Sharing Government Information with Citizens

Federal Citizen Information Center
U.S. General Services Administration
Mary Levy, Director
Consumer Information and Outreach
April 16, 2008

Our Information Channels

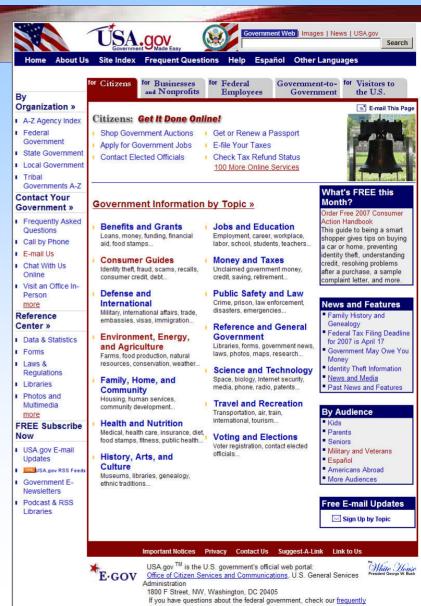
We provide citizens with the government information they need through channels of their choice

"It's government made easy"

- Web: USA.gov and other web sites
- E-mail
- FAQ's
- Web Chat
- E-mail updates
- Telephone: 1-800-FED INFO
- Publications: Pueblo, CO 81009

USA.gov

- The official portal of the U.S. Government
- Catalogs millions of federal and state web pages for ease of navigation
- Best-in-class search engine for government information
- 1.5 million web sites link to USA.gov
- **97 million** visits in 2007



questions, e-mail USA.gov, or call 1 (800) FED INFO (1-800-333-4636)

USA.gov

- Provides easy access to official government information and services from a single location
- Do not need to know organizational hierarchy or agency names
- Federal, state, local, territorial, and tribal information
- Rated #1 in the world by the United Nations World Public Sector report

GobiernoUSA.gov

- The official Spanish portal of the U.S. Government
- Over 32,500 web sites link to GobiernoUSA.gov
- **1.6 million** visits in 2007



¿Tiene una pregunta sobre el Gobierno de los Estados Unidos? Envíe un correo electrónico a <u>GobiernoUSA gov</u> o llame al 1 (800) FED INFO (1-800-333-4636)

What Does America Ask Us?

Top Requests at USA.gov

- How to get Government Benefits and Grants
 - Help with buying a home
 - Starting or running a small business
 - Social security
 - Government grants
 - Disaster assistance
- How to buy things from Government cars, homes, guide to buying
- International Travel
 - Passport applications and questions
 - Immunization needs
- Naturalization and Immigration
 - Visas
 - Check status of green cards
 - Becoming a citizen

- How to get a Federal job
- Other areas of interest
 - A-Z Index of Government Agencies
 - Address change, drivers licenses, vital records
 - How to comment on legislation or contact Congress or White House
 - Money: wage and hour issues, investments, savings, savings bonds, credit, making a will, taxes
 - Consumer protection: scams and fraud, ID theft, Do Not Call Registry
 - Weather
 - State lottery results
- Seasonal/Sporadic
 - Taxes, foreign policy issues, disasters, top news items

E-mail Us



E-mail form

				RSS Feeds from US
Frequently Asked	l Questions (FAQ:	s) Email Your Que	stion Live Help - Web Chat	FAQ H
Citizen Response Te NOT include any othe	eam will respond to er personal informa	you within two busine tion, especially Social S	e U.S. government. If you provide yo ss days. For <u>privacy and security</u> pur ecurity numbers. ries in English or Spanish.	
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Federal Citizen Information Center

1800 F Street, NW, Washington, DC 20405

Office of Citizen Services and Communications, U.S. General Services Administration

Have any questions about the federal government? E-mail USA gov or call 1-800-FED-INFO (1-800-333-4636)



Military and Veterans

Americans Abroad

More Audiences

■ Parents

Seniors

Español

Sign Up by Topic

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Medical, health care, insurance, diet,

food stamps, fitness, public health...

History, Arts, and

Museums, libraries, genealogy,

Culture

ethnic traditions.

