Office of the Director National Intelligence

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT ANNUAL REPORT

FISCAL YEAR 2017

I. Basic Information Regarding Report

A. Name, title, address, and telephone number of person to be contacted with questions about the report.

Mrs. Sally A. Nicholson Chief, Freedom of Information Act Information Management Division Office of the Director of National Intelligence Washington, D.C. 20511 (301) 243-1499

B. Electronic address for report on the World Wide Web.

II. How to Make a FOIA Request

Submit a written request to mail address above. Transmission via facsimile also is acceptable (301) 243-0716. FOIA requests may also be submitted electronically to <u>DNI-FOIA@dni.gov</u>.

A. Names, addresses, and telephone numbers of all individual agency components and offices that receive FOIA requests.

The mailing address in section I.A., above, is the single, central office which receives all FOIA requests for the Director of National Intelligence. However, FOIA requests received by components of the ODNI are referred to Director, IMD.

B. Brief description of the agency's response-time ranges.

For those FOIA cases closed between 10/1/2016- 9/30/2017. 34.16% were closed within 60 days.

C. Brief description of why some requests are not granted.

ODNI consistently protects, among other things, classified national security information relating to intelligence sources and methods, from release under the FOIA.

III. Definitions of Terms and Acronyms Used in the Report

- A. Agency-specific acronyms or other terms.
 - i. ODNI: Office of the Director of National Intelligence
 - ii. IM: Information Management
- B. Basic terms, expressed in common terminology.

- 1. FOIA/PA Request- Freedom of Information Act/Privacy Act request. A FOIA request is generally a request for access to records concerning a third party, an organization, or a particular topic of interest. A Privacy Act request is a request for records concerning oneself; such requesters are also treated as FOIA requests. (All requests for access to records, regardless of which law is cited by the requester, are included in this report.
- 2. Initial Request a request to a federal agency for access to records under the Freedom of Information Act.
- 3. Administrative Appeal a request to a federal agency asking that it review at a higher administrative level a full denial or partial denial of access to records under the Freedom of Information Act, or any other FOIA determination such as a matter pertaining to fees.
- 4. Processed Request or Appeal a request or appeal for which an agency has taken a final action on the request or the appeal in all respects.
- 5. Multi-track Processing a system in which simple requests requiring relatively minimal review are placed in one processing track and more voluminous and complex requests are placed in one or more other tracks. Requests in each track are processed on a first in/first out bases. A requester who has an urgent need for records may request expedited processing (see below).
- 6. Expedited Processing an agency will process a FOIA request on an Expedited bases when a requester has shown an exceptional need or urgency for the records which warrants prioritization of his or her request over other requests that were made earlier.
- 7. Simple Request a FOIA request that an agency using multi-track processing places in its fastest (non-expedited) track based on the volume and/or simplicity of records requested.
- 8. Complex Request a FOIA request that an agency using multi-track processing places in a slower track based on the volume and/or complexity of records requested.
- 9. Grant an agency decision to disclose all records in full in response to a FOIA request.
- 10. Partial Grant an agency decision to disclose a record in part in response to a FOIA request, deleting information determined to be exempt under one or more of the FOIA exemptions; or a decision to disclose some records in the entireties, but to withhold others in whole or in part.
- 11. Denial an agency decision not to release any part of a record or records in response to a FOA request because all the information in the requested records is determined by the agency to be exempt under one or more of the FOIA's exemptions, or for some procedural reason (such as because no record is located in response to a FOIA request).

- 12. Time Limits the time period in the Freedom of Information Act for an agency to response to a FOIA request (ordinarily 20 working days from proper receipt of a "perfected" FOIA request).
- 13. "Perfected" Request a FOIA request for records which adequately describes the records sought, which has been received by the FOIA office of the agency or agency component in possession of the records, and for which there is no remaining question about the payment of applicable fees.
- 14. Exemption 3 Statute a separate federal statute prohibiting the disclosure of a certain type of information and authorizing its withholding under FOIA subsection (b)(3).
- 15. Median Number the middle, not average, number. For example, of 3, 7, and 14, the median number is 7.
- 16. Average Number the number obtained by dividing the sum of a group of numbers by the quantity of numbers in the group. For example, of 3, 7, and 14, the average number is 8.
- C. Concise Descriptions of FOIA Exemptions
 - (b)(1) exempts from disclosure material properly classified, pursuant to an Executive Order, because it is related to matters of national defense or foreign policy;
 - (b)(2) exempts from disclosure information, which pertains solely to the internal personnel rules and practices of the Agency;
 - (b)(3) exempts from disclosure materials that another federal statute protects, provided that the other federal statute either requires that the matters be withheld, or establishes particular criteria for withholding or refers to particular types of matters to be withheld.
 - (b)(4) exempts from disclosure information such as trade secrets and commercial or financial information obtained from a person on a privileged or confidential basis;
 - (b)(5) exempts from disclosure inter-and-intra agency pre-decisional and deliberative memoranda or letters. The same section exempts attorney work-product or attorney-client information;
 - (b)(6) exempts from disclosure material that would be an unwarranted invasion of the personal privacy of the individuals.
 - (b)(7) exempts from disclosure law enforcement investigatory records that, if released, would either (A) interfere with enforcement proceedings, (B) deprive a person of the right to a fair trial; (C) be an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy; (D) identify a confidential source; € reveal investigative techniques and procedures; or (F) endanger someone's life or physical safety.
 - (b)(8) exempts from disclosure information contained in reports or examinations of an agency responsible for regulating or supervising banks, savings and loans, or other financial institutions.
 - (b)(9) exempts from disclosure information about wells.
- D. Concise Descriptions of Privacy Act Exemptions:
 - (d)(5) exempts from disclosure information compiled in reasonable anticipation of a civil action or proceeding;

