

(d) *Certification of records.* The NCUA may authenticate or certify records to facilitate their use as evidence. If you require authenticated records, you must request certified copies at least 45 days before the date they will be needed. The request should be sent to the General Counsel. You will be charged a certification fee of \$5.00 per document.

(e) *Waiver of fees.* A waiver or reduction of any fees in connection with the testimony, production, or certification or authentication of records may be granted in the discretion of the General Counsel. Waivers will not be granted routinely. If you request a waiver, your request for records or testimony must state the reasons why a waiver should be granted.

[62 FR 56054, Oct. 29, 1997, as amended at 65 FR 63789, Oct. 25, 2000]

**§ 792.48 If my request is granted, what restrictions apply?**

(a) *Records.* The General Counsel may impose conditions or restrictions on the release of nonpublic records, including a requirement that you obtain a protective order or execute a confidentiality agreement with the other parties in the legal proceeding that limits access to and any further disclosure of the nonpublic records. The terms of a confidentiality agreement or protective order must be acceptable to the General Counsel. In cases where protective orders or confidentiality agreements have already been executed, the NCUA may condition the release of nonpublic records on an amendment to the existing protective order or confidentiality agreement.

(b) *Testimony.* The General Counsel may impose conditions or restrictions on the testimony of NCUA employees, including, for example, limiting the areas of testimony or requiring you and the other parties to the legal proceeding to agree that the transcript of the testimony will be kept under seal or will only be used or made available in the particular legal proceeding for which you requested the testimony. The General Counsel may also require you to provide a copy of the transcript of the testimony to the NCUA at your expense.

**§ 792.49 Definitions.**

*Legal proceedings* means any matter before any federal, state or foreign administrative or judicial authority, including courts, agencies, commissions, boards or other tribunals, involving such proceedings as lawsuits, licensing matters, hearings, trials, discovery, investigations, mediation or arbitration. When the NCUA is a party to a legal proceeding, it will be subject to the applicable rules of civil procedure governing production of documents and witnesses, however, this subpart will still apply to the testimony of former NCUA employees.

*NCUA employee* means current and former officials, members of the Board, officers, directors, employees and agents of the National Credit Union Administration, including contract employees and consultants and their employees. This definition does not include persons who are no longer employed by the NCUA and are retained or hired as expert witnesses or agree to testify about general matters, matters available to the public, or matters with which they had no specific involvement or responsibility during their employment.

*Nonpublic records* means any NCUA records that are exempt from disclosure under §792.11, the NCUA regulations implementing the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act. For example, this means records created in connection with NCUA's examination and supervision of insured credit unions, including examination reports, internal memoranda, and correspondence, and, also, records created in connection with NCUA's enforcement and investigatory responsibilities.

*Subpoena* means any order, subpoena for records or other tangible things or for testimony, summons, notice or legal process issued in a legal proceeding.

*Testimony* means any written or oral statements made by an individual in connection with a legal proceeding including personal appearances in court or at depositions, interviews in person or by telephone, responses to written

## § 792.50

interrogatories or other written statements such as reports, declarations, affidavits, or certifications or any response involving more than the delivery of records.

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### Subpart D—Security Procedures for Classified Information

#### § 792.50 Program.

(a) The NCUA's Chief Financial Officer ("Chief Financial Officer") is designated as the person responsible for implementation and oversight of NCUA's program for maintaining the security of confidential information regarding national defense and foreign relations. The Chief Financial Officer receives questions, suggestions and complaints regarding all elements of this program. The Chief Financial Officer is solely responsible for changes to the program and assures that the program is consistent with legal requirements.

(b) The Chief Financial Officer is the Agency's official contact for declassification requests regardless of the point of origin of such requests.

[54 FR 18476, May 1, 1989, as amended at 59 FR 36042, July 15, 1994; 67 FR 30774, May 8, 2002]

#### § 792.51 Procedures.

(a) *Mandatory review.* All declassification requests made by a member of the public, by a government employee or by an agency shall be handled by the Chief Financial Officer or the Chief Financial Officer's designee. Under no circumstances shall the Chief Financial Officer refuse to confirm the existence or nonexistence of a document under the Freedom of Information Act or the mandatory review provisions of other applicable law, unless the fact of its existence or nonexistence would itself be classifiable under applicable law. Although NCUA has no authority to classify or declassify information, it occasionally handles information classified by another agency. The Chief Financial Officer shall refer all declassification requests to the agency that originally classified the information. The Chief Financial Officer or the

## 12 CFR Ch. VII (1–1–06 Edition)

Chief Financial Officer's designee shall notify the requesting person or agency that the request has been referred to the originating agency and that all further inquiries and appeals must be made directly to the other agency.

(b) *Handling and safeguarding national security information.* All information classified "Top Secret," "Secret," and "Confidential" shall be delivered to the Chief Financial Officer or the Chief Financial Officer's designee immediately upon receipt. The Chief Financial Officer shall advise those who may come into possession of such information of the name of the current designee. If the Chief Financial Officer is unavailable, the designee shall lock the documents, unopened, in the combination safe located in the Office of Chief Financial Officer. If the Chief Financial Officer or the designee is unavailable to receive such documents, the documents shall be delivered to the Chief Financial Officer of the Personnel Office who shall lock them, unopened, in the combination safe in the Personnel Office. Under no circumstances shall classified materials that cannot be delivered to the Chief Financial Officer be stored other than in the two designated safes.

(c) *Storage.* All classified documents shall be stored in the combination safe located in the Chief Financial Officer's Office, except as provided in paragraph (b) of this section. The combination shall be known only to the Chief Financial Officer and the Chief Financial Officer's designee holding the proper security clearance.

(d) *Employee education.* The Chief Financial Officer shall send a memo to every NCUA employee who:

- (1) Has a security clearance and
- (2) May handle classified materials.

This memo shall describe NCUA procedures for handling, reproducing and storing classified documents. The Chief Financial Officer shall require each such employee to review Executive Order 12356.

(e) *Agency terminology.* The National Credit Union Administration's Central Office shall use the terms "Top Secret," "Secret" or "Confidential" only in relation to materials classified for national security purposes.

[63 FR 14338, Mar. 25, 1998, as amended at 67 FR 30774, May 8, 2002]