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VAU.S. Department
of Veterans AffairsOffice of Operations, Security, and Preparedness
Washington DC 20420

March 16, 2017

Mr. John Greenewald, Jr.


Dear Mr. Greenewald:

This is in response to your Freedom of Information Request, submitted on February 27, 2017, to the Department of Veterans Affairs, requesting a copy of records, electronic or otherwise, of the Agency Security Classification Management Program Data, SF-311 forms filled out by the VA for the last three years. The agency tracking number for your request is #17-06101-F. Your request was forwarded to the Office of Operations, Security, and Preparedness/Security and Law Enforcement for response.

Enclosed are copies of the reports you requested, parts of which are redacted because they include personally identifiable information that has been withheld pursuant to Exemptions 6, (5 U.S.C. Sec. 552(b)(6)) the disclosure of which would reasonably constitute an invasion of personal privacy.

Should you wish to appeal this determination, please send your appeal in writing within 90 days to: Department of Veterans Affairs, Office of General Counsel (024), 810 Vermont Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20420. You may also submit your appeal via facsimile to (202) 273-6388 or via email to ogcfoiaappeals@va.gov.

Please include a copy of your request and this letter with your appeal, and clearly state why you disagree with this determination. If you mail your appeal, both the front of the envelope and the letter should be clearly marked "Freedom of Information Act Appeal."

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Tanya Al-Khateeb in cursive script.

Tanya Al-Khateeb
Program Analyst
Office of Security & Law Enforcement

Enclosure

AGENCY SECURITY CLASSIFICATION MANAGEMENT PROGRAM DATA

(Submissions must be unclassified and reach the Information Security Oversight Office (ISOO) no later than November 15 following the reporting period.)

PART A: Identifying Information		
1. Enter the Fiscal Year that this report covers.	1. 2016	
2. Identify the Department, Independent agency, or Establishment that is covered by this report.	2. VA: Department of Veterans Affairs	
3. Enter the name and title of the Senior Agency Official (as defined in E.O. 13526, section 5.4(d)) responsible for this report.	3. Lewis Ratchford, Jr., Deputy Assistant Secretary	
4. Point-of-contact responsible for answering questions about this report:		
4a. Name:	4a. [REDACTED]	
4b. Title:	4b. Special Security Officer	
4c. Email address:	4c. [REDACTED]	
4d. Phone number:	4d. [REDACTED]	
PART B: Officials with Original Classification Authority		
5. Enter the number of agency officials whose highest level of original classification authority is TOP SECRET.	5.	0
6. Enter the number of agency officials whose highest level of original classification authority is SECRET.	6.	0
7. Enter the number of agency officials whose highest level of original classification authority is CONFIDENTIAL.	7.	0
8. Total number of officials with original classification authority. (Sum of blocks 5, 6, and 7)	8.	0
PART C: Original Classification Decisions		
Original classification is an initial determination that the information to be classified has not been previously classified by any other authority. It also meets the following conditions: (1) it was classified by an original classification authority; (2) the information is owned by or for, or is under the control of the United States Government; (3) it falls into at least one of the categories from section 1.4 of E.O. 13526; and (4) unauthorized disclosure could reasonably be expected to result in damage to the national security. (Provide information on all original classification decisions, regardless of the media, including those documented and disseminated via email. Do not count reproductions or copies.)		
9. Enter the number of original TOP SECRET classification decisions made during the reporting period with declassification instructions of 10 years or less.	9.	0
10. Enter the number of original TOP SECRET classification decisions made during the reporting period with declassification instructions ranging from over 10 years to 25 years.	10.	0
11. Total number of TOP SECRET original classification decisions. (Sum of blocks 9 and 10)	11.	0
12. Enter the number of original SECRET classification decisions made during the reporting period with declassification instructions of 10 years or less.	12.	0
13. Enter the number of original SECRET classification decisions made during the reporting period with declassification instructions ranging from over 10 years to 25 years.	13.	0
14. Total number of SECRET original classification decisions. (Sum of blocks 12 and 13)	14.	0
15. Enter the number of original CONFIDENTIAL classification decisions made during the reporting period with declassification instructions of 10 years or less.	15.	0
16. Enter the number of original CONFIDENTIAL classification decisions made during the reporting period with declassification instructions ranging from over 10 years to 25 years.	16.	0
17. Total number of CONFIDENTIAL original classification decisions. (Sum of blocks 15 and 16)	17.	0
18. Total number of original classification decisions. (Sum of blocks 11, 14, and 17)	18.	0

