

Environmental Protection Agency

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warrant it, EPA may require a requester to submit a signed and notarized statement indicating that he or she is the individual to whom the records pertain and that he or she understands it is a misdemeanor punishable by fine up to \$5,000 to knowingly and willfully seek or obtain access to records about another individual under false pretenses. Such mail requests may be granted, but fees may be charged in accordance with §16.11.

(f) No verification of identity will be required where the records sought are publicly available under the Freedom of Information Act, as EPA procedures under 40 CFR part 2 will then apply.

§ 16.5 Disclosure of requested information to individuals.

(a) Each request received will be acted upon promptly.

(b) Within 10 working days of receipt of a request, the system manager shall acknowledge the request. Whenever practicable, the acknowledgment will indicate whether or not access will be granted and, if so, when and where. When access is to be granted, it shall be provided within 30 working days of first receipt. If the agency is unable to meet this deadline, the records system manager shall so inform the requester stating reasons for the delay and an estimate of when access will be granted.

(c) If a request pursuant to §16.3 for access to a record is in a system of records which is exempted, the records system manager will determine whether the information will nonetheless be made available. If the determination is to deny access, the reason for denial and the appeal procedure will be given to the requester.

(d) Any person whose request is initially denied may appeal that denial to the Privacy Act Officer, who shall make an appeal determination within 10 working days.

(e) If the appeal under paragraph (d) of this section is denied, the requester may bring a civil action under 5 U.S.C. 552a(g) to seek review of the denial.

§ 16.6 Special procedures: Medical records.

Should EPA receive a request for access to medical records (including psychological records) disclosure of which

the system manager determines would be harmful to the individual to whom they relate, EPA may refuse to disclose the records directly to the individual and instead offer to transmit them to a physician designated by the individual.

§ 16.7 Request for correction or amendment of record.

(a) An individual may request correction or amendment of any record pertaining to him or her in a system of records maintained by EPA by submitting to the system manager, in writing, the following:

(1) The name of the individual making the request;

(2) The name of the system, as described in the notice of systems;

(3) A description of the nature and substance of the correction or amendment request; and

(4) Any additional information specified in the system notice.

(b) Any person submitting a request under this section shall include sufficient information in support of that request to allow EPA to apply the standards set forth in 5 U.S.C. 552a (e)(1) and (e)(5).

(c) Any person whose request is denied may appeal that denial to the Privacy Act Officer.

(d) In the event that appeal is denied, the requester may bring a civil action to seek review of the denial, under 5 U.S.C. 552a(g).

§ 16.8 Initial determination on request for correction or amendment of record.

(a) Within 10 working days of receipt of a request for amendment or correction, the system manager shall acknowledge the request, and promptly either:

(1) Make any correction, deletion, or addition which the requester believes should be made; or

(2) Inform the requester of his or her refusal to correct or amend the record, the reason for refusal, and the procedures for appeal.

(b) If the system manager is unable to comply with the preceding paragraphs within 30 working days of his or her receipt of a request, he or she will inform the requester of that fact, the

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reasons, and an estimate of when a determination will be reached.

(c) In conducting the review of the request, the system manager will be guided by the requirements of 5 U.S.C. 552a (e)(1) and (e)(5).

(d) If the system manager determines to grant all or any portion of the request, he or she will:

(1) Advise the individual of that determination;

(2) Make the correction or amendment; and

(3) So inform any person or agency outside EPA to whom the record has been disclosed, and, where an accounting of that disclosure is maintained in accordance with 5 U.S.C. 552a(c), note the occurrence and substance of the correction or amendment in the accounting.

(e) If the system manager determines not to grant all or any portion of a request for correction or amendment, he or she will:

(1) Comply with paragraph (d)(3) of this section (if necessary);

(2) Advise the individual of the determination and its basis;

(3) Inform the individual that an appeal may be made; and

(4) Describe the procedures for making the appeal.

(f) If EPA receives from another Federal agency a notice of correction or amendment of information furnished by that agency and contained in one of EPA's systems of records, the system manager shall advise the individual and make the correction as if EPA had originally made the correction or amendment.

§ 16.9 Appeal of initial adverse agency determination on request for correction or amendment.

(a) Any individual whose request for correction or amendment is initially denied by EPA and who wishes to appeal may do so by letter to the Privacy Act Officer. The appeal shall contain a description of the initial request sufficient to identify it.

(b) The Privacy Act Officer shall make a final determination not later than 30 working days from the date on which the individual requests the review, unless, for good cause shown, the Privacy Act Officer extends the 30-day

period and notifies the requester. Such extension will be utilized only in exceptional circumstances.

(c) In conducting the review of an appeal, the Privacy Act Officer will be guided by the requirements of 5 U.S.C. 552a (e)(1) and (e)(5).

(d) If the Privacy Act Officer determines to grant all or any portion of an appeal he or she shall so inform the requester and EPA shall make the correction or amendment and comply with § 16.8(d)(3).

(e) If the Privacy Act Officer determines not to grant all or any portion of an appeal he or she shall inform the requester:

(1) Of the determination and its basis;

(2) Of the requester's right to file a concise statement of reasons for disagreeing with EPA's decision;

(3) Of the procedures for filing such statement of disagreement;

(4) That such statements of disagreements will be made available in subsequent disclosures of the record, together with an agency statement (if deemed appropriate) summarizing its refusal;

(5) That prior recipients of the disputed record will be provided with statements as in paragraph (e)(4) of this section, to the extent that an accounting of disclosures is maintained under 5 U.S.C. 552a(c); and

(6) Of the requester's right to seek judicial review under 5 U.S.C. 552a(g).

§ 16.10 Disclosure of record to person other than the individual to whom it pertains.

EPA shall not disclose any record which is contained in a system of records it maintains except pursuant to a written request by, or with the written consent of, the individual to whom the record pertains, unless the disclosure is authorized by one or more of the provisions of 5 U.S.C. 552a(b).

§ 16.11 Fees.

No fees shall be charged for providing the first copy of a record or any portion to an individual to whom the record pertains. The fee schedule for reproducing other records is the same as that set forth in 40 CFR 2.120.