

# **U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE**

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT ANNUAL REPORT FISCAL YEAR 2020

#### I. BASIC INFORMATION REGARDING REPORT

1. Questions about this report may be addressed to:

Eric F. Stein Director, Office of Information Programs and Services A/GIS/IPS 2201 C Street N.W., Suite B-266 U.S. Department of State Washington, D.C. 20520-0000

Telephone: (202) 261-8484 Fax: (202) 485-1669

- 2. This report is available on the Department's web site at https://foia.state.gov.
- 3. Paper copies of this report may be requested by contacting A/GIS/IPS at the above address.

#### II. MAKING A FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT (FOIA) REQUEST

- 1. FOIA requests to the Department must be in writing. Requests may be submitted in any of the following ways to the Office of Information Programs and Services (IPS):
  - Mail to: Office of Information Programs and Services, A/GIS/IPS, 2201 C Street N.W., Suite B-266, Department of State, Washington, D.C. 20520-0000; or
  - Fax to (202) 485-1669; or
  - Email to <a href="mailto:foiarequest@state.gov">foiarequest@state.gov</a>; or
  - On-line at the Department's website: <u>https://foia.state.gov</u>

FOIA requests must reasonably describe the Department record(s) that the requester seeks in sufficient detail to enable agency personnel to locate them with a reasonable amount of effort. To the extent possible, requesters should include specific information that may assist the Department in identifying the requested record(s), such as the date, title or name, author, recipient, subject matter, case number, file designation reference number, or timeframe. Requests seeking access to information pertaining to an individual should include the individual's full name, date and place of birth, and citizenship status (if known). A request for records about oneself must include verification of identity with properly executed authorization from the subject individual or evidence of the individual's death, as appropriate, in order to gain the broadest access to those records. More information about verification of identity and proper authorization may be found on the Department's FOIA website. If such documentation cannot be provided, the request should indicate that fact.

The request should also indicate the requester's willingness to pay applicable fees or provide appropriate justification to support a fee waiver. Guidance regarding fees and fee waiver requests is also available on the Department's website.

If mailing or faxing a FOIA request, the envelope or subject line of the fax coversheet should be clearly labeled: "Freedom of Information Act Request." It is important that all requests include a valid daytime telephone number, e-mail address, or both, where the Department can reach the requester to discuss the request as necessary.

Requests may also be made on-line at the Department's FOIA website (<u>https://foia.state.gov</u>). This site contains an electronic request tool and helpful tips to assist requesters in formulating their requests.

The Department can only process requests that comply with its published regulations. The Department is unable to process requests that do not contain enough information to permit the Department to locate the requested records or that otherwise do not comply with Department regulations. If after receiving a request the Department determines that the request does not reasonably describe the records sought, the Department will inform the requester that the request is insufficient and may ask for additional information. If a request does not reasonably describe the records sought, the agency's response to the request may be delayed.

If the Department makes an adverse determination denying a request in any respect, it will notify the requester of that determination in writing. Adverse determinations, or denials of requests, include decisions that: the requested record is exempt from disclosure, in whole or in part; the request does not reasonably describe the records sought; the information requested is not a record subject to the FOIA; the requested record does not exist, cannot be located, or has been destroyed; or the requested record is not readily reproducible in the form or format sought by the requester. Adverse determinations also include denials involving fees or fee waiver matters or denials of requests for expedited processing.

If information is withheld, the requester will be notified of the approximate amount of information withheld, the basis for the withholding, and how to file an administrative appeal. For more information about filing an appeal, please visit the Department's website at <a href="https://foia.state.gov">https://foia.state.gov</a>. You may also contact the Department's FOIA office by calling (202) 261-8484, or writing to the following address:

Office of Information Programs and Services A/GIS/IPS 2201 C Street N.W., Suite B-266 Department of State Washington, D.C. 20520-0000 The Office of Inspector General (OIG) is a separate component within the Department of State. The OIG directly responds to requests for records that are exclusively OIG-related, such as those related to OIG inspections, audits, or investigations.