VA: Department of Veterans Affairs

PART D: Derivative Classification Decisions		
Derivative classification is the incorporating, paraphrasing, restating, or generating in new form information that is already classified. This includes classification based on classification guides or other source documents. (Provide information on all classification decisions, regardless of the media, including those documented and disseminated via email. Do not count reproductions or copies.)		
19. Enter the number of derivative TOP SECRET classification decisions made during the reporting period.	19.	1
20. Enter the number of derivative SECRET classification decisions made during the reporting period.	20.	12
21. Enter the number of derivative CONFIDENTIAL classification decisions made during the reporting period.	21.	0
22. Total number of derivative classification decisions. (Sum of blocks 19, 20, and 21)	22.	13
PART E: Mandatory Declassification Review Requests		
A "Request" is an individual initial review request, regardless of the number of documents or pages to be reviewed as part of the request. Report only requests for your agency in which your agency is responsible for the final decision.		
23. Enter the number of REQUESTS received during the reporting period.	23.	0
24. Enter the number of REQUESTS closed during the reporting period.	24.	0
25. Of the REQUESTS entered into block 24, enter the number of pages that were:	25.	
a. Declassified in full.	25a.	0
b. Declassified in part.	25b.	0
c. Denied declassification.	25c.	0
d. Total number of requested pages acted on. (Sum of blocks a, b, and c)	25d.	0
26. Enter the number of REQUESTS that have been unresolved for over one year.	26.	0
27. Enter the AVERAGE NUMBER OF DAYS to resolve each request.	27.	0
28. Enter the number of REFERRED REQUESTS received during the reporting period. (Number of requests referred to your agency from another agency)	28.	0
PART F: Mandatory Declassification Review Appeals		
An "Appeal" is an individual request for appeal, regardless of the number of documents or pages to be reviewed as part of the request. Report only appeals for your agency in which your agency is responsible for the final decision.		
29. Enter the number of APPEALS received during the reporting period.	29.	0
30. Enter the number of APPEALS closed during the reporting period.	30.	0
31. Of the APPEALS entered into block 30, enter the number of pages that were:	31.	
a. Declassified in full.	31a.	0
b. Declassified in part.	31b.	0
c. Denied declassification.	31c.	0
d. Total number of appealed pages acted on. (Sum of blocks a, b, and c)	31d.	0
32. Enter the number of APPEALS that have been unresolved for over one year.	32.	0
33. Enter the AVERAGE NUMBER OF DAYS to resolve each appeal.	33.	0
34. Enter the number of REFERRED APPEALS received during the reporting period. (Number of appeals referred to your agency from another agency)	34.	0