- (j)(1) exempts from disclosure certain information maintained by the CIA;
- (j)(2) exempts from disclosure certain records of agencies whose primary mission is enforcing criminal laws (e.g. the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Drug Enforcement Agency, or the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms);
- (k)(1) exempts from disclosure information properly classified pursuant to an Executive Order in the interest of national defense or foreign policy;
- (k)(2) exempts from disclosure investigatory material compiled for law enforcement purposes;
- (k)(3) exempts from disclosure information pertaining to the protective services afforded the President of the United States;
- (k)(4) exempts from disclosure information that statutes require to be maintained and used solely as statistical records;
- (k)(5) exempts from disclosure information or investigatory material compiled solely for the purpose of determining suitability, eligibility, or qualifications for federal civilian employment, or access to classified information, the release of which would disclose a confidential source;
- (k)(6) exempts form disclosure testing or examination material the federal government uses to determine individual qualifications for appointment or promotion, the release of which would compromise the testing or examination process;
- (k)(7) exempts from disclosure evaluation material the armed forces use to determine an individual's potential for promotion, but only if disclosure would reveal the identity of a source who furnished information after the government's express promise to keep that source's identity confidential.

3. Agency Component Abbreviations

Component Abbreviation	Component Name
ODNI	Office of the Director of National Intelligence

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
50 U.S.C. § 3024(i)(1) (National Security Act of 1947)		CIA v. Sims, 471 U.S. 159, 167 (1985); ACLU v. DOJ, 681 F.3d 61, 72-75 (2d Cir. May 21, 2012); ACLU v. DOD, 628 F.3d 612, 619, 626 (D.C. Cir. 2011); Berman v. CIA, 501 F.3d 1136, 1137-38, 1140 (9th Cir. 2007).	ODNI	94	94

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
ODNI	322	456	376	402
				0
AGENCY OVERALL	322	456	376	402

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

		Number			Numbe	r of Full De	nials Base	ed on Reaso	ns Other t	han Exem	ptions		
Agency / Component	Number of Full Grants	of Partial Grants /	Number of Full Denials Based on Exemptions	No Records	All Records Referred to Another Component or Agency	Request Withdrawn	Fee- Related Reason	not	Improper FOIA Request for Other Reason	Not Agency Record	Duplicate Request	Other *Explain in Chart Below	TOTAL
ODNI	56	141	34	61	22	25	C	0	5	17	0	15	376
													0
AGENCY OVERALL	56	141	34	61	22	25	C	0	5	17	0	15	376

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
ODNI	Litigation	15	15
AGENCY OVERALL			15

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

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
ODNI	24	0	94	1	13	20	14	0	3	0	1	0	0	0
AGENCY OVERALL	24	0	94	1	13	20	14	0	3	0	1	0	0	0

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
ODNI	19	49	36	32
				0
AGENCY OVERALL	19	49	36	32

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
ODNI	C	0	0	36	36
					0
AGENCY OVERALL	C	0	0	36	36

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

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
ODNI	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	C	0	0	0	0	0
AGENCY OVERALL	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	C	0	0	0	0	0

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	Litigation	Appeal Based Solely on Denial of Request for Expedited Processing	chart below
ODNI	0	0	0	C	0	0	0	0	36	0	0
AGENCY OVERALL	0	0	0	O	0	0	0	0	36	0	0

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
ODNI	N/A	0	0
AGENCY OVERALL			0

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
AGENCY OVERALL	25.00	1.42	1.00	47.00

VI.C.(5). TEN OLDEST PENDING ADMINISTRATIVE APPEALS

Agency / Component		10th Oldest Appeal	9th	8th	7th	6th	5th	4th	3rd	2nd	Oldest Appeal
	Date of Appeal										
	Number of Days Pending										
AGENCY	Date of Appeal	2015-10-07	2015-05-13	2014-10-27	2014-10-15	2014-09-25	2014-01-29	2014-01-07	2013-11-26	2013-03-20	2012-11-13
OVERALL	Number of Days Pending	498	600	736	744	757	924	939	966	1140	1226

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

	SIMPLE					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
AGENCY OVERALL	7	24.33	<1	732	90	236.25	5	1279	407	565	260	1028

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

		SIM	PLE			COM	PLEX		EXF	PEDITED F	PROCESS	ING
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
AGENCY OVERALL	4	17.48	<1	732	166	323.55	5	1279	644	644	260	1028

