

processing, maintenance, use, sharing, dissemination, or disposition of information, whether automated or manual.

(14) INTEGRITY.—The term “integrity” means guarding against improper information modification or destruction, and includes ensuring information non-repudiation and authenticity.

(15) NATIONAL SECURITY SYSTEM.—The term “national security system” means an information system that is protected at all times by policies and procedures established for the processing, maintenance, use, sharing, dissemination or disposition of information that has been specifically authorized under criteria established by statute or Executive Order to be kept classified in the interest of national defense or foreign policy.

(16) PLAN OF ACTION AND MILESTONES.—The term “plan of action and milestones”, means a plan used as a basis for the quarterly reporting requirements of the Office of Management and Budget that includes the following information:

- (A) A description of the security weakness.
- (B) The identity of the office or organization responsible for resolving the weakness.
- (C) An estimate of resources required to resolve the weakness by fiscal year.
- (D) The scheduled completion date.
- (E) Key milestones with estimated completion dates.
- (F) Any changes to the original key milestone date.
- (G) The source that identified the weakness.
- (H) The status of efforts to correct the weakness.

(17) PRINCIPAL CREDIT REPORTING AGENCY.—The term “principal credit reporting agency” means a consumer reporting agency as described in section 603(p) of the Fair Credit Reporting Act (15 U.S.C. 1681a(p)).

(18) SECURITY INCIDENT.—The term “security incident” means an event that has, or could have, resulted in loss or damage to Department assets, or sensitive information, or an action that breaches Department security procedures.

(19) SENSITIVE PERSONAL INFORMATION.—The term “sensitive personal information”, with respect to an individual, means any information about the individual maintained by an agency, including the following:

- (A) Education, financial transactions, medical history, and criminal or employment history.
- (B) Information that can be used to distinguish or trace the individual's identity, including name, social security number, date and place of birth, mother's maiden name, or biometric records.

(20) SUBORDINATE PLAN.—The term “subordinate plan”, also referred to as a “system security plan”, means a plan that defines the security controls that are either planned or implemented for networks, facilities, systems, or groups of systems, as appropriate, within a specific accreditation boundary.

(21) TRAINING.—The term “training” means a learning experience in which an individual is

taught to execute a specific information security procedure or understand the information security common body of knowledge.

(22) VA NATIONAL RULES OF BEHAVIOR.—The term “VA National Rules of Behavior” means a set of Department rules that describes the responsibilities and expected behavior of personnel with regard to information system usage.

(23) VA SENSITIVE DATA.—The term “VA sensitive data” means all Department data, on any storage media or in any form or format, which requires protection due to the risk of harm that could result from inadvertent or deliberate disclosure, alteration, or destruction of the information and includes information whose improper use or disclosure could adversely affect the ability of an agency to accomplish its mission, proprietary information, and records about individuals requiring protection under applicable confidentiality provisions.

(Added Pub. L. 109-461, title IX, §902(a), Dec. 22, 2006, 120 Stat. 3457; amended Pub. L. 111-275, title X, §1001(m)(2), Oct. 13, 2010, 124 Stat. 2897.)

Editorial Notes

AMENDMENTS

2010—Par. (20). Pub. L. 111-275 substituted “plan that defines” for “subordinate plan defines”.

§ 5728. Authorization of appropriations

There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this subchapter such sums as may be necessary for each fiscal year.

(Added Pub. L. 109-461, title IX, §902(a), Dec. 22, 2006, 120 Stat. 3460.)

CHAPTER 59—AGENTS AND ATTORNEYS

Sec.	
5901.	Prohibition against acting as claims agent or attorney.
5902.	Recognition of representatives of organizations.
5903.	Recognition with respect to particular claims.
5904.	Recognition of agents and attorneys generally.
5905.	Penalty for certain acts.
5906.	Availability of legal assistance at Department facilities.

Editorial Notes

AMENDMENTS

2021—Pub. L. 116-283, div. A, title V, §548(a)(2), Jan. 1, 2021, 134 Stat. 3618, added item 5906.

1991—Pub. L. 102-40, title IV, §402(c)(1), May 7, 1991, 105 Stat. 239, renumbered items 3401 to 3405 as 5901 to 5905, respectively.

§ 5901. Prohibition against acting as claims agent or attorney

(a) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided by section 500 of title 5, no individual may act as an agent or attorney in the preparation, presentation, or prosecution of any claim under laws administered by the Secretary unless such individual has been recognized for such purposes by the Secretary.