VA: Department of Veterans Affairs

PART G: Automatic, Systematic, and Discretionary Declassification Reviews		
35. Enter the number of pages REVIEWED that were subject to automatic declassification under section 3.3 of E.O. 13526.	35.	0
36. Enter the number of pages DECLASSIFIED under automatic declassification .	36.	0
37. Enter the number of pages REVIEWED that were subject to systematic declassification under section 3.4 of E.O. 13526.	37.	0
38. Enter the number of pages DECLASSIFIED under systematic declassification .	38.	0
39. Enter the number of pages REVIEWED that were subject to discretionary declassification under section 3.1 of E.O. 13526.	39.	0
40. Enter the number of pages DECLASSIFIED under discretionary declassification .	40.	0
PART H: Internal Agency Oversight		
41. Enter the number of CHALLENGES processed by your agency to the classification of information believed to be improperly classified or unclassified . (E.O. 13526, section 1.8)	41.	0
42. Enter the number of CHALLENGES where the classification status was fully affirmed .	42.	0
43. Enter the number of CHALLENGES where the classification status was overturned in whole or in part .	43.	0
PART I: Intelligence Community (IC) Information		
This section applies only to IC agencies and IC components of other agencies who <i>originally apply</i> the ORCON and ORCON-USGOV dissemination control. This information, along with ISOO's annual inspection reports will be used to inform the annual report to the DNI on the use of classification markings.		
Organization's classified disseminated analytic product (as defined in ICD 206 Sourcing Requirements for Disseminated Analytic Product) originally marked ORCON.		
44. Enter PERCENTAGE of your organization's classified disseminated analytic products originally marked ORCON .	44.	0.00%
45. Enter TOTAL NUMBER of your organization's classified disseminated analytic products originally marked ORCON .	45.	0
46. Enter the NUMBER OF REQUESTS approved for expanded dissemination of ORCON in full .	46.	0
47. Enter the NUMBER OF REQUESTS approved for expanded dissemination of ORCON in part . Provide explanation for partial denial in part J below.	47.	0
48. Enter the number of ORCON expanded dissemination requests DENIED . Provide explanation for denial in part J below.	48.	0
Organization's classified disseminated analytic product (as defined in ICD 206 Sourcing Requirements for Disseminated Analytic Product) originally marked ORCON-USGOV.		
49. Enter PERCENTAGE of your organization's analytic products originally marked ORCON-USGOV .	49.	0.00%
50. Enter TOTAL NUMBER of your organization's analytic products originally marked ORCON-USGOV .	50.	0
51. Provide TOTAL NUMBER of reports of potential misapplication of the ORCON marking. Provide background information on each occurrence in Part J below.	51.	0
52. Has your organization been NEGATIVELY IMPACTED by information being marked with ORCON or ORCON-USGOV control marking? If yes, provide explanation in Part J below.	52.	N/A

VA: Department of Veterans Affairs

PART J: Explanatory Comments

Use this space to elaborate on any section of this form. If more space is needed, provide as an attachment to this form. Provide explanations for any significant changes in trends/numbers from the previous year's report.

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) derivative classification decisions increased in FY 2016 due to the changes in the National Communications System Directive 3-10 testing requirements.

AGENCY SECURITY CLASSIFICATION MANAGEMENT PROGRAM DATA

(Submissions must be unclassified and reach the Information Security Oversight Office (ISOO) no later than November 15 following the reporting period.)

