

Department of State

§215.8

§215.6 Special procedures: Medical records.

If the Assistant Director for Administration or the Privacy Liaison Officer, determines that the release directly to the individual of medical records maintained by the Agency could have an adverse effect upon such individual, the Director/Officer will attempt to arrange an alternative acceptable to both the individual and Agency (such as the release of said information to a doctor named by the individual) in granting access to such record.

§215.7 Request for correction or amendment of record.

(a) An individual may request the Agency to correct or amend a record pertaining to him or her which the individual believes is not accurate, relevant, timely or complete.

(b) Such request must be in writing and must be presented, in person or by mail to the addresses listed in §215.3(a).

(c) Such requests must set forth the following information:

(1) Identification of the system of records in which the particular record is maintained;

(2) The portion(s) of the record to be amended or corrected;

(3) The desired amendment or correction; and

(4) The reasons for the amendment or correction.

The request must be accompanied by evidence, documentation, or other information in support of the request.

(d) Assistance in preparing a request to amend a record may be obtained from the officials listed in §215.3(a).

§215.8 Agency review of request for amendment of record.

(a) The Agency will examine the information requested to be amended to determine its accuracy, timeliness, completeness, and its relevancy and necessity to accomplish a purpose of the Agency required to be accomplished by statute or by executive order.

(b) Within ten (10) working days after the receipt by the Assistant Director for Administration or the Privacy Liaison Officer, of a request made in accordance with this section, the Assistant Director for Administration or the

Privacy Liaison Officer shall acknowledge in writing such receipt and shall, after examination in accordance with the provisions of paragraph (a) of this section, promptly either:

(1) Make any amendment of any portion thereof which the individual believes is not accurate, relevant, timely or complete, and notify the individual of the amendment made; or

(2) Inform the individual of the Agency's refusal to amend the record in accordance with the request, the reason(s) for the refusal, and the procedures established by the Agency for the individual to request a review of that refusal.

(c) If the Agency agrees with the individual's request to amend a record, in addition to proceeding as set forth in paragraph (b)(1) of this section, it shall promptly advise all previous recipients of the record of the fact that the amendment was made and the substance of the amendment where an accounting of disclosures has been made.

(d) If unusual circumstances prevent the completion of Agency action on the request to amend within 30 days after the receipt thereof by the Assistant Director for Administration or the Privacy Liaison Officer, the individual will be promptly advised of the delay, the reasons for the delay, and of the date by which the review is expected to be completed.

(e) If the Agency, after its initial examination of the record and the request for Amendment, disagrees with all or any part of the individual's request to amend it shall:

(1) To the extent the Agency agrees with any part of the individual's request to amend, proceed as described in paragraphs (b)(1) and (c) of this section;

(2) Advise the individual of its refusal and the reason(s) therefor;

(3) Inform the individual that he or she may request a further review by the Director or the Administrator, or their designees; and

(4) Describe the procedures for requesting such review, including the name and address of the official to whom the request should be directed.

(f) No part of these regulations shall be construed to permit:

(1) The alteration of evidence presented in the course of judicial, quasi-

§215.9

judicial or quasi-legislative proceedings;

(2) Collateral attack upon any matter which has been the subject of judicial or quasi-judicial action; or

(3) An amendment or correction which would be in violation of an existing statute, executive order or regulation.

§215.9 Appeal of initial adverse agency determination.

(a) An individual who disagrees with the denial or partial denial of his or her request to amend a record may file a request for review of such refusal within 60 days after the date of notification of the denial or partial denial.

(b) The request for review must be in writing and may be presented in person or by mail to:

Director, International Development Cooperation Agency, 2201 C Street, NW., Washington, DC 20523. Attention: Privacy Review Request.

Director, Office of External Affairs, Agency for International Development, 2201 C Street, NW., Washington, DC 20523. Attention: Privacy Review Request.

Both the envelope and the letter should be clearly marked: Attention: Privacy Review Request. Such request should include any documentation, information or statements advanced for the amendment of the record, and a copy of the initial adverse determination.

(c) Upon receipt of the request for review, the Director or the Assistant Administrator, or an officer of the Agency designated in writing by the Director or Administrator, shall undertake an independent review of the initial determination.

(d) If someone other than the Director or the Assistant Administrator is designated to conduct the review, he or she shall be an officer who is organizationally independent of or senior to the officer or employee who made the initial determination.

(e) In conducting the review, the reviewing official, may at his or her option, request such additional information as is deemed necessary to establish that the record contains only that information which is accurate, timely, complete and necessary to assure fairness in any determination which may

be made about the individual on the basis of the record.

(f) Within 30 days after receipt of the request for review, the Director, the Assistant Administrator, or the official designated to conduct the review, shall advise the individual of the Agency's final decision. If unusual circumstances prevent the completion of the review within the 30-day period, the Agency shall, prior to the expiration of the 30-day period, advise the individual in writing of the circumstances preventing the completion of such review and inform him or her of the date by which the review is expected to be completed.

(g) If the reviewing official determines that the record should be amended in accordance with the individual's request, the Agency shall:

(1) Amend the record accordingly;

(2) Advise the individual of the amendment; and

(3) Where an accounting of disclosures has been made, advise all previous recipients of the fact that the amendment was made and the nature of the amendment.

(h) If, after conducting the review, the reviewing official refuses to amend the record, in whole or in part, in accordance with the individual's request, Agency shall advise the individual:

(1) Of its refusal and the reasons therefor;

(2) Of the individual's right to file a concise statement of his or her reasons for disagreeing with the Agency's decision;

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

(4) That any such statement will be sent to anyone to whom the record is subsequently disclosed, together with a brief statement by the Agency summarizing its reasons for refusing to amend the record;

(5) That to the extent an accounting of disclosure was maintained, prior recipients of the disputed record will be provided a copy of any statement of disagreement and of the Agency's statement summarizing its reasons for refusing to amend the record; and

(6) Of the individual's right to seek judicial review of the Agency's refusal to amend a record as provided for in section (g)(1)(a) of the Act.