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1.501 Policy on employee indemnification.

AUTHORITY: 5 U.S.C. 301, unless otherwise noted.

Subpart A—Official Records

AUTHORITY: 5 U.S.C. 301, 552; 7 U.S.C. 3125a; 31 U.S.C. 9701; and 7 CFR 2.28(b)(7)(viii).

§ 1.1 Purpose and scope.

This subpart establishes policy, procedures, requirements, and responsibilities for administration and coordination of the Freedom of Information Act (''FOIA''), 5 U.S.C. 552, pursuant to which any person may obtain official records. It also provides rules pertaining to the disclosure of records pursuant to compulsory process. This subpart also serves as the implementing regulations (referred to in §1.3, ''Agency implementing regulations'') for the Office of the Secretary (the immediate offices of the Secretary, Deputy Secretary, Under Secretaries and Assistant Secretaries) and for the Office of Communications. The Office of Communications has the primary responsibility for implementation of the FOIA in the Department of Agriculture (''USDA'' or ''Department''). The term ''agency'' or ''agencies'' is used throughout this subpart to include both USDA program agencies and staff offices.

[65 FR 46336, July 28, 2000]

§ 1.2 Policy.

(a) Agencies of USDA shall comply with the time limits set forth in the FOIA and in this subpart for responding to and processing requests and appeals for agency records, unless there are unusual circumstances within the meaning of 5 U.S.C. 552(a)(6)(B) and §1.16(b). An agency shall notify a requester in writing whenever it is unable to respond to or process a request or appeal within the time limits established by the FOIA.

(b) All agencies of the Department shall comply with the fee schedule provided as appendix A to this subpart, with regard to the charging of fees for providing copies of records and related services to requesters.

[65 FR 46337, July 28, 2000]

§ 1.3 Agency implementing regulations.

Each agency of the Department shall promulgate regulations setting forth the following:

(a) The location and hours of operation of the agency office or offices where members of the public may gain access to those materials required by 5