Now

USA.gov E-mail

Government E-

Newsletters Podcast & RSS

Libraries

■ XMC USA.gov RSS Feed

Updates

Important Notices Privacy Confact Us Suggest-A-Link Link to Us

USA.gov TM is the U.S. government's official web portal:

Office of Citizen Services and Communications, U.S. General Services

Voting and Elections

officials...

Voter registration, contact elected

Administration 1800 F Street, NW, Washington, DC 20405

If you have questions about the federal government, check our frequently asked

questions, e-mail USA.gov, or call 1 (800) FED INFO (1-800-333-4636)

USA.gov Frequently Asked Questions



Important Notices Privacy Contact Us Suggest-A-Link Link to Us



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Web Chat

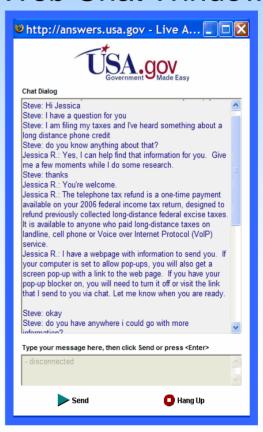


History, Arts, and

Museums, libraries, genealogy, ethnic traditions...

Culture

Web Chat Window



Americans Abroad

Free E-mail Updates

Sign Up by Topic

More Audiences

Pueblo.gsa.gov

- Order, read, print, or save publications
- Product recalls and scams
- Consumer news from federal agencies
- Gov Gab blog



Important Notices - Site Map

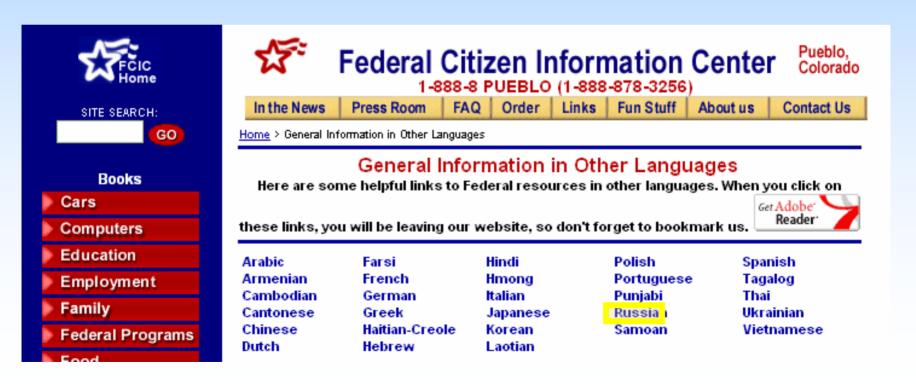
This service is provided by the Federal Citizen Information Center of the U.S. General Services Administration. E-mail us your comments or questions

Take a look at great features on our What's New page.



Multi-language Gateway

Links to federal government information in 28 languages



Kids.gov

The Official Kids Portal for the U.S. Government



ConsumerAction.gov

Everyday guide to being a smart shopper and getting help resolving consumer problems



This service is provided by the <u>Federal Citizen Information Center</u> of the U.S. General Services Administration.

USA.gov



Consumidor.gov

Spanish version of ConsumerAction.gov

Sitio Web de la Guía del Consumidor Centro Federal de Información para el Público

Inicio Preguntas frecuentes Solicitar la Guía

In English

Buscar

Desplegar | Reducir todo

¿Tiene alguna pregunta o algún problema como consumidor? Usted ha venido al lugar correcto para obtener ayuda. Toda la información disponible en la Guía del Consumidor está disponible aquí en línea. Sólo utilice la harra de navegación del lado izquierdo para explorar el sitio. A continuación, hay algunas sugerencias...

- · Revise los temas para el consumidor para obtener consejos útiles sobre asuntos específicos del consumidor, como comprar un auto o vivienda o prevenir el robo de identidad.
- Utilice el directorio de recursos para comunicarse con una compañía específica, o con la oficina local de servicio al consumidor u Oficina de Mejores Prácticas Comerciales.
- Si usted es docente, miembro del ejército o de los medios de comunicación, o una persona con discapacidades, pruebe nuestra sección para públicos
- · Si todavía no ha encontrado lo que necesita, pruebe en Avuda Adicional para enlaces a otros sitios útiles en el Web.



Ordene hoy su copia gratuita de la Guía del Consumidor de 2007!