FOIA requests for OIG records must be made in writing by mail, fax, or e-mail as follows:

FOIA Officer Office of General Counsel Office of Inspector General U.S. Department of State 1700 North Moore Street Suite 1400 Arlington, VA 22209

Fax: (703) 284-1866 Phone: (571) 348-3815 E-mail: <u>foia@stateoig.gov</u> Website: <u>https://www.stateoig.gov/foia</u>

- 2. The Department of State is responsible for formulating and executing U.S. foreign policy and U.S. foreign relations. Records are maintained domestically and throughout the world at posts, missions, embassies, and consulates. The Department also maintains records of applications from U.S. citizens for U.S. passports, visa requests from non-citizens, and records of its own employees, as well as other types of records. Because of the nature and scope of its records holdings, including classified and other sensitive material, the Department conducts a rigorous review to determine whether any information must be withheld under one of the nine FOIA exemptions. In implementing the Department's mission, the Department works closely with many other federal agencies and international partners. For this reason, the Department often must consult with other, and at times multiple, federal agencies and foreign governments that have an interest in the records, which adds time and complexity to the FOIA process. The exemptions most often relied upon by the Department to withhold information are shown in Table V.B.(3). In addition, the Department receives a large volume of FOIA referrals from other agencies, which also contributes to its FOIA processing workload.
- The Department's FOIA regulations are codified at 22 C.F.R. Part 171. These
  regulations are available through the Government Printing Office's (GPO) website at
  <u>https://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/ECFR?page=browse</u> or on the Department's website at
  <u>http://www.foia.state.gov</u>. The most recent fee schedule is found in the Information
  Access Guide at <u>https://www.foia.state.gov/Request/Guide.aspx.</u>

#### **III.** ABBREVIATIONS, DEFINITIONS, AND EXEMPTIONS

- 1. Agency-Specific Abbreviations and Basic Terms:
  - a. **A/GIS/IPS** Bureau of Administration (A), Global Information Services (GIS), Office of Information Programs and Services (IPS).
  - b. Consulate A type of Post; a Consulate is the office and staff of a Consul, who is a diplomatic representative of the U.S. Government, subordinate to the Ambassador, operating from a facility located within a major city of a foreign country.
  - c. **Embassy** A type of Post; an Embassy is the office and staff of the Ambassador, who is the principal diplomatic representative of the U.S. Government, holding Chief of Mission (COM) authority, typically operating from a facility located within the capital city of a foreign country.
  - d. Mission A Mission is a U.S. Government organization; an embassy, legation, or other organization established and maintained to: 1) conduct bilateral relations between the U.S. Government and another government or authority, or multilateral relations with a group of governments or an international organization, or 2) represent the U.S. Government in negotiations and other diplomatic initiatives that are of specific limited scope or objectives and that have other sovereignties or authorities as parties. The U.S. mission is an integrated structure, headed by a Chief of Mission or equivalent authority.
  - e. **Post** A type of Department of State organization; a Post is any Foreign Service diplomatic or consular establishment, or else an establishment having a special designation, maintained in support of a U.S. Mission. It is further designated by a Post type such as Embassy, Consulate, Branch Office, etc., for diplomatic or consular posts, or as a Specially Designated Post for an establishment that has a special purpose that is not primarily diplomatic or consular.
  - f. **OIG** Office of Inspector General.
- 2. Definitions of terms used in this report:
  - a. Administrative Appeal a request to a federal agency asking that it review at a higher administrative level a FOIA determination made by the agency at the initial request level.
  - b. Average Number the number obtained by dividing the sum of a group of numbers by the quantity of numbers in the group. For example, the average of 3, 7, and 14 is 8.

- c. **Backlog** the number of perfected requests or administrative appeals that are pending at an agency at the end of the fiscal year that are beyond the statutory time period for a response.
- d. Component for agencies that process requests on a decentralized basis, a "component" is an entity, also sometimes referred to as an Office, Division, Post, Bureau, Center, or Directorate, within the agency that processes FOIA requests. The FOIA requires that agencies include in their FOIA Annual Report data for both the agency overall and for each principal component of the agency.
- e. **Consultation** the procedure whereby the agency responding to a FOIA request forwards information to another agency for review because the other agency has an interest in the information. When the agency in receipt of the consultation completes its review, it advises the agency that initiated the consultation of its release determination. The initiating agency will then respond to the FOIA requester.
- f. Exemption 3 Statute a federal statute that specifically exempts information from disclosure that an agency relies on to withhold information under Exemption 3 of the FOIA, 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(3), in response to a request. Exemption 3 statutes contain non-discretionary prohibitions against disclosure or establish particular criteria for withholding.
- g. **FOIA Request** an information access request processed under the Freedom of Information Act by the federal agency in receipt of the request. FOIA requests may seek access to records concerning another person (i.e., a "third-party" request), an organization, or a particular topic of interest. FOIA requests also include requests made by individuals seeking records concerning themselves (i.e., "first-party" requests) when those individuals are not subject to the Privacy Act of 1974 (i.e., individuals who are neither U.S. citizens nor lawful permanent residents). Federal agencies process first-party requests submitted by U.S. citizens and lawful permanent residents under both the FOIA and the Privacy Act in order to provide the greatest degree of access to the requested information. Additionally, a FOIA request includes records referred to the agency from another agency for processing and direct response to the requester (see Section V of this report).
- h. **Full Grant** an agency decision to disclose in full all records located in response to a FOIA request.
- i. **Full Denial** an agency decision not to disclose any records in response to a FOIA request because the records are exempt in their entireties under one or more of FOIA's nine exemptions, because the existence or non-existence of records is exempt under one or more of FOIA's nine exemptions, or because of a procedural reason, such as when no records could be located.

