order, such as the exemptions that pertain to United States foreign relations, may apply to the information. If the declassifying agency believes such an exemption may apply, it should consult with any other concerned agencies in making its

declassification determination. The declassifying agency or the Department of State, as appropriate, should consult with the foreign government prior to declassification.

(d) *Determining when information is subject to automatic declassification.* The "date of the information's origin" or "the information's origin," as used in the Order and this part, pertains to the date that specific information, which is contemporaneously or subsequently classified, is first recorded in an agency's records, or in presidential historical materials, presidential records or donated historical materials. The following examples illustrate this process:

*Example 1.* An agency first issues a classification guide on the F-99 aircraft on October 20, 1995. The guide states that the fact that the F-99 aircraft has a maximum velocity of 500 m.p.h. shall be classified at the "Secret" level for a period of ten years. A document dated July 10, 1999, is classified because it includes the maximum velocity of the F-99. The document should be marked for declassification on October 20, 2005, ten years after the specific information was first recorded in the guide, not on July 10, 2009, ten years after the derivatively classified document was created.

*Example 2.* An agency classification guide issued on October 20, 1995, states that the maximum velocity of any fighter aircraft shall be classified at the "Secret" level for a period of ten years. The agency first records the specific maximum velocity of the new F-88 aircraft on July 10, 1999. The document should be marked for declassification on July 10, 2009, ten years after the specific information is first recorded, and not on October 20, 2005, ten years after the date of the guide's generic instruction.

#### **§ 2001.13 Classification challenges [1.9].**

(a) *Challenging classification.* Authorized holders wishing to challenge the classification status of information shall present such challenges to an original classification authority with jurisdiction over the information. An authorized holder is any individual, including an individual external to the agency, who has been granted access to specific classified information in accordance with section 4.2(g) of the Order. A formal challenge under this provision must be in writing, but need not be any more specific than to question why information is or is not classified, or is classified at a certain level.