Solicite la Guía del Consumidor 2007. Esta quía diaria para ser un comprador inteligente está llena de consejos útiles sobre cómo comprar un auto o una vivienda, prevenir el robo de identidad, entender qué es el crédito,

resolver problemas después de una compra y mucho más. En la edición de 2007, usted encontrará nueva información sobre cómo declarar bancarrota, cómo encontrar un abogado y cómo organizar un funeral y otros muchos otros temas de utilidad

Consejo práctico para el consumidor

Los anuncios de trabaje en casa normalmente no son rentables. Esté especialmente alerta con los anuncios que prometen salarios anuales inmensos; a menudo requieren matrículas iniciales caras sin garantías. Usted se arriesga a perder dinero, mucho tiempo y energía.

Otros consejos prácticos para el consumidor>>

Noticias para el consumidor (en inglés)

- U.S. Government Sues Jackson Hewitt Tax Preparation Franchises in Four States,
- Alleging Pervasive Fraud IRS Warns of Phony e-Mails Claiming to Come from the IRS
- Delitos por Internet -- Los más recientes números
- Estaciones de potencia máxima cesarán transmisiones análogas después del 17 de febrero de
- Estafa usa el nombre "BBB" (Better Business Bureau) para atraer víctimas
- Nuevo fraude con préstamos dirigido a propietarios
- 10 millones de contribuyentes no aprovechan reembolsos por teléfono. IRS pide a la gente que verifiquen antes de hacer su declaración
- Salmonelosis Investigación sobre brote, febrero 2007
- Anunciado el mayor incremento de la beca Pell en tres décadas
- La Comisión Federal de Comercio publica relación de las principales queias del consumidor

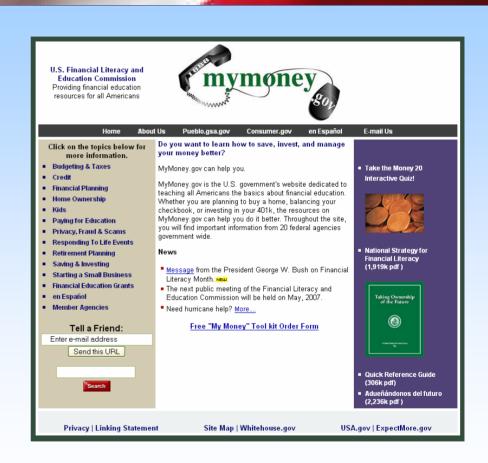
Más artículos >>

Enlaces de interés (en inglés) Centro Nacional de Datos para

- Información sobre el Cuidado a Largo Plazo
- Un Cuento con Moraleja: No
- Apueste en Loterías Extranjeras Administración Nacional de Seguridad del Tráfico en las Carreteras
- Nueva sección OnGuard en línea ofrece consejos para compradores y vendedores de subastas en Internet
- Herramienta "Life Stages" para
- Administración de Drogas y Alimentos de EE. UU.
- Junta de la Reserva Federal -Información para el consumidor

MyMoney.gov

U.S. government's website dedicated to teaching the public the basics of sound financial management



WebContent.gov

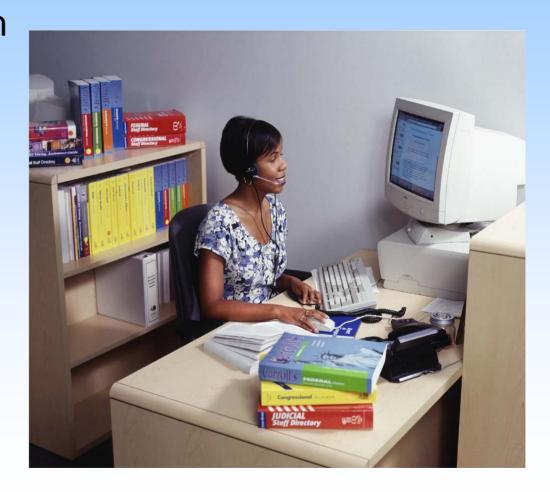
Web managers helping one another by sharing:

- experiences,
- common challenges,
- lessons learned,
- successes,
- new ideas, and
- training opportunities.



