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EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

Privacy and Civil Liberties Oversight Board

6 CFR Chapter X

[Docket No. 0311-AA00]

Removal of 6 CFR Chapter X

AGENCY: Privacy and Civil Liberties Oversight Board, the White House.

ACTION: Removal of Regulations.

SUMMARY: The Privacy and Civil Liberties Oversight Board (PCLOB), the White House, is removing its Freedom of Information Act regulations currently published at 6 CFR Chapter X. This action is being taken because, pursuant to provisions of the Implementing Recommendations of the 9/11 Commission Act of 2007 (Pub. L. 110-53), PCLOB as it is currently constituted will be abolished no later than January 30, 2008 and replaced with a new independent agency within the Executive Branch. This new independent agency will be responsible for promulgating its own regulations.

EFFECTIVE DATE: January 30, 2008.

ADDRESSES: Privacy and Civil Liberties Oversight Board, The White House, Washington, DC 20502, (202) 456-1240. Mail security procedures may delay the delivery of mail. The fax number is: (202) 456-1066.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mark A. Robbins, (202) 456-1065.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Prevention Act (IRTPA) of 2004, Pub. L. 108-458 (IRTPA), established the PCLOB, at the recommendation of the 9/11 Commission. PCLOB is presently part of the White House Office and operates within the Executive Office of the President. It has a general responsibility to ensure that privacy and

civil liberties are appropriately considered as part of the development and implementation of policies and programs designed to protect the Nation against terrorism. IRTPA subjected the Board to the Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. 552 (FOIA). IRTPA § 1061(i)(2). PCLOB promulgated regulations to implement FOIA which were published as interim final regulations in the **Federal Register** on April 10, 2007.

On August 3, 2007, the President signed into law the Implementing Recommendations of the 9/11 Commission Act of 2007 (Pub. L. 110-53). Among other things, this law abolishes the present Board no later than January 30, 2008 and replaces it with a new independent agency within the Executive Branch. This new entity will promulgate its own regulations consistent with its responsibilities.

Upon closure, the records of the present PCLOB will be transferred to the National Archives and Records Administration pursuant to the Federal Records Act (44 U.S.C. 3101) and will be available to interested members of the public consistent with the provisions of FOIA.

List of Subjects in 6 CFR Chapter X

Freedom of Information Act Procedures.

■ Accordingly, by the authority of the Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Prevention Act (IRTPA) of 2004, Pub. L. 108-458, the Privacy and Civil Liberties Oversight Board is removing 6 CFR Chapter X, in its entirety.

Mark A. Robbins,

Executive Director, Privacy and Civil Liberties Oversight Board.

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Office of the Secretary

7 CFR Part 1

Official Records, Authentication

AGENCY: Office of the Secretary, USDA.

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: This final rule amends Department of Agriculture (USDA) regulations on the procedures that

USDA agencies follow upon receipt of a request for an authenticated copy of an agency document. Specifically, this rule authorizes the Inspector General to authenticate copies of documents in the records of the Office of Inspector General (OIG).

DATES: Effective November 27, 2007.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. David R. Gray, Counsel to the Inspector General, Office of Inspector General, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Room 441-E, Washington, DC 20250-2308, Telephone: (202) 720-9110, Facsimile: (202) 690-1528, e-mail: dry@oig.usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: 7 CFR 1.22 provides that when a USDA agency receives a request for an authenticated copy of an agency document, the agency will send a correct copy to the Office of the General Counsel (OGC). If appropriate, OGC will authenticate the document by certifying that the copy is correct and affixing the USDA seal on the document. The regulation makes an exception for two offices within USDA: (1) The Hearing Clerk in the Office of Administrative Law Judges (OALJ) may authenticate copies of documents in the records of the Hearing Clerk; and (2) the Director of the National Appeals Division (NAD) may authenticate copies of documents in the records of the NAD.

This amendment provides that the Inspector General may authenticate copies of documents in the records of OIG.

Pursuant to section 2 of the Inspector General Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App. 3), Congress established Offices of Inspectors General to serve as independent and objective units within Government departments and agencies that would promote economy, efficiency, and effectiveness in the administration of, and prevent and detect fraud and abuse in, the programs and operations of such departments and agencies. Toward that end, the USDA-OIG conducts investigations, audits, inspections, and reviews related to USDA programs and operations, and prepares reports and other documents setting forth the results of such investigations, audits, inspections, and reviews.

OIG controls the distribution and release of its documents in response to requests pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. 552) and the