

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY  
BUREAU OF THE PUBLIC DEBT

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT ANNUAL REPORT  
FOR FISCAL YEAR 1999

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**I. BASIC INFORMATION REGARDING REPORT.**

This is the Fiscal Year 1999 FOIA Report for the Bureau of the Public Debt, Department of the Treasury. The Department's combined report is posted at the Department of the Treasury's website at: <http://www.treas.gov/foia/99rpt.pdf>.

Please direct any questions about the Bureau of the Public Debt's report to:

Louise Bennett, Information Disclosure Officer  
Office of the Commissioner  
Phone: 202/691-3516; Fax: 202/219-4163  
999 E Street, N.W., Room 500  
Washington, DC 20239-0001

Bureau of the Public Debt's FOIA Home Page:  
<http://www.publicdebt.treas.gov> and click on FOIA

## **II. HOW TO MAKE A FOIA REQUEST; RESPONSE TIMES; WHY SOME REQUESTS NOT GRANTED.**

II.A. The Bureau of the Public Debt's FOIA Reference Guide is available at <http://www.publicdebt.treas.gov> and click on FOIA, or by contacting the office as described above.

II.B. The Bureau of the Public Debt's response time range in days was 1 day for simple requests to 62 days for requests for contracts where the business submitter had to be contacted.

II.C. Some requests were not granted because:

1. records did not exist;
2. there was no agreement to pay fees;
3. records not reasonably described;
4. records contained confidential, commercial information;
5. records contained personal information.

## **III. DEFINITION OF TERMS.**

See the Department of the Treasury's report at: <http://www.treas.gov/foia/99rpt.pdf>.

## **IV. EXEMPTION 3 STATUTES.**

None relied on by the Bureau of the Public Debt during fiscal year 1999.

## **V. INITIAL FOIA/PA ACCESS REQUESTS.**

A. Number of initial requests.

1. Pending 10/01/98: 0
2. Received FY 99: 124
3. Processed FY 99: 121
4. Pending 9/30/99: 3

B. Disposition of initial requests.

1. Total grants: 66

2. Partial grants: 8

3. Denials: 7

Number of times each FOIA exemption used:

(b)(2): 2

(b)(4): 7

(b)(5): 1

(b)(6): 7

4. Other reasons for non-disclosure (total): 43

a. no records: 7

b. referrals: 3

c. withdrawn: 2

d. fee-related: 7

e. records not reasonably described: 20

f. not a proper FOIA request for some other reason: 3

g. not an agency record: 1

**VI. APPEALS OF INITIAL DENIALS OF FOIA/PA REQUESTS.**

A. Number of appeals.

1. Received FY 99: 3

2. Processed FY 99: 2

B. Disposition of appeals.

Number completely upheld: 0

Number partially reversed: 1

Number completely reversed: 1

Number of times each FOIA exemption used: (b)(6): 2

**VII. COMPLIANCE WITH TIME LIMITS/STATUS OF PENDING REQUESTS.**

A. Median time for processing requests.

Complex Requests:

Number of requests processed: 85

Median number of days to process: 7

B. Status of pending requests.

Number of requests pending at end of FY 99: 3

Median number of days requests were pending: 35

## **VIII. COMPARISONS WITH PREVIOUS YEARS. (OPTIONAL)**

The Bureau does not have comparative data to include in this report.

## **IX. COSTS/FOIA STAFFING.**

### **A. Staffing levels.**

1. Number of full-time FOIA personnel: 1
2. Number of personnel with part-time FOIA duties (in work-years): 0.20
3. Total number of personnel (in work-years): 1.20

### **B. Total costs (staff and resources combined):**

1. FOIA processing (including appeals): \$90,000
2. Litigation-related activities: \$0
3. Total costs: \$90,000

## **X. FEES.**

- A. Total fees collected FY 99: \$964.49
- B. Percentage of total costs: 1.07%

## **XI. FOIA REGULATIONS.**

Treasury FOIA regulations are codified at 31 CFR Part 1, Subpart A, and can be obtained by contacting Public Debt's Disclosure Office (see Sec. I of this report) or by accessing the Internet at: [www.access.gpo.gov/nara/cfr](http://www.access.gpo.gov/nara/cfr). Click on "Retrieve CFR Sections by Citation" and enter the Title 31 citation above.

A proposed rule revising the Department's FOIA regulations was published at 64 FR 24454 on May 6, 1999.