National Contact Center (1-800-FED INFO)

- English and Spanish agents
- Available 8am to 8pm (M-F)
- IVR 24 x 7
- Online
 Knowledgebase



National Contact Center

- Outsourced to ICT Group, Lakeland, FL
- Almost 1.7 million calls and emails in FY2007

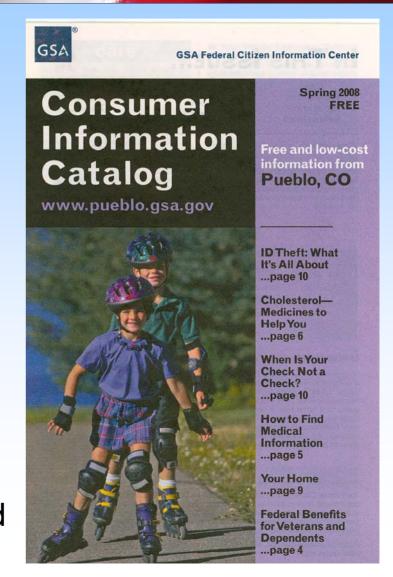




- Phone support for other agencies including Bureau of Consular Affairs, Dept of State:
 - Travel abroad, international adoptions & abductions
 - Emergencies: hurricanes, tsunamis
 - Help with passport calls

Publication Distribution

- Consumer Information Catalog
- Pueblo, Colorado 81009
- More than 200 free & low-cost federal publications
- Full text available online at pueblo.gsa.gov
- Topics include health, federal benefits, money, housing, childcare, employment, small business, education, nutrition, cars, travel, and more
- 21 million publications distributed in FY2007



Pueblo Publication Distribution



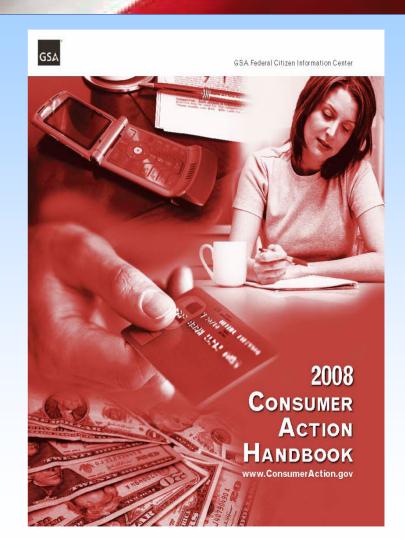
- GPO facility, worked together since 1973
- 95% of work at the facility is for FCIC
- 365 million publications from more than 40 agencies
- FCIC bills agencies and reimburses GPO for all services





Consumer Action Handbook

- Helps with consumer problems and questions
- Lists contact information for thousands of Better Business Bureaus, corporate consumer contacts, and state and local government consumer protection agencies
- Available at www.ConsumerAction.gov



Tools For Citizens

- Email Alerts: sign up to get an email when we add new information to our sites
 - http://www.usa.gov/Contact/E-mail-subscriptions.shtml
 - http://www.pueblo.gsa.gov/subscribe/
- RSS Feeds: add our feeds to your RSS reader and receive the latest news from us
 - http://www.usa.gov/rss/index.shtml
- E-newsletters: receive our email newsletters
 - http://apps.gsa.gov/FirstGovCommonSubscriptionService.php
 - http://www.pueblo.gsa.gov/subscribe/

Using the Media

- "Dear Abby"
 - Retirement Planning Package
- Sunday, March 14, 2008

DEAR ABBY Jeanne Phillips San Francisco Chronicle Parents have zilch in savings Dear Abby: I'm 26 and concerned about tration Federal Citizen Information my parents' future. They are in their late Center offers free information that 40s and have absolutely nothing saved for could help you. Log on to www.pue

There are six kids in our family. I aping off some steam when it comes to spending money, since they were unable

Also check your local library. to do it while we were all younger. However, I feel it's time they look at the big picture.

a "game." your parents may be more likely to go for it. Good luck.