- j. **Median Number** the middle, not average, number. For example, the median of 3, 7, and 14 is 7.
- k. **Multi-Track Processing** a system in which requests are placed in different processing tracks based on the complexity of the search and/or review of the responsive material. For example, requests placed in the simple request track are anticipated to require relatively minimal search time to locate responsive records, which will result in a small amount of material to review. The complex request track contains requests that require multiple searches and/or are anticipated to locate more voluminous or complicated responsive records for review. Requests granted expedited processing are placed in a separate track. Requests in each track are processed on a first-in/first-out basis.
  - i. **Expedited Processing** an agency will process a FOIA request on an expedited basis when a requester satisfies the requirements for expedited processing as set forth in the statute and in agency regulations.
  - ii. **Simple Request** a FOIA request that an agency using multi-track processing places in its fastest (non-expedited) track based on the low volume and/or simplicity of the records requested.
  - iii. **Complex Request** a FOIA request that an agency using multi-track processing places in a slower track based on the high volume and/or complexity of the records requested.
- 1. **Partial Grant/Partial Denial** an agency decision to withhold exempt information appearing in a portion or portions of the responsive records in response to a FOIA request, or to otherwise deny a portion of the request for a procedural reason.
- m. **Pending Request or Pending Administrative Appeal** a request or administrative appeal for which an agency has not taken final action in all respects.
- n. **Perfected Request** a request for records that reasonably describes the requested information and is made in accordance with the agency's published regulations.
- o. **Processed Request or Processed Administrative Appeal** a request or administrative appeal for which an agency has taken final action in all respects.
- p. **Range in Number of Days** the lowest and highest number of days to process requests or administrative appeals.
- q. **Referral** the procedure whereby the agency responding to a FOIA request forwards information that originated with another agency to that agency for its

review. When the originating agency completes its review of the referred information, it typically responds directly to the FOIA requester.

- r. **Time Limits** the time period contained in the FOIA within which an agency must respond to a FOIA request (ordinarily twenty working days from the date of receipt of a perfected FOIA request).
- 3. Concise descriptions of the nine FOIA exemptions:
  - a. Exemption 1: classified national defense and foreign relations information
  - b. **Exemption 2**: internal personnel rules and practices of an agency
  - c. **Exemption 3**: information that is specifically exempt from disclosure by another federal law
  - d. **Exemption 4**: trade secrets and other confidential business information
  - e. **Exemption 5**: inter-agency or intra-agency communications that are protected by legal privileges
  - f. **Exemption 6**: information involving matters of personal privacy
  - g. Exemption 7: records or information compiled for law enforcement purposes, to the extent that the production of those records (A) could reasonably be expected to interfere with enforcement proceedings, (B) would deprive a person of a right to a fair trial or an impartial adjudication, (C) could reasonably be expected to constitute an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy, (D) could reasonably be expected to disclose the identity of a confidential source, (E) would disclose techniques and procedures for law enforcement investigations or prosecutions, or would disclose guidelines for law enforcement investigations or prosecutions, or (F) could reasonably be expected to endanger the life or physical safety of any individual
  - h. **Exemption 8**: information relating to the regulation or supervision of financial institutions
  - i. Exemption 9: geological or geophysical information on wells

# 4. Agency Component Abbreviations

Component Abbreviation	Component Name
DOS - Main	Department of State
OIG	Office of Inspector General