PART A: Identifying Information		
1. Enter the Fiscal Year that this report covers.	1.	2015
2. Identify the Department, Independent agency, or Establishment that is covered by this report.	2.	Veterans Affairs
3. Enter the name and title of the Senior Agency Official (as defined in E.O. 13526, section 5.4(d)) responsible for this report.	3.	Lewis Ratchford, Jr., Deputy Assistant Secretary
4. Enter the name, title, phone, and email address for the point-of-contact responsible for answering questions about this report.	4.	[REDACTED]
PART B: Officials with Original Classification Authority		
5. Enter the number of agency officials whose highest level of original classification authority is TOP SECRET.	5.	0
6. Enter the number of agency officials whose highest level of original classification authority is SECRET.	6.	0
7. Enter the number of agency officials whose highest level of original classification authority is CONFIDENTIAL.	7.	0
8. Total number of officials with original classification authority. (Sum of blocks 5, 6, & 7)	8.	0
PART C: Original Classification Decisions		
Original classification is an initial determination that the information to be classified has not been previously classified by any other authority. It also meets the following conditions: (1) it was classified by an original classification authority; (2) the information is owned by or for, or is under the control of the United States Government; (3) it falls into at least one of the categories from section 1.4 of E.O. 13526; and (4) unauthorized disclosure could reasonably be expected to result in damage to the national security. (Provide information on all original classification decisions, regardless of the media, including those documented and disseminated via email. Do not count reproductions or copies.)		
9. Enter the number of original TOP SECRET classification decisions made during the reporting period with declassification instructions of 10 years or less.	9.	0
10. Enter the number of original TOP SECRET classification decisions made during the reporting period with declassification instructions ranging from over 10 years to 25 years.	10.	0
11. Total number of TOP SECRET original classification decisions. (Sum of blocks 9 & 10).	11.	0
12. Enter the number of original SECRET classification decisions made during the reporting period with declassification instructions of 10 years or less.	12.	0
13. Enter the number of original SECRET classification decisions made during the reporting period with declassification instructions ranging from over 10 years to 25 years.	13.	0
14. Total number of SECRET original classification decisions. (Sum of blocks 12 & 13)	14.	0
15. Enter the number of original CONFIDENTIAL classification decisions made during the reporting period with declassification instructions of 10 years or less.	15.	0
16. Enter the number of original CONFIDENTIAL classification decisions made during the reporting period with declassification instructions ranging from over 10 years to 25 years.	16.	0
17. Total number of CONFIDENTIAL original classification decisions. (Sum of blocks 15 & 16)	17.	0
18. Total number of original classification decisions. (Sum of blocks 11, 14, & 17)	18.	0
PART D: Derivative Classification Decisions		
Derivative classification is the incorporating, paraphrasing, restating, or generating in new form information that is already classified. This includes classification based on classification guides or other source documents. (Provide information on all classification decisions, regardless of the media, including those documented and disseminated via email. Do not count reproductions or copies.)		
19. Enter the number of derivative TOP SECRET classification decisions made during the reporting period.	19.	1
20. Enter the number of derivative SECRET classification decisions made during the reporting period.	20.	6
21. Enter the number of derivative CONFIDENTIAL classification decisions made during the reporting period.	21.	0
22. Total number of derivative classification decisions. (Sum of blocks 19, 20, & 21)	22.	7

PART E: Mandatory Declassification Review Requests and Appeals	
A "Request" is an individual initial review request or appeal, regardless of the number of documents or pages to be reviewed as part of the request. Report only requests for your agency in which your agency is responsible for the final decision.	
23. Enter the number of requests received during the reporting period.	23.0
24. Enter the number of requests closed during the reporting period.	24.0
25. Enter the number of requests that have been unresolved for over one year.	25.0
26. Enter the average number of days to resolve each request.	26.0
27. Enter the number of appeals received during the reporting period.	27.0
28. Enter the number of appeals closed during the reporting period.	28.0
29. Enter the number of appeals that have been unresolved for over one year.	29.0
30. Enter the average number of days to resolve each appeal.	30.0
31. Enter the number of referred requests received during the reporting period.	31.0
32. Enter the number of referred appeals received during the reporting period.	32.0
PART F: Mandatory Declassification Review Decisions in Pages	
33. Enter the number of requested pages that were declassified in full.	33.0
34. Enter the number of requested pages that were declassified in part.	34.0
35. Enter the number of requested pages that were denied declassification.	35.0
36. Total number of requested pages acted on. (Sum of blocks 33, 34, & 35)	36.0
37. Enter the number of appealed pages that were declassified in full.	37.0
38. Enter the number of appealed pages that were declassified in part.	38.0
39. Enter the number of appealed pages that were denied declassification.	39.0
40. Total number of appealed pages acted on. (Sum of blocks 37, 38, & 39)	40.0
PART G: Automatic, Systematic, and Discretionary Declassification Reviews	
41. Enter the number of pages reviewed that were subject to automatic declassification under section 3.3 of E.O. 13526.	41.0
42. Enter the number of pages declassified under automatic declassification.	42.0
43. Enter the number of pages reviewed that were subject to systematic declassification under section 3.4 of E.O. 13526.	43.0
44. Enter the number of pages declassified under systematic declassification.	44.0
45. Enter the number of pages reviewed that were subject to discretionary declassification under section 3.1 of E.O. 13526.	45.0
46. Enter the number of pages declassified under discretionary declassification.	46.0
PART H: Internal Agency Oversight	
47. Enter the number of challenges processed by your agency to the classification of information believed to be improperly classified or unclassified. (E.O. 13526, section 1.8)	47.0
48. Enter the number of challenges where the classification status was fully affirmed.	48.0
49. Enter the number of challenges where the classification status was overturned in whole or in part.	49.0