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

Agency /	<1-20	21-40	41-60	61-80		101-120				181-200	201-300	301-400		TOTAL
Component	Days	Days	Days	Days	Days	Days	Days	Days	Days	Days	Days	Days	Days	TOTAL
ODNI	263	9	0	0	2	0	1	0	1	0	0	2	4	282
														0
AGENCY OVERALL	263	9	0	0	2	0	1	0	1	0	0	2	4	282

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

Agency /	<1-20	21-40	41-60	61-80		101-120								TOTAL
Component	Days	Days	Days	Days	Days	Days	Days	Days	Days	Days	Days	Days	Days	
ODNI	7	19	9	4	7	2	4	2	6	3	3	2	21	89
														0
AGENCY OVERALL	7	19	9	4	7	2	4	2	6	3	3	2	21	89

VII.C. PROCESSED REQUESTS GRANTED EXPEDITED PROCESSING -- 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
ODNI	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
														0
AGENCY OVERALL	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

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

		SIMPLE			COMPLEX		EXPED	ITED PROCE	ESSING
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
AGENCY OVERALL	393	296	352.39	9	924	823	0	N/A	N/A

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

Agency / Component		10th Oldest Request	9th	8th	7th	6th	5th	4th	3rd	2nd	Oldest Request
	Date of Receipt										
	Number of Days Pending										
AGENCY	Date of Receipt	2013-10-18	2013-09-13	2013-08-05	2013-07-29	2013-07-15	2013-03-20	2013-03-20	2013-02-11	2013-01-17	2012-09-26
OVERALL	Number of Days Pending	992	1016	1044	1049	1059	1140	1140	1166	1182	1285

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
AGENCY OVERALL	0	0	N/A	N/A	0

VIII.B. REQUESTS FOR FEE WAIVER

Agency / Component	Number Granted		Median Number of Days to Adjudicate	Average Number of Days to Adjudicate
AGENCY OVERALL	0	0	N/A	N/A

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
ODNI	11	0	11	\$1,580,000.00	\$0.00	\$1,580,000.00
			0			\$0.00
AGENCY OVERALL	11	0	11	\$1,580,000.00	\$0.00	\$1,580,000.00

X. FEES COLLECTED FOR PROCESSING REQUESTS

Agency / Component	Total Amount of Fees Collected	Percentage of Total Costs
ODNI	\$0.00	0.00%
AGENCY OVERALL	\$0.00	0.00%

XI.A. NUMBER OF TIMES SUBSECTION USED

Agency / Component	Number of Times Subsection Used
ODNI	
AGENCY OVERALL	

XI.B. NUMBER OF SUBSECTION POSTINGS

Agency / Component	Number of Records Posted by the FOIA Office	Number of Records Posted by Program Offices
ODNI	18	166
AGENCY OVERALL	18	166

XII.A. BACKLOGS OF FOIA REQUESTS AND ADMINISTRATIVE APPEALS

Agency / Component	Number of Backlogged Requests as of End of Fiscal Year	•••
ODNI	359	31
AGENCY OVERALL	359	31

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

	Number of		Number of	Number of
	Consultations Received	Number of	Consultations Received	Consultations Received
Agency / Component	from Other Agencies	Consultations Received	from Other Agencies	from Other Agencies
Agency / Component	that were <u>Pending</u> at the	from Other Agencies	that were Processed by	that were <u>Pending</u> at the
	Agency as of Start	During the Fiscal Year	the Agency During the	Agency as of <u>End</u>
	of the Fiscal Year		Fiscal Year	of the Fiscal Year
ODNI	17	89	89	17
				0
AGENCY OVERALL	17	89	89	17

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										
	Number of Days										
AGENCY	Date	2017-08-28	2017-08-08	2017-07-25	2017-06-23	2017-04-17	2016-12-21	2016-07-19	2016-06-23	2016-02-08	2015-12-22
OVERALL	Number of Days	38	38	48	69	117	196	224	303	416	447

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

	NUMBER OF REQ	UESTS <u>RECEIVED</u>	NUMBER OF REQUESTS PROCESSED		
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	
ODNI	382	456	363	376	
AGENCY OVERALL	382	456	363	376	

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

	Number of Backlogged	Number of Backlogged
Agency / Component		Requests as of End of the
Agency / Component	Fiscal Year from Previous	Fiscal Year from Current
	Annual Report	Annual Report
ODNI	289	359
AGENCY OVERALL	289	359

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

	NUMBER OF APF	PEALS <u>RECEIVED</u>	NUMBER OF APPEALS PROCESSED		
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	
ODNI	26	49	33	36	
AGENCY OVERALL	26	49	33	36	

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

	Number of Backlogged	Number of Backlogged
Agency / Component	Appeals as of End of the	Appeals as of End of the
Agency / Component	Fiscal Year from Previous	Fiscal Year from Current
	Annual Report	Annual Report
ODNI	19	31
AGENCY OVERALL	19	31

XIII. NEW ANNUAL FOIA REPORT REQUIREMENTS

Agency / Component	Exclusions	Records Posted by FOIA Office	Records Posted by PROGRAM Office
ODNI	0	18	166