#### IV. Exemption 3 Statutes

Statute	Type of Information Withheld	Case Citation	Agency / Component	Number of Times Relied upon by Agency / Component	Total Number of Times Relied upon by Agency Overall
8 U.S.C. § 1202(f) (Immigration and Nationality Act)	Certain records pertaining to the issuance or refusal of visas to enter the United States	Medina-Hincapie v. Dep't of State, 700 F.2d 737, 741-42 (D.C. Cir. 1983); DeLaurentiis v. Haig, 686 F.2d 192, 194 (3d Cir. 1982); Assadi v. Dep't of State, No. 12- 1111, 2014 WL 4704840, at *6-7 (S.D.N.Y. Sept. 19, 2014); Badalamenti v. U.S. Dep't of State, 899 F. Supp. 542, 547 (D. Kan. 1995); Jan-Xin Zang v. FBI, 756 F. Supp. 705, 711-12 (W.D.N.Y. 1991); Smith v. DOJ, No. 81-CV-813, 1983 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 10878, at *13-14 (N.D.N.Y. Dec. 13, 1983).	DOS - Main	3680	3680
10 U.S.C. § 424	Organization or any function of an organization, and certain information pertaining to, employees of the Defense Intelligence Agency, the National Reconnaissance Office, and the National Geospatial Intelligence Agency	Hamdan v. DOJ, 797 F.3d 759, 776 (9th Cir. 2015); Freedom Watch, Inc. v. NSA, 197 F. Supp. 3d 165, 174 (D.D.C. 2016); Wickwire Gavin, P.C. v. Def. Intelligence Agency, 330 F. Supp. 2d 592, 602 (E.D. Va. 2004).	DOS - Main	5	5

Statute	Type of Information Withheld	Case Citation	Agency / Component	Number of Times Relied upon by Agency / Component	Total Number of Times Relied upon by Agency Overall
19 U.S.C. § 2155(g) (Trade Act)	Certain information in connection with trade negotiations that is "submitted in confidence"	Intell. Prop. Watch v. U.S. Trade Representative, 205 F. Supp. 3d 334, 345- 46 (S.D.N.Y. 2016).	DOS - Main	1	1
22 U.S.C. §§ 1461, 1461-1a (Foreign Affairs Reform and Restructuring Act)	Certain program information prepared by the United States Information Agency	Essential Info., Inc. v. USIA, 134 F.3d 1165, 1168 (D.C. Cir. 1998).	DOS - Main	1	1
41 U.S.C. § 4702 (formerly at 41 U.S.C. § 253b(m)(1))	Contractor proposals that are in the possession or control of an executive agency and that have not been set forth or incorporated by reference into contracts	Sinkfield v. HUD, No. 10-885, 2012 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 35233, at *13-15 (S.D. Ohio Mar. 15, 2012); Margolin v. NASA, No. 09- CV-00421, 2011 WL 1303221, at *6 (D. Nev. Mar. 31, 2011); Hornbostel v. U.S. Dep't of the Interior, 305 F. Supp. 2d 21, 30 (D.D.C. 2003), summary affirmance granted, No. 03-5257, 2004 WL 1900562 (D.C. Cir. Aug. 25, 2004).	DOS - Main	1	1
50 U.S.C. § 3024(i)(1) (formerly at 50 U.S.C. § 403-1(i)(1)) (National Security Act of 1947)	Intelligence sources and methods	CIA v. Sims, 471 U.S. 159, 167 (1985).	DOS - Main	5	5

Statute	Type of Information Withheld	Case Citation	Agency / Component	Number of Times Relied upon by Agency / Component	Total Number of Times Relied upon by Agency Overall
50 U.S.C. § 3507 (formerly at 50 U.S.C. § 403g) (Central Intelligence Agency Act of 1949)	Intelligence sources and methods; certain information pertaining to Agency employees, specifically: "the organization, functions, names, official titles, salaries, or numbers of personnel employed by the Agency"	Assassination Archives & Rsch. Ctr. v. CIA, No. 18-5280, 2019 WL 691517 (D.C. Cir. Feb. 15, 2019) (per curiam); ACLU v. DOJ, 681 F.3d 61, 72-75 (2d Cir. 2012); Berman v. CIA, 501 F.3d 1136, 1137-38, 1140 (9th Cir. 2007); Makky v. Chertoff, 489 F. Supp. 2d 421, 442 (D.N.J. 2007), aff'd on other grounds, 541 F. 3d 205 (3d Cir. 2008).	DOS - Main	4	4
Fed. R. Crim. P. 6(e), enacted by Act of July 30, 1977, Pub. L. No. 95-78, §2, 91 Stat. 319	Certain records that would reveal some secret aspect pertaining to grand jury proceedings	Sussman v. USMS, 494 F.3d 1106, 1113 (D.C. Cir. 2007); Sorin v. DOJ, No. 18-99, 2018 WL 6431027 (2d Cir. Dec. 6, 2018) (per curium); Widi v. McNeil, No. 12-CV- 00188, 2016 WL 4394724, at *23 (D. Me. Aug 16, 2016); Durham v. U.S. Att'y Gen., No. 06-843, 2008 WL 620744, at *2 (E.D. Tex. Mar. 3, 2008); Cozen O'Connor v. U.S. Dep't of Treasury, 570 F. Supp. 2d 749, 776 (E.D. Pa. 2008).	OIG	1	1

#### V.A. FOIA REQUESTS -- RECEIVED, PROCESSED AND PENDING FOIA REQUESTS

Agency / Component	Number of Requests Pending as of Start of Fiscal Year	Number of Requests Received in Fiscal Year	Number of Requests Processed in Fiscal Year	Number of Requests Pending as of End of Fiscal Year
DOS - Main	12,811	8747	6855	14,703
OIG	55	272	186	141
AGENCY OVERALL	12,866	9019	7041	14,844

After reviewing its database, the Department of State adjusted DOS - Main's number of requests pending as of the start of the Fiscal Year.