PART I: Explanatory Comments

Use this space to elaborate on any section of this form. If more space is needed, provide as an attachment to this form. Provide explanations for any significant changes in trends/numbers from the previous year's report.

[Empty space for explanatory comments]

For ISOO Use Only

ISOO Analyst Name: _____

Date of QC: _____

Analyst Initials: _____

AGENCY SECURITY CLASSIFICATION MANAGEMENT PROGRAM DATA

(Submissions must be unclassified and reach the Information Security Oversight Office (ISOO) no later than November 15 following the reporting period.)

PART A: Identifying Information		
1. Enter the Fiscal Year that this report covers.	1.	2014
2. Identify the Department, Independent agency, or Establishment that is covered by this report.	2. Department of Veterans Affairs	
3. Enter the name, title, address, phone, fax, and e-mail address of the Senior Agency Official (as defined in E.O. 13526, section 5.4(d)) responsible for this report.	3. Kevin J. Bennett, Assistant Secretary 830 Vermont Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20420	
4. Enter the name, title, phone, fax, and email address for the point-of-contact responsible for answering questions about this report.	4. [REDACTED]	
PART B: Officials with Original Classification Authority		
5. Enter the number of agency officials whose highest level of original classification authority is TOP SECRET.	5.	0
6. Enter the number of agency officials whose highest level of original classification authority is SECRET.	6.	0
7. Enter the number of agency officials whose highest level of original classification authority is CONFIDENTIAL.	7.	0
8. Total number of officials with original classification authority. (Sum of blocks 5, 6, & 7)	8.	0
PART C: Original Classification Decisions		
Original classification is an initial determination that the information to be classified has not been previously classified by any other authority. It also meets the following conditions: (1) it was classified by an original classification authority; (2) the information is owned by or for, or is under the control of the United States Government; (3) it falls into at least one of the categories from section 1.4 of E.O. 13526; and (4) unauthorized disclosure could reasonably be expected to result in damage to the national security. (Provide information on all original classification decisions, regardless of the media, including those documented and disseminated via email. Do not count reproductions or copies.)		
9. Enter the number of original TOP SECRET classification decisions made during the reporting period with declassification instructions of 10 years or less.	9.	0
10. Enter the number of original TOP SECRET classification decisions made during the reporting period with declassification instructions ranging from over 10 years to 25 years.	10.	0
11. Total number of TOP SECRET original classification decisions. (Sum of blocks 9 & 10).	11.	0
12. Enter the number of original SECRET classification decisions made during the reporting period with declassification instructions of 10 years or less.	12.	0
13. Enter the number of original SECRET classification decisions made during the reporting period with declassification instructions ranging from over 10 years to 25 years.	13.	0
14. Total number of SECRET original classification decisions. (Sum of blocks 12 & 13)	14.	0
15. Enter the number of original CONFIDENTIAL classification decisions made during the reporting period with declassification instructions of 10 years or less.	15.	0
16. Enter the number of original CONFIDENTIAL classification decisions made during the reporting period with declassification instructions ranging from over 10 years to 25 years.	16.	0
17. Total number of CONFIDENTIAL original classification decisions. (Sum of blocks 15 & 16)	17.	0
18. Total number of original classification decisions. (Sum of blocks 11, 14, & 17)	18.	0
PART D: Derivative Classification Decisions		
Derivative classification is the incorporating, paraphrasing, restating, or generating in new form information that is already classified. This includes classification based on classification guides or other source documents. (Provide information on all classification decisions, regardless of the media, including those documented and disseminated via email. Do not count reproductions or copies.)		
19. Enter the number of derivative TOP SECRET classification decisions made during the reporting period.	19.	1
20. Enter the number of derivative SECRET classification decisions made during the reporting period.	20.	6
21. Enter the number of derivative CONFIDENTIAL classification decisions made during the reporting period.	21.	0
22. Total number of derivative classification decisions. (Sum of blocks 19, 20, & 21)	22.	7

