

Central Intelligence Agency



Washington, D.C. 20505

January 13, 2010

[Redacted]

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Dear [Redacted]

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On 20 November 2009 we received your 12 November 2009 letter in which you request [Redacted]

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[Redacted]

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The access provisions of the Privacy Act of 1974 generally permit individuals to request and obtain information about them that federal agencies maintain in Privacy Act "systems of records." In order to permit individuals to obtain information about them that federal agencies may maintain in records systems other than Privacy Act "systems of records," agencies generally process these access requests under both the Privacy Act and the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA). For the reasons below, however, we regret to inform you that we cannot accept your request under either the Privacy Act or under the FOIA.

As the Agency explains to applicants for employment, information pertaining to how the CIA hires individuals and its clearance criteria are intelligence methods. The access provisions of the Privacy Act do not apply to CIA information and systems of records "consisting of, pertaining to, or that would otherwise reveal intelligence methods" or to polygraph records. See 5 U.S.C. § 552a (j)(1); 32 C.F.R. 1901.62.

The only CIA records systems where we would reasonably expect to locate information responsive to your request are Privacy Act "systems of records" covered by this Privacy Act exemption. There are no other CIA records systems where we would reasonably expect to find responsive information. Therefore, we cannot accept or process your request under the FOIA because it would impose an unreasonably burdensome search requirement on the Agency, in light of the way in which CIA currently configures its records systems.

[Redacted] other records pertaining to you may be available.

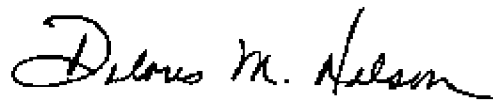
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The Privacy Act requires federal agencies to safeguard personally identifiable information about an individual. CIA's Privacy Regulations, Title 32 C.F.R. § 1901.13, establish the criteria below:

An individual seeking access to or amendment of records about himself shall provide in the letter of request his full (legal) name, address, date and place of birth, and current citizenship status together with a statement that such information is true under penalty of perjury or a notarized statement swearing to or affirming his identity. In the case of an individual who is an alien lawfully admitted for permanent residence, said individual shall provide his or her alien registration number and the date that status was acquired.

You must send us a statement with this information before we could begin processing your request. You must have your statement notarized, or sign it under penalty of perjury (28 U.S.C. § 1746), and verify that you are a U.S. citizen or a legal permanent resident. If you are a legal permanent resident (LPR), you must provide your LPR number and the date that status was acquired. If you have become a U.S. citizen, you must provide your naturalization number and the date that status was acquired. You may submit any additional information you wish to help us ensure that our search is as comprehensive and accurate as possible.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Delores M. Nelson". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'D'.

Delores M. Nelson
Information and Privacy Coordinator

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