	Numbe				Number of Full Denials Based on Reasons Other than Exemptions									
Agency / Component	Number of Full Grants	f Full Partial Full Denials frants / Based on Partial Exemptions Denials	No Records	All Records Referred to Another Component or Agency	Request Withdrawn	Fee- Related Reason	Records not Reasonably Described	Improper FOIA Request for Other Reason	Not Agency Record	Duplicate Request	Other *Explain in Chart Below	TOTAL		
DOS - Main	124	2597	1267	1123	14	97	0	570	230	584	100	149	6855	
OIG	0	21	1	86	4	0	0	2	32	19	3	18	186	
AGENCY OVERALL	124	2618	1268	1209	18	97	0	572	262	603	103	167	7041	

## V.B.(1). DISPOSITION OF FOIA REQUESTS -- ALL PROCESSED REQUESTS

# V.B.(2). DISPOSITION OF FOIA REQUESTS -- "OTHER" REASONS FOR "FULL DENIALS BASED ON REASONS OTHER THAN EXEMPTIONS"

Agency / Component	Description of "Other" Reasons for Denials from Chart B(1)	Number of Times "Other" Reason Was Relied Upon	TOTAL
DOS - Main	Litigation	149	149
OIG	Litigation	18	18
AGENCY OVERALL			167

Agency / Component	Ex. 1	Ex. 2	Ex. 3	Ex. 4	Ex. 5	Ex. 6	Ex. 7(A)	Ex. 7(B)	Ex. 7(C)	Ex. 7(D)	Ex. 7(E)	Ex. 7(F)	Ex. 8	Ex. 9
DOS - Main	10	0	3697	5	87	540	6	1	80	6	32	0	0	0
OIG	0	1	2	0	5	14	3	1	12	0	0	0	0	0
AGENCY OVERALL	10	1	3699	5	92	554	9	2	92	6	32	0	0	0

## V.B.(3). DISPOSITION OF FOIA REQUESTS -- NUMBER OF TIMES EXEMPTIONS APPLIED

# VI.A. ADMINISTRATIVE APPEALS OF INITIAL DETERMINATIONS OF FOIA REQUESTS -- RECEIVED, PROCESSED, AND PENDING ADMINISTRATIVE APPEALS

Agency / Component	Number of Appeals Pending as of Start of Fiscal Year	Number of Appeals Received in Fiscal Year	Number of Appeals Processed in Fiscal Year	Number of Appeals Pending as of End of Fiscal Year
DOS - Main	224	257	240	241
OIG	18	1	3	16
AGENCY OVERALL	242	258	243	257

#### VI.B. DISPOSITION OF ADMINISTRATIVE APPEALS -- ALL PROCESSED APPEALS

Agency / Component	Number Affirmed on Appeal	Number Partially Affirmed & Partially Reversed/Remanded on Appeal	Number Completely Reversed/Remanded on Appeal	Number of Appeals Closed for Other Reasons	TOTAL
DOS - Main	100	19	42	79	240
OIG	0	0	0	3	3
AGENCY OVERALL	100	19	42	82	243

Agency / Component	Ex. 1	Ex. 2	Ex. 3	Ex. 4	Ex. 5	Ex. 6	Ex. 7(A)	Ex. 7(B)	Ex. 7(C)	Ex. 7(D)	Ex. 7(E)	Ex. 7(F)	Ex. 8	Ex. 9
DOS - Main	4	0	18	0	2	4	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0
OIG	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
AGENCY OVERALL	4	0	18	0	2	4	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0

## VI.C.(1). REASONS FOR DENIAL ON APPEAL -- NUMBER OF TIMES EXEMPTIONS APPLIED

# VI.C.(2). REASONS FOR DENIAL ON APPEAL -- REASONS OTHER THAN EXEMPTIONS

Agency / Component	No Records	Records Referred at Initial Request Level	Request Withdrawn	Fee- Related Reason	Records not Reasonably Described	Improper Request for Other Reasons	Not Agency Record	Duplicate Request or Appeal	Request in Litigation	Appeal Based Solely on Denial of Request for Expedited Processing	Other *Explain in chart below
DOS - Main	26	0	13	2	4	5	4	2	2	36	2
OIG	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
AGENCY OVERALL	26	0	16	2	4	5	4	2	2	36	2