At this point, they will be unable to pay for any of their expenses when they're older, and my five siblings and I don't have money to support them. Our youn-gest brother still lives at home and is adopting the same spending habits as

How would you recommend we speak to our parents? Do you know of any artito our parents: Do you allow the faming for ms charm and the because they isn't being very supportive because they speaking to them? In ST. PETE, FLA. didn't want me to reconcile.

and your four adult siblings are equally concerned about your parents' welfare, self up. You're an optimistic person, you should approach them as a group. and it's still not too late for them to start trust. saving and investing for their retire-

month (\$100), and your parents put in deeds. \$100, at the end of a year they would have \$2,400. By the time your father was ready to retire in 20 years, they'd Los Angeles, CA 90069 or www.Dear have some serious money put away. The U.S. General Services Adminis-

gsa.gov and look under the heading "Retirement Planning" in the "Monpreciate the fact that my parents are blow- ey" section. Or call (888) 878-3256 for a

If you turn the matching money into

Dear Abby: Last year, against the advice of my friends and family, I forgave my ex-

Within a few months he was up to his old tricks again, chasing other women, so

How do I forgive myself for being so stupid? and I am furious with myself for

FOOLED ME TWICE IN COLUMBUS, OHIO

and your ex-boyfriend abused your

ment years. And you and the others could help them by offering to match what they save each month.

pable of change, it's time to go on with your life. The lesson you will take from this it to draw the line sconer if you no-If the five of you each put in \$20 a tice a person's words don't match his

> Write to Dear Abby at P.O. Box 69440, Abby.com.

UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

"The U.S. General Services **Administration** Federal Citizen Information Center offers free information that could help you. Log on to www.pueblo.gsa.gov and look under the heading 'Retirement Planning' in the 'Money' section. You'll find lots of good advice, and you can even order free and lowcost booklets on saving and investing and much more. Or call (888) 878-3256 for a free Consumer Information Catalog."

Using the Media

- April 2008 issue of Real Simple "Savvy Strategies for Buying Online"
- 2 million readers informed about buying safely online





Some e-tailers collect information about you, down to the site you wisited just before theirs, then sell or share it. The privacy policy should clearly explain what a company does with your data and should allow you to opt out if anything makes you uncomfortable. "If not, you may want to steer clear of using that particular e-tailer," says Mary Levy of the Federal Clitzen Information Center, a government-run consumer resource that is part of the U.S. General Services Administration.

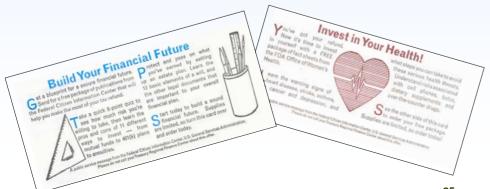
Marketing Outreach

"Back of the Tax Refund Envelope"

(12 million envelopes)



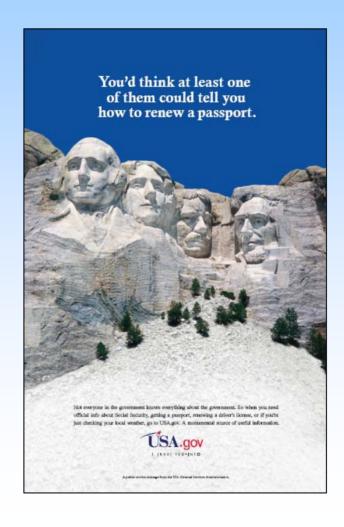
Tax Refund Check Inserts



Spanish Targeted Mailing (1.1 million pubs distributed)



"Monuments" 2006 PSA Campaign



Our Public Contacts

Channel	2007
USA.gov visits	97,014,575
Other Web visits	21,636,892
Print publications	21,321,581
Toll-free telephone calls	1,716,990
Telephone calls for other agencies	33,450,157
Email	108,516
Subscriber emailings	5,375,948
Total Contacts	222,284,873

In summary

- Citizens are eager to get government information and will continue to use a variety of channels (websites, email, phone, print) to contact the U.S. government
- Preference for using the Internet has increased while inperson contact is declining
- Citizens expect that the information they get via a combination of channels will be consistent
- The government needs to keep up-to-date as new ways to share information services with citizens are developed

In summary continued

- Citizens expect the government to proactively 'push' information and services to them
- Citizens expect that their privacy and security will be protected
- Citizens' expectations do not vary significantly by location or region across the United States



THANK YOU!

Mary Levy

Mary.Levy@gsa.gov

General Services Administration 1800 F Street, NW Room G-142 Washington, DC 20405 (202)501-1798