

will be forwarded to the IDA with the command's recommendation to deny a request in whole or in part.

INITIAL DETERMINATIONS

§ 518.58 Initial denial authority.

(a) Components shall limit the number of IDAs appointed. In designating its IDAs, a DoD Component shall balance the goals of centralization of authority to promote uniform decisions and decentralization to facilitate responding to each request within the time limitations of the FOIA. The DA officials in paragraph (d) of this section are designated as the Army's only IDAs. Only an IDA, his or her delegate, or the Secretary of the Army can deny FOIA requests for DA records. Each IDA will act on direct and referred requests for records within his or her area of functional responsibility. (See the proper AR in the 10-series for full discussions of these areas; they are outlined in paragraph (d) of this section.) Included are records created or kept within the IDA's area of responsibility; records retired by, or referred to, the IDA's headquarters or office; and records of predecessor organizations. If a request involves the areas of more than one IDA, the IDA to whom the request was originally addressed will normally respond to it; however, the affected IDAs may consult on such requests and agree on responsibility for them. IDAs will complete all required coordination at initial denial level. This includes classified records retired to the National Archives and Records Administration when a mandatory declassification review is necessary.

(b) The initial determination of whether to make a record available or grant a fee waiver upon request may be made by any suitable official designated by the DoD Component in published regulations. The presence of the marking "For Official Use Only" does not relieve the designated official of the responsibility to review the requested record for the purpose of determining whether an exemption under this Regulation is applicable and should be invoked. DAs may delegate all or part of their authority to an office chief or subordinate commander. Such delegations must not slow FOIA

actions. If an IDA's delegate denies a FOIA or fee waiver request, the delegate must clearly state that he or she is acting for the IDA and identify the IDA by name and position in the written response to the requester. IDAs will send the names, offices, and telephone numbers of their delegates to the Director of Information Systems for Command, Control, Communications, and Computers. IDAs will keep this information current. (The mailing address is HQDA (SAIS-PS), WASH DC 20310-0107.

(c) The officials designated by DoD Components to make initial determinations should consult with public affairs officers (PAOs) to become familiar with subject matter that is considered to be newsworthy, and advise PAOs of all requests from news media representatives. In addition, the officials should inform PAOs in advance when they intend to withhold or partially withhold a record, if it appears that the withholding action may be challenged in the media. A FOIA release or denial action, appeal, or court review may generate public or press interest. In such case, the IDA (or delegate) should consult the Chief of Public Affairs or the command or organization PAO. The IDA should inform the PAO contacted of the issue and obtain advice and recommendations on handling its public affairs aspect. Any advice or recommendations requested or obtained should be limited to this aspect. Coordination must be completed within the 10-day FOIA response limit. (The point of contact for the Army Chief of Public Affairs is HQDA (SAPA-OSR), WASH DC 20310-1500; telephone, AUTOVON 227-4122 or commercial (202) 697-4122.) If the request involves actual or potential litigation against the United States, release must be coordinated with The Judge Advocate General. (See § 518.54(e).)

(d) The following officials are designated IDAs for the areas of responsibility outlined below:

(1) The Administrative Assistant to the Secretary of the Army is authorized to act for the Secretary of the Army on requests for all records maintained by the Office of the Secretary of the Army and its serviced activities, except those specified in paragraphs

(d)(2) through (d)(6) of this section, as well as requests requiring the personal attention of the Secretary of the Army.

(2) The Assistant Secretary of the Army (Financial Management) is authorized to act on requests for finance and accounting records.

(3) The Assistant Secretary of the Army (Research, Development, and Acquisition) is authorized to act on requests for procurement records other than those under the purview of the Chief of Engineers and the Commander, U.S. Army Materiel Command.

(4) The Director of Information Systems for Command, Control, Communications, and Computers (DISC4) is authorized to act on requests for records pertaining to the Army Information Resources Management Program (automation, telecommunications, visual information, records management, publications and printing, and libraries).

(5) The Inspector General is authorized to act on requests for all Inspector General records under AR 20-1.

(6) The Auditor General is authorized to act on requests for records relating to audits done by the U.S. Army Audit Agency under AR 10-2. This includes requests for related records developed by the Audit agency.

(7) The Deputy Chief of Staff for Operations and Plans is authorized to act on requests for records relating to strategy formulation; force development; individual and unit training policy; strategic and tactical command and control systems; nuclear and chemical matters; use of DA forces; and military police records and reports, prisoner confinement, and correctional records.

(8) The Deputy Chief of Staff for Personnel is authorized to act on requests for case summaries, letters of instruction to boards, behavioral science records, general education records, and alcohol and drug prevention and control records. Excluded are individual treatment/test records, which are a responsibility of The Surgeon General.