# VI.C.(3). REASONS FOR DENIAL ON APPEAL -- "OTHER" REASONS

Agency / Component	Description of "Other" Reasons for Denial on Appeal from Chart C(2)	Number of Times "Other" Reason Was Relied Upon	TOTAL
DOS - Main	Improper Appeal	2	2
OIG	N/A	0	0
AGENCY OVERALL			2

## VI.C.(4). RESPONSE TIME FOR ADMINISTRATIVE APPEALS

Agency / Component	Median Number of Days	Average Number of Days	Lowest Number of Days	Highest Number of Days
DOS - Main	556	714.10	37	2095
OIG	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
AGENCY OVERALL	556	714.10	37	2095

Agency / Component		10th Oldest Appeal	9th	8th	7th	6th	5th	4th	3rd	2nd	Oldest Appeal
	Date of Appeal	2014- 10-22	2014- 10-08	2014- 09-17	2014- 09-17	2014- 08-07	2014- 04-22	2014- 04-14	2014- 01-22	2013- 12-06	2013- 12-05
DOS - Main	Number of Days Pending	1472	1481	1496	1496	1524	1599	1605	1662	1691	1692
	Date of Appeal	2017- 10-31	2017- 08-24	2015- 12-01	2015- 02-06	2014- 12-05	2014- 06-30	2014- 02-25	2013- 06-10	2013- 04-18	2013- 03-28
OIG	Number of Days Pending	724	770	1200	1404	1433	1551	1639	1814	1850	1865
AGENCY	Date of Appeal	2014- 06-03	2014- 02-22	2014- 04-14	2014- 02-25	2014- 01-22	2013- 12-06	2013- 12-05	2013- 06-10	2013- 04-18	2013- 03-28
OVERALL	Number of Days Pending	1151	1599	1605	1639	1662	1691	1692	1814	1850	1865

		SIM	IPLE			COM	PLEX		EXPEDITED PROCESSING				
Agency / Component	Median Number of Days	Average Number of Days	Lowest Number of Days	Highest Number of Days	Median Number of Days	Average Number of Days	Lowest Number of Days	Highest Number of Days	Median Number of Days	Average Number of Days	Lowest Number of Days	Highest Number of Days	
DOS - Main	13	86.65	1	2725	117	167.21	1	3329	78.5	399.4	4	2704	
OIG	2	15.26	1	317	372	350	118	695	25	25	25	25	
AGENCY OVERALL	13	86.65	1	2725	372	350	1	3329	78.5	399.4	4	2704	

#### VII.A. FOIA REQUESTS -- RESPONSE TIME FOR ALL PROCESSED PERFECTED REQUESTS

		SIM	PLE			COM	PLEX		EXPEDITED PROCESSING			
Agency / Component	Median Number of Days	Average Number of Days	Lowest Number of Days	Highest Number of Days	Median Number of Days	Average Number of Days	Lowest Number of Days	Highest Number of Days	Median Number of Days	Average Number of Days	Lowest Number of Days	Highest Number of Days
DOS - Main	186	276.77	5	2725	117	152.83	5	3329	269	596.87	4	2704
OIG	24	18	10	101	379	379	376	382	25	25	25	25
AGENCY OVERALL	186	276.77	5	2725	379	379	5	3329	269	596.87	4	2704

#### VII.B. PROCESSED REQUESTS -- RESPONSE TIME FOR PERFECTED REQUESTS IN WHICH INFORMATION WAS GRANTED

Agency / Component	<1- 20 Days	21- 40 Days	41- 60 Days	61- 80 Days	81- 100 Days	101- 120 Days	121- 140 Days	141- 160 Days	161- 180 Days	181- 200 Days	201- 300 Days	301- 400 Days	401+ Days	TOTAL
DOS - Main	659	150	71	28	14	17	12	4	12	16	33	18	106	1140
OIG	131	5	0	0	4	2	2	2	0	0	1	1	0	148
AGENCY OVERALL	790	155	71	28	18	19	14	6	12	16	34	19	106	1288

#### VII.C. PROCESSED SIMPLE REQUESTS -- RESPONSE TIME IN DAY INCREMENTS

Agency / Component	<1- 20 Days	21- 40 Days	41- 60 Days	61- 80 Days	81- 100 Days	101- 120 Days	121- 140 Days	141- 160 Days	161- 180 Days	181- 200 Days	201- 300 Days	301- 400 Days	401+ Days	TOTAL
DOS - Main	41	48	134	627	426	1647	683	386	281	72	142	105	233	4825
OIG	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	2	0	0	0	2	3	9
AGENCY OVERALL	41	48	134	627	426	1648	684	388	281	72	142	107	236	4834

