**Subpart A—General Provisions**

§ 2008.1 References.


§ 2008.2 Purpose.

The purpose of this regulation is to ensure, consistent with the authorities listed in section 1–1 of Executive Order 12065, that national security information originated or held by the Office of the Special Representative for Trade Negotiations is protected but only to the extent, and for the period, necessary to safeguard the national security.

§ 2008.3 Applicability.

This regulation governs the Office of the Special Representative for Trade Negotiations. In consonance with the authorities listed in section 1–1, it establishes the general policy and certain procedures for the security classification, downgrading, declassification, and safeguarding of information that is owned by, is produced for or by, or is under the control of the Office of the Special Representative for Trade Negotiations.

**Subpart B—Classification**

§ 2008.4 Basic policy.

It is the policy of the Office of the Special Representative for Trade Negotiations to make available to the public as much information concerning its activities as is possible, consistent with its responsibility to protect the national security.

§ 2008.5 Level of original classification.

Unnecessary classification, and classification at a level higher than is necessary, shall be avoided. If there is reasonable doubt as to which designation in section 1–1 of Executive Order 12065 is appropriate, or whether information should be classified at all, the less restrictive designation should be used, or the information should not be classified.

§ 2008.6 Duration of original classification.

(a) Except as permitted below, in paragraphs (b) and (c) of this section, information or material which is classified after December 1, 1978, shall be marked at the declassification no more than six years following its original classification.

(b) Original classification may be extended beyond six years only by officials with Top Secret classification authority and agency heads listed in section 1–2 of the order. This extension authority shall be used only when these officials determine that the basis for original classification will continue throughout the entire period that the classification will be in effect and only for the following reasons:

(1) The information is “foreign government information” as defined by the authorities in section 1.1;

(2) The information reveals intelligence sources and methods;

(3) The information pertains to communications security;