PART E: Mandatory Declassification Review Requests and Appeals

A "Request" is an individual initial review request or appeal, regardless of the number of documents or pages to be reviewed as part of the request.
Report only requests for your agency in which your agency is responsible for the final decision.

23. Enter the number of requests received during the reporting period.	23.	0
24. Enter the number of requests closed during the reporting period.	24.	0
25. Enter the number of requests that have been unresolved for over one year.	25.	0
26. Enter the average number of days to resolve each request.	26.	0
27. Enter the number of appeals received during the reporting period.	27.	0
28. Enter the number of appeals closed during the reporting period.	28.	0
29. Enter the number of appeals that have been unresolved for over one year.	29.	0
30. Enter the average number of days to resolve each appeal.	30.	0
PART F: Mandatory Declassification Review Decisions in Pages		
31. Enter the number of referred requests received during the reporting period.	31.	0
32. Enter the number of referred appeals received during the reporting period.	32.	0
PART F: Mandatory Declassification Review Decisions in Pages		
33. Enter the number of requested pages that were declassified in full.	33.	0
34. Enter the number of requested pages that were declassified in part.	34.	0
35. Enter the number of requested pages that were denied declassification.	35.	0
36. Total number of requested pages acted on. (Sum of blocks 33, 34, & 35)	36.	0
37. Enter the number of appealed pages that were declassified in full.	37.	0
38. Enter the number of appealed pages that were declassified in part.	38.	0
39. Enter the number of appealed pages that were denied declassification.	39.	0
40. Total number of appealed pages acted on. (Sum of blocks 37, 38, & 39)	40.	0
PART G: Automatic, Systematic, and Discretionary Declassification Reviews		
41. Enter the number of pages reviewed that were subject to automatic declassification under section 3.3 of E.O. 13526.	41.	0
42. Enter the number of pages declassified under automatic declassification.	42.	0
43. Enter the number of pages reviewed that were subject to systematic declassification under section 3.4 of E.O. 13526.	43.	0
44. Enter the number of pages declassified under systematic declassification.	44.	0
45. Enter the number of pages reviewed that were subject to discretionary declassification under section 3.1 of E.O. 13526.	45.	0
46. Enter the number of pages declassified under discretionary declassification.	46.	0
PART II: Internal Agency Oversight		
47. Enter the number of self-inspections conducted by your agency, covering any aspect of the security classification program, during the reporting period.	47.	6
48. Enter the number of challenges processed by your agency to the classification of information believed to be improperly classified or unclassified. (E.O. 13526, section 1.8)	48.	0
49. Enter the number of challenges where the classification status was fully affirmed.	49.	0
50. Enter the number of challenges where the classification status was overturned in whole or in part.	50.	0
51. Enter the number of security classification guides created by your agency and currently in use.	51.	0

PART I: Explanatory Comments

Use this space to elaborate on any section of this form. If more space is needed, provide as an attachment to this form. Provide explanations for any significant changes in trends/numbers from the previous year's report.

Number 22-

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) derivative classification decisions increased in FY 2014 due to increased engagements with the Intelligence Community (IC).

Number 47-

There was an increase in self-inspections due to the implementation of new programs, security awareness training, policies and operating procedures to continue to improve VA's National Security program in accordance E.O 13526.

For ISOO Use Only

ISOO Analyst Name: _____

Date of QC: _____

Analyst Initials: _____