#### VII.C. PROCESSED COMPLEX REQUESTS -- RESPONSE TIME IN DAY INCREMENTS

Agency / Component	<1- 20 Days	21- 40 Days	41- 60 Days	61- 80 Days	81- 100 Days	101- 120 Days	121- 140 Days	141- 160 Days	161- 180 Days	181- 200 Days	201- 300 Days	301- 400 Days	401+ Days	TOTAL
DOS - Main	17	14	7	8	4	4	1	1	1	0	4	4	25	90
OIG	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
AGENCY OVERALL	17	15	7	8	4	4	1	1	1	0	4	4	25	91

#### VII.C. PROCESSED REQUESTS GRANTED EXPEDITED PROCESSING -- RESPONSE TIME IN DAY INCREMENTS

		SIMPLE			COMPLEX		EXPEDITED PROCESSING				
Agency / Component	Number Pending	Median Number of Days	Average Number of Days	Number Pending	Median Number of Days	Average Number of Days	Number Pending	Median Number of Days	Average Number of Days		
DOS - Main	562	323.5	427	13,748	606.5	805	227	470	622		
OIG	0	N/A	N/A	141	142	172.4	0	N/A	N/A		
AGENCY OVERALL	562	323.5	427	13,889	606.5	805	227	470	622		

#### VII.D. PENDING REQUESTS -- ALL PENDING PERFECTED REQUESTS

Agency / Component		10th Oldest Request	9th	8th	7th	6th	5th	4th	3rd	2nd	Oldest Request
	Date of Receipt	2007- 05-03	2007- 04-25	2007- 04-23	2007- 04-16	2007- 03-28	2007- 03-12	2007- 02-07	2007- 01-11	2006- 11-27	2006- 11-26
DOS - Main	Number of Days Pending	3366	3372	3374	3379	3392	3404	3426	3444	3475	3475
	Date of Receipt	2018- 08-21	2018- 08-09	2018- 04-11	2018- 03-12	2018- 02-08	2018- 01-10	2017- 11-03	2017- 05-16	2017- 02-13	2017- 02-07
OIG	Number of Days Pending	525	533	617	639	660	679	721	840	905	909
AGENCY	Date of Receipt	2007- 05-03	2007- 04-25	2007- 04-23	2007- 04-16	2007- 03-28	2007- 03-12	2007- 02-07	2007- 01-11	2006- 11-27	2006- 11-26
OVERALL	Number of Days Pending	3366	3372	3374	3379	3392	3404	3426	3444	3475	3475

#### VII.E. PENDING REQUESTS -- TEN OLDEST PENDING PERFECTED REQUESTS

#### VIII.A. REQUESTS FOR EXPEDITED PROCESSING

Agency / Component	Number Granted	Number Denied	Median Number of Days to Adjudicate	Average Number of Days to Adjudicate	Number Adjudicated Within Ten Calendar Days
DOS - Main	142	612	7	25.64	442
OIG	1	1	<1	<1	2
AGENCY OVERALL	143	613	7	25.64	444

## VIII.B. Requests for Fee Waiver

Agency / Component	Number Granted	Number Denied	Median Number of Days to Adjudicate	Average Number of Days to Adjudicate
DOS - Main	444	0	4	21.83
OIG	0	0	N/A	N/A
AGENCY OVERALL	444	0	4	21.83

### **IX. FOIA Personnel and Costs**

	PERSONNEL			COSTS		
Agency / Component	Number of "Full-Time FOIA Employees"	Number of "Equivalent Full-Time FOIA Employees"	Total Number of "Full- Time FOIA Staff"	Processing Costs	Litigation- Related Costs	Total Costs
DOS - Main	108	95.97	203.97	49,879,612.19	1,011,236.10	50,890,848.29
OIG	2	0.00	2.00	387,742.68	0.00	387,742.68
AGENCY OVERALL	110	95.97	205.97	50,267,354.87	1,011,236.10	51,278,590.97

# X. Fees Collected for Processing Requests

Agency / Component	Total Amount of Fees Collected	Percentage of Total Costs
DOS - Main	0.00	0.0000
OIG	0.00	0.0000
AGENCY OVERALL	0.00	0.0000

## XI.A. Number of Times Subsection (C) Used

Agency / Component	Number of Times Subsection Used
DOS - Main	0
OIG	0
AGENCY OVERALL	0

