§ 701.61 Purpose.

This subpart implements 5 U.S.C. 552(a) (1) and (2) and provisions of Department of Defense Directive 5400.7 May 13, 1988 (32 CFR part 286, 55 FR 53104); Department of Defense Directive 5400.9, December 23, 1974 (32 CFR part 336, 40 FR 49111); and the Regulations of the Administrative Committee of the Federal Register (1 CFR chaps. I and II) by delineating responsibilities and prescribing requirements, policies, criteria, and procedures applicable to:

(a) Publishing the following Department of the Navy documents in the FEDERAL REGISTER:

(1) Certain classes of regulatory, organizational policy, substantive, and procedural documents required to be published for the guidance of the public;

(2) Certain classes of proposed regulatory documents required to be published for public comment prior to issuance; and

(3) Certain public notices required by law or regulation to be published;

(b) Making available, for public inspection and copying, certain classes of documents having precedential effect on decisions concerning members of the public;

(c) Maintaining current indexes of documents having precedential effect on decisions concerning members of the public, and publishing such indexes or making them available by other means;

(d) Receiving and considering petitions of members of the public for the issuance, revision, or cancellation of regulatory documents of some classes; and

(e) Distributing the FEDERAL REGISTER for official use within the Department of the Navy.

§ 701.62 Scope and applicability.

This subpart prescribes actions to be executed by, or at the direction of, Navy Department (as defined in §700.104c of this chapter) components and specified headquarters activities for apprising members of the public of Department of the Navy regulations, policies, substantive and procedural rules, and decisions which may affect them, and for enabling members of the public to participate in Department of the Navy rulemaking processes in matters of substantial and direct concern to the public. This subpart complements subpart A, which implements Navy-wide requirements for furnishing documents to members of the public upon request. That a document may be published or indexed and made available for public inspection and copying under this instruction does not affect the possible requirement under subpart A for producing it for examination, or furnishing a copy, in response to a request made under that subpart.

§ 701.63 Policy.

In accordance with the spirit and intent of 5 U.S.C. 552, the public has the right to maximum information concerning the organization and functions of the Department of the Navy. This includes information on the policies and the substantive and procedural rules used by the Department of the Navy in its dealings with the public. In accordance with Department of Defense policy described in 32 CFR part 336, 40 FR 4911, moreover, the public is encouraged to participate in Department of the Navy rulemaking when the proposed rule would substantially and directly affect the public.

§ 701.64 Publication of adopted regulatory documents for the guidance of the public.

(a) Classes of documents to be published. Subject to the provisions of 5 U.S.C. 552(b) which exempt specified matters from requirements for release to the public [see subpart B of this part], the classes of Department of the Navy documents required to be published on a current basis in the FEDERAL REGISTER are listed below.

(1) Naval organization and points of contact—description of the central and
§ 701.65  Availability, public inspection, and indexing of other documents affecting the public.

(a) Discussion. Section 552(a) of title 5, United States Code, requires the Department of the Navy to make available for public inspection and copying documents which have precedential significance on those Department of the Navy decisions which affect the public. These documents must be kept readily available for public inspection and copying at designated locations, unless they are promptly published and copies are offered for sale. Additionally, documents issued after July 4, 1967, are required to be indexed on a current basis. These indexes, or supplements thereto, must be published at least quarterly in accordance with the provisions of this paragraph. In determining whether a particular document is subject to the requirements of this paragraph, consideration should be given to the statutory purposes and legal effect of the provisions.

(1) Statutory purposes. In general, the purpose of the requirement to provide members of the public with essential...