



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Chief Financial Officer
Assistant Secretary for Administration
Washington, D.C. 20230

JUL 24 2012

John P. Fitzpatrick
Director, ISOO
National Archives and Records Administration
700 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Room 100
Washington, DC 20408-0001

Dear Mr. Fitzpatrick:

This letter is provided as a final report on the results of the Department of Commerce (DOC) Fundamental Classification Guidance Review, as required by Executive Order (EO) 13526. The Office of Security (OSY), Counterespionage Division, worked with bureau security representatives and subject matter experts, to educate Original Classification Authorities (OCA) on their responsibilities and classification requirements. OSY reviewed the past seven years of classification decisions to determine the current need for classification guides and to validate past original classification decisions.

The following information provides the results and decisions made by the DOC regarding our OCAs and need for classification guides:

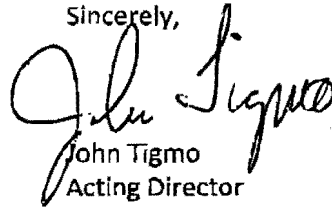
- DOC OCAs does not possess current classification guides.
- Past classification decisions were derivative.
- OCAs designated by the Secretary, with the exception of three, have agreed to relinquish the OCA designation. The Department will retain four positions as OCAs.
 - Secretary
 - Director for Security
 - Deputy Under Secretary, Bureau Industry and Security
 - Associate Administrator, Office of Spectrum Management
- The four remaining OCAs will be used to validate declassification decisions, and provide counsel for any DOC bureaus and/or operating offices requiring original classification.
- The DOC will issue a consolidated classification guide when/if future original classification is required at the Department.
- The fundamental classification review did not require modification in the duration of classification or exemptions from declassification of information at the DOC.

The OSY continues to work with subject matter experts at the DOC for matters of mandatory, automatic, and systematic declassification review; and a documented and tracked process is in place. In most mandatory declassification review requests, we have found that information is routinely referred to outside agencies, such as Department of State and Department of Defense where the classified information is a result of an original classification decision at those agencies.

Ultimately, the DOC must maintain OCA as technology and international situations continue to evolve, and we understand that such authority requires documentation of the classification decisions. We appreciate the opportunity to perform this review as it has reduced our OCAs from 16 to 4 over the last five years.

If you have questions regarding the DOC fundamental classification review, please contact Eric Dorsey, Assistant Director, Counterespionage Division, at (202) 482-1266.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Tigmo". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "J".

John Tigmo
Acting Director
Office of Security
Department of Commerce