# XI.B. Number of Subsection (A)(2) Postings

Agency / Component	Number of Records Posted by the FOIA Office	Number of Records Posted by Program Offices
DOS - Main	5113	0
OIG	0	0
AGENCY OVERALL	5113	0

# XII.A. Backlogs of FOIA Requests and Administrative Appeals

Agency / Component	Number of Backlogged Requests as of End of Fiscal Year	Number of Backlogged Appeals as of End of Fiscal Year
DOS - Main	13,710	240
OIG	88	14
AGENCY OVERALL	13,798	254

#### XII.B. CONSULTATIONS ON FOIA REQUESTS -- RECEIVED, PROCESSED, AND PENDING CONSULTATIONS

Agency / Component	Number of Consultations Received from Other Agencies that were <u>Pending</u> at the Agency as of <u>Start</u> of the Fiscal Year	Number of Consultations <u>Received</u> from Other Agencies During the Fiscal Year	Number of Consultations Received from Other Agencies that were <u>Processed</u> by the Agency During the Fiscal Year	Number of Consultations Received from Other Agencies that were <u>Pending</u> at the Agency as of <u>End</u> of the Fiscal Year
DOS - Main	224	111	93	242
OIG	0	0	0	0
AGENCY OVERALL	224	111	93	242

# XII.C. CONSULTATIONS ON FOIA REQUESTS -- TEN OLDEST CONSULTATIONS RECEIVED FROM OTHER AGENCIES AND PENDING AT THE AGENCY

Agency / Component		10th Oldest Consultation	9th	8th	7th	6th	5th	4th	3rd	2nd	Oldest Consultation
	Date	2019-11-18	2019- 10-29	2019- 10-10	2019- 10-08	2019- 09-26	2019- 08-21	2019- 08-06	2019- 08-06	2019- 07-03	2015-07-07
DOS - Main	Number of Days	219	232	244	246	254	279	290	290	313	1315
	Date	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
OIG	Number of Days	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
AGENCY	Date	2019-11-18	2019- 10-29	2019- 10-10	2019- 10-08	2019- 09-26	2019- 08-21	2019- 08-06	2019- 08-06	2019- 07-03	2015-07-07
OVERALL	Number of Days	219	232	244	246	254	279	290	290	313	1315

### XII.D.(1). COMPARISON OF NUMBERS OF REQUESTS FROM PREVIOUS AND CURRENT ANNUAL REPORT -- REQUESTS RECEIVED AND PROCESSED

	NUMBER OF REC	UESTS <u>RECEIVED</u>	NUMBER O <u>PROC</u>	-
Agency / Component	Number Received During Fiscal Year from Last Year's Annual Report	Number Received During Fiscal Year from Current Annual Report	Number Processed During Fiscal Year from Last Year's Annual Report	Number Processed During Fiscal Year from Current Annual Report
DOS - Main	8482	8747	6438	6855
OIG	107	272	107	186
AGENCY OVERALL	8589	9019	6545	7041

## XII.D.(2). COMPARISON OF NUMBERS OF REQUESTS FROM PREVIOUS AND CURRENT ANNUAL REPORT -- BACKLOGGED REQUESTS

Agency / Component	Number of Backlogged Requests as of End of the Fiscal Year from Previous Annual Report	Number of Backlogged Requests as of End of the Fiscal Year from Current Annual Report
DOS - Main	11,086	13,710
OIG	20	88
AGENCY OVERALL	11,106	13,798

# XII.E.(1). COMPARISON OF NUMBERS OF ADMINISTRATIVE APPEALS FROM PREVIOUS AND CURRENT ANNUAL REPORT -- APPEALS RECEIVED AND PROCESSED

	NUMBER OF AP	PEALS <u>RECEIVED</u>	NUMBER OF APPEALS <u>PROCESSED</u>		
Agency / Component	Number Received During Fiscal Year from Last Year's Annual Report	Number Received During Fiscal Year from Current Annual Report	Number Processed During Fiscal Year from Last Year's Annual Report	Number Processed During Fiscal Year from Current Annual Report	
DOS - Main	233	257	377	240	
OIG	2	1	3	3	
AGENCY OVERALL	235	258	380	243	

#### XII.E.(2). COMPARISON OF NUMBERS OF ADMINISTRATIVE APPEALS FROM PREVIOUS AND CURRENT ANNUAL REPORT --BACKLOGGED APPEALS

Agency / Component	Number of Backlogged Appeals as of End of the Fiscal Year from Previous Annual Report	Number of Backlogged Appeals as of End of the Fiscal Year from Current Annual Report
DOS - Main	223	240
OIG	0	14
AGENCY OVERALL	223	254