§ 1901.04 Suggestions and complaints.

The Agency welcomes suggestions or complaints with regard to its administration of the Privacy Act. Many requesters will receive pre-paid, customer satisfaction survey cards. Letters of suggestion or complaint should identify the specific purpose and the issues for consideration. The Agency will respond to all substantive communications and take such actions as determined feasible and appropriate.

FILING OF PRIVACY ACT REQUESTS

§ 1901.11 Preliminary information.

Members of the public shall address all communications to the contact specified at §1901.03 and clearly delineate the communication as a request under the Privacy Act and this regulation. Requests and administrative appeals on requests, referrals, and coordinations received from members of the public who owe outstanding fees for information services at this or other federal agencies will not be accepted and action on existing requests and appeals will be terminated in such circumstances.

§ 1901.12 Requirements as to form.

(a) In general. No particular form is required. All requests must contain the identification information required at §1901.13.

(b) For access. For requests seeking access, a requester should, to the extent possible, describe the nature of the record sought and the record system(s) in which it is thought to be included. Requesters may find assistance from information described in the Privacy Act Issuances Compilation which is published biannually by the Federal Register. In lieu of this, a requester may simply describe why and under what circumstances it is believed that this Agency maintains responsive records; the Agency will undertake the appropriate searches.

(c) For amendment. For requests seeking amendment, a requester should identify the particular record or portion subject to the request, state a justification for such amendment, and provide the desired amending language.

§ 1901.13 Requirements as to identification of requester.

(a) In general. Individuals seeking access to or amendment of records concerning themselves shall provide their full (legal) name, address, date and place of birth, and current citizenship status together with a statement that such information is true under penalty of perjury or a notarized statement swearing to or affirming identity. If the Agency determines that this information is not sufficient, the Agency may request additional or clarifying information.

(b) Requirement for aliens. Only aliens lawfully admitted for permanent residence (PRAs) may file a request pursuant to the Privacy Act and this part. Such individuals shall provide, in addition to the information required under paragraph (a) of this section, their Alien Registration Number and the date that status was acquired.

(c) Requirement for representatives. The parent or guardian of a minor individual, the guardian of an individual under judicial disability, or an attorney retained to represent an individual shall provide, in addition to establishing the identity of the minor or individual represented as required in paragraph (a) or (b) of this section, evidence of such representation by submission of a certified copy of the minor’s birth certificate, court order, or representational agreement which establishes the relationship and the requester’s identity.

(d) Procedure otherwise. If a requester or representative fails to provide the information in paragraph (a), (b), or (c) of this section within forty-five (45) days of the date of our request, the Agency will deem the request closed. This action, of course, would not prevent an individual from refileing his or her Privacy Act request at a subsequent date with the required information.

§ 1901.14 Fees.

No fees will be charged for any action under the authority of the Privacy Act, 5 U.S.C. 552a, irrespective of the fact
that a request is or may be processed under the authority of both the Privacy Act and the Freedom of Information Act.

ACTION ON PRIVACY ACT REQUESTS

§ 1901.21 Processing requests for access to or amendment of records.

(a) In general. Requests meeting the requirements of 32 CFR 1901.11 through 1901.13 shall be processed under both the Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. 552, and the Privacy Act, 5 U.S.C. 552a, and the applicable regulations, unless the requester demands otherwise in writing. Such requests will be processed under both Acts regardless of whether the requester cites one Act in the request, both, or neither. This action is taken in order to ensure the maximum possible disclosure to the requester.

(b) Receipt, recording and tasking. Upon receipt of a request meeting the requirements of §§ 1901.11 through 1901.13, the Agency shall within ten (10) days record each request, acknowledge receipt to the requester, and thereafter effect the necessary taskings to the components reasonably believed to hold responsive records.

(c) Effect of certain exemptions. In processing a request, the Agency shall decline to confirm or deny the existence or nonexistence of any responsive records whenever the fact of their existence or nonexistence is itself classified under Executive Order 12958 or revealing of intelligence sources and methods protected pursuant to section 103(c)(5) of the National Security Act of 1947. In such circumstances, the Agency, in the form of a final written response, shall so inform the requester and advise of his or her right to an administrative appeal.

(d) Time for response. Although the Privacy Act does not mandate a time for response, our joint treatment of requests under both the Privacy Act and the FOIA means that the Agency should provide a response within the FOIA statutory guideline of ten (10) days on initial requests and twenty (20) days on administrative appeals. However, the current volume of requests require that the Agency often seek additional time from a requester pursuant to 32 CFR 1901.33. In such event, the Agency will inform the requester in writing and further advise of his or her right to file an administrative appeal.

§ 1901.22 Action and determination(s) by originator(s) or any interested party.

(a) Initial action for access. CIA components tasked pursuant to a Privacy Act access request shall search all relevant record systems within their cognizance. They shall:
   (1) Determine whether responsive records exist;
   (2) Determine whether access must be denied in whole or part and on what legal basis under both Acts in each such case;
   (3) Approve the disclosure of records for which they are the originator; and
   (4) Forward to the Coordinator all records approved for release or necessary for coordination with or referral to another originator or interested party as well as the specific determinations with respect to denials (if any).

(b) Initial action for amendment. CIA components tasked pursuant to a Privacy Act amendment request shall review the official records alleged to be inaccurate and the proposed amendment submitted by the requester. If they determine that the Agency’s records are not accurate, relevant, 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.