(9) The Deputy Chief of Staff for Logistics is authorized to act on requests for records relating to DA logistical requirements and determinations, policy concerning materiel maintenance and

use, equipment standards, and logistical readiness.

(10) The Chief of Engineers is authorized to act on requests for records involving civil works, military construction, engineer procurement, and ecology; and the records of the U.S. Army Engineer divisions, districts, laboratories, and field operating agencies.

(11) The Surgeon General is authorized to act on requests for medical research and development records, and the medical records of active duty military personnel, dependents, and persons given physical examination or treatment at DA medical facilities, to include alcohol and drug treatment/test records.

(12) The Chief of Chaplains is authorized to act on requests for records involving ecclesiastical relationships, rites performed by DA chaplains, and nonprivileged communications relating to clergy and active duty chaplains' military personnel files.

(13) The Judge Advocate General (TJAG) is authorized to act on requests for records relating to claims, courts-martial, legal services, and similar legal records. TJAG is also authorized to act on requests for records described elsewhere in this regulation, if those records relate to litigation in which the United States has an interest. In addition, TJAG is authorized to act on requests for records that are not within the functional areas of responsibility of any other IDA.

(14) The Chief, National Guard Bureau, is authorized to act on requests for all personnel and medical records of retired, separated, discharged, deceased, and active Army National Guard military personnel, including technician personnel, unless such records clearly fall within another IDA's responsibility. This authority includes, but is not limited to, National Guard organization and training files; plans, operations, and readiness files; policy files; historical files; files relating to National Guard military support, drug interdiction, and civil disturbances; construction, civil works, and ecology records dealing with armories, facilities within the States, ranges, etc.; Equal Opportunity investigative records; aviation program records and financial records dealing

with personnel, operation and maintenance, and equipment budgets.

(15) The Chief of Army Reserve is authorized to act on requests for all personnel and medical records of retired, separated, discharged, deceased, and reserve component military personnel, and all U.S. Army Reserve (USAR) records, unless such records clearly fall within another IDA's responsibility. Records under the responsibility of the Chief of Army Reserve include records relating to USAR plans, policies, and operations; changes in the organizational status of USAR units; mobilization and demobilization policies; active duty tours; and the Individual Mobilization Augmentation program.

(16) The Commander, United States Army Materiel Command (AMC) is authorized to act on requests for the records of AMC headquarters and its subordinate commands, units, and activities that relate to procurement, logistics, research and development, and supply and maintenance operations.

(17) The Commander, USACIDC, is authorized to act on requests for criminal investigative records of USACIDC headquarters and its subordinate activities. This includes criminal investigation records, investigation-in-progress records, and military police reports that result in criminal investigation reports.

(18) The Commander, United States Total Army Personnel Command, is authorized to act on requests for military personnel files relating to active duty (other than those of reserve and retired personnel) military personnel matters, personnel locator, physical disability determinations, and other military personnel administration records; records relating to military casualty and memorialization activities; heraldic activities; voting; records relating to identification cards; naturalization and citizenship; commercial solicitation; Military Postal Service Agency and Army postal and unofficial mail service; civilian personnel records and other civilian personnel matters; and personnel administration records.

(19) The Commander, United States Army Community and Family Support Center, is authorized to act on requests for records relating to morale, welfare, and recreation activities; non-

appropriated funds; child development centers, community life programs, and family action programs; retired activities; club management; Army emergency relief; consumer protection; retiree survival benefits; and records dealing with DA relationships with Social Security, Veterans' Affairs, United Service Organization, U.S. Soldiers' and Airmen's Home, and American Red Cross.

(20) The Commander, United States Army Intelligence and Security Command, is authorized to act on requests for intelligence investigation and security records, foreign scientific and technological information, intelligence training, mapping and geodesy information, ground surveillance records, intelligence threat assessment, and missile intelligence data relating to tactical land warfare systems.

(21) The Commander, U.S. Army Safety Center, is authorized to act on requests for Army safety records.

(22) The General Counsel, Army and Air Force Exchange Service (AAFES), is authorized to act on requests for AAFES records, under AR 60-20/AFR 147-14.

(23) The Commander, Forces Command (FORSCOM), as a specified commander, is authorized to act on requests for specified command records that are unique to FORSCOM under § 518.29.

(24) Special IDA authority for time-event related records may be designated on a case-by-case basis. These will be published in the FEDERAL REGISTER. Current information on special delegations may be obtained from the Office of the Director of Information Systems for Command, Control, Communications, and Computers, Attn: SAIS-PSP, WASH DC 20310-0107.

§ 518.59 Reasons for not releasing a record.

There are seven reasons for not complying with a request for a record:

(a) The request is transferred to another DoD Component, or to another federal agency.

(b) The DoD Component determines through knowledge of its files and reasonable search efforts that it neither controls nor otherwise possesses the requested record.