§ 215.5 Access to requested information by individuals.

(a) Upon receipt of a request by an individual made in accordance with the provisions of §215.3, such individual shall be granted access to any record pertaining to him or her which is contained in a system of records maintained by the Agency subject to exemptions discussed in §§215.13 and 215.14.

(b) Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph (a) of this section, access will not be allowed an individual to information or records compiled by the Agency in reasonable anticipation of a civil or criminal action or proceeding.

(c) Whenever possible, access to requested records will be granted;

(1) Where the request is presented in person and the record is readily available, promptly upon receipt of the request for access, determination that access to the record may be granted, verification of the identity of the individual requesting such information in person shall provide such personal identification as is reasonable under the circumstances to verify the individual’s identity; e.g. driver’s license, employee identification card or medicare card. (The identification should contain a photograph of the individual.)

(2) Where the request is made by mail, the record will, whenever possible, be provided within ten (10) working days of receipt of the request.

(d) Where access to a record cannot reasonably be granted as provided in paragraphs (c)(1) and (2) of this section, the Agency will acknowledge in writing receipt of the request for access and indicate a reasonable time within which access to the record can be granted.

(e) Verification of identity as set forth in paragraphs (c) and (d) of this section shall not be required of individuals seeking access to records otherwise available to members of the public under the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. 552; 88 Stat. 1561).

(f) An individual who wishes to be accompanied by another person when reviewing a record shall furnish the Agency with a written statement authorizing discussion of his or her record in the presence of the accompanying person. Such statement need not contain any reasons for the access or for the accompanying person’s presence.