§ 1222.16 How are nonrecord materials managed?

(a) Agencies must develop record-keeping requirements to distinguish records from nonrecord materials.

(b) The following guidelines should be used in managing nonrecord materials:

1. If a clear determination cannot be made, the materials should be treated as records. Agencies may consult with NARA for guidance.

2. Nonrecord materials must be physically segregated from records or, for electronic non-record materials, readily identified and segregable from records;

3. Nonrecord materials should be purged when no longer needed for reference. NARA’s approval is not required to destroy such materials.

§ 1222.18 Under what conditions may nonrecord materials be removed from Government agencies?

(a) Nonrecord materials, including extra copies of unclassified or formally declassified agency records kept only for convenience of reference, may be removed by departing employees from Government agency custody only with the approval of the head of the agency or the individual(s) authorized to act for the agency on records issues.

(b) National security classified information may not be removed from Government custody, except for a removal of custody taken in accordance with the requirements of the National Industrial Security Program established under Executive Order 12829, as amended, or a successor Order.

(c) Information which is restricted from release under the Privacy Act of 1974 (5 U.S.C. 552a), as amended, or other statutes may not be removed from Government custody except as permitted under those statutes.

(d) This section does not apply to use of records and nonrecord materials in the course of conducting official agency business, including telework and authorized dissemination of information.

§ 1222.20 How are personal files defined and managed?

(a) Personal files are defined in §1220.18 of this subchapter. This section does not apply to agencies and positions that are covered by the Presidential Records Act of 1978 (44 U.S.C. 2201–2207) (see 36 CFR part 1270 of this chapter).

(b) Personal files must be clearly designated as such and must be maintained separately from the office’s official records.

1. Information about private (non-agency) matters and agency business must not be mixed in outgoing agency documents, such as correspondence and messages.

2. If information about private matters and agency business appears in a received document, the document is a Federal record. Agencies may make a copy of the document with the personal information deleted or redacted, and treat the copy as the Federal record.

3. Materials labeled “personal,” “confidential,” or “private,” or similarly designated, and used in the transaction of public business, are Federal records. The use of a label such as “personal” does not affect the status of documentary materials in a Federal agency.

Subpart B—Agency Recordkeeping Requirements

§ 1222.22 What records are required to provide for adequate documentation of agency business?

To meet their obligation for adequate and proper documentation, agencies must prescribe the creation and maintenance of records that:

(a) Document the persons, places, things, or matters dealt with by the agency.

(b) Facilitate action by agency officials and their successors in office.

(c) Make possible a proper scrutiny by the Congress or other duly authorized agencies of the Government.

(d) Protect the financial, legal, and other rights of the Government and of persons directly affected by the Government’s actions.