

Chief FOIA Officer Report

Central Intelligence Agency

March 2014

I. Steps Taken to Apply the Presumption of Openness

Describe the steps your agency has taken to ensure that the presumption of openness is being applied to all decisions involving the FOIA. To do so, you should answer the questions listed below and then include any additional information you would like to describe how your agency is working to apply the presumption of openness.

FOIA Training:

- 1. Did your agency hold an agency FOIA conference, or otherwise conduct training during this reporting period?** This past year, CIA worked in conjunction with ODNI and NRO to hold the first IC FOIA Working Group Conference. Representatives from agencies across the IC spent a day discussing FOIA elements and issues that span the community. Additionally, new public access professionals at CIA received on-the-job training in case management and document review by experienced subject matter experts, and attended other external training opportunities such as ASAP seminars. CIA public access professionals were offered refresher training this year in topics related to the FOIA such as understanding the Operational Files exemptions and a briefing intended to provide an introduction to FOIA Case Management.
- 2. If so, please provide the number of conferences or trainings held, a brief description of the topics covered, and an estimate of the number of participants from your agency who were in attendance.** The IC FOIA Forum was held in April 2013 and provided a venue for IC elements to discuss general FOIA concerns and interagency network building and partnering. The conference covered topics that included FOIA best practices, internal agency practices, and communication/IT issues. Twelve public access request professionals from CIA were in attendance. Additionally, DOJ/OIP provided CIA with a one-day refresher on processing FOIA requests and the challenges CIA faces. More than half of the CIA FOIA staff attended this refresher. The remaining FOIA officers attended the previous year. Internal refresher training, as mentioned above, was offered to CIA public access professionals; 10 FOIA professionals attended. An introductory briefing on FOIA Case Management was provided to approximately 15 FOIA case managers.

3. **Did your FOIA professionals attend any FOIA training during the reporting period such as that provided by the Department of Justice?** A few CIA FOIA professionals attended the FOIA Fee Summit provided by the Department of Justice.
4. **Provide an estimate of the percentage of your FOIA professionals who attended substantive FOIA training during this reporting period.** Approximately 75%.
5. **OIP has issued guidance that every agency should make core, substantive FOIA training available to all their FOIA professionals at least once each year. Provide your agency's plan for ensuring that such training is offered to all agency FOIA professionals by March 2015. Your plan should anticipate an upcoming reporting requirement for your 2015 Chief FOIA Officer Reports that will ask whether all agency FOIA professionals attended substantive FOIA training in the past year.** CIA is actively working to design and implement in-house FOIA training for its public access professionals. Until this training is in place, CIA will continue to work with OIP to provide substantive FOIA training to its public access professionals on a yearly basis.

Outreach:

6. **Did your FOIA professionals engage in any outreach and dialogue with the requester community or open government groups regarding your administration of the FOIA? If so, please briefly discuss that engagement.** Some CIA FOIA Professionals attended an annual FOIA conference sponsored by the American Society of Access Professionals.

Discretionary Disclosures:

In his 2009 FOIA Guidelines, the Attorney General strongly encouraged agencies to make discretionary releases of information even when the information might be technically exempt from disclosure under the FOIA. OIP encourages agencies to make such discretionary releases whenever there is no foreseeable harm from release.

7. **Does your agency have a formal process in place to review records for discretionary release? If so, please briefly describe this process. If your agency is decentralized, please specify whether all components at your agency have a process in place for making discretionary releases.** The CIA's Historical Review Program, namely the Historical Collections Division (HCD) conducts an annual review to evaluate potential collections for discretionary release. This process involves input from Agency historians and members of the academic community to identify topics of historical significance. The program office then researches and reviews the selected material. Documents are compared with previously released information declassified by other government agencies. National security risks that may arise from declassification

are carefully weighed against the benefits of disclosure. Based on this evaluation and the availability of resources, the Agency makes a determination on processing a collection for discretionary release. Public and professional interest in specific topics are also considered, as judged by number of searches on the FOIA web site, the number of HCD booklets requested, and inquiries at HCD document release and outreach events.

Near the end of this reporting period, the organizational element responsible for HCD resources developed a plan that would more accurately reflect priorities and resource allocation. This allowed overall resources to be strategically realigned to ensure the important mission of HCD remains unchanged while CIA could more aggressively attack its pending case backlogs.

8. **During the reporting period did your agency make any discretionary releases of otherwise exempt information?** Yes.

9. **What exemptions would have covered the information that was released as a matter of discretion?** Each released document would have been covered by a unique configuration of exemptions. Overall, across all of the released collections, the exemptions include the operational files exemption, file series exemption for automatic review as well as FOIA exemptions. CIA reviewed various classified material that would have been exempted by FOIA (b)(1) and (b)(3), and declassified it as a matter of discretion. The relevant statute in these instances is Section 6 of the Central Intelligence Agency Act of 1949.

10. **Provide a narrative description, or some examples of, the types of information that your agency released as a matter of discretion.** Five historically significant collections, along with publications, were released Under the CIA's Historical Review Program during the reporting period. The releases were based on specific criteria, including historical significance, public interest, and the input of Agency historians and the Historical Review Panel. The discretionary releases in this reporting period consisted of more than 2,300 unique documents and provided almost 20,000 pages of declassified material. These collections were provided to historians, scholars, and the public, through an active and highly visible outreach program designed to place the maximum amount of material into the public's hands. For greater public exposure, CIA holds symposia featuring former Presidents of the United States and speakers at Presidential Libraries and other venues. Copies of declassified documents were widely distributed through such release events at universities and presidential libraries, presentations at academic conferences, and educational collaboration that resulted in the documents being placed directly into university classrooms. HRP also has an extensive program that makes the documents available on CIA's public web site and through the Government Printing Office's Catalogue of Government Publications, as well as at each depository library – more than 1,200.

Topics for this year's releases included:

President Nixon and the Role of Intelligence in the 1973 Arab-Israeli War – This collection of documents, produced mostly by the CIA, focused on the period from May through December 1973, which include the pre-war posturing, the war itself, and the cease-fire period. Given the nature of the crisis, the collection is dominated by current reporting in the form of daily situation reports (up to four per day), Central Intelligence Bulletins, and the occasional spot report. In addition, we included a number of longer intelligence reports (Intelligence Memos and National Intelligence Estimates), which were prepared mostly in response to taskings from various parts of the policy community.

Bosnia, Intelligence, and the Clinton Presidency – This collection, consisting of more than 300 documents on intelligence and presidential policymaking during the 1992-95 Bosnian War, shed light on the supporting role intelligence played in the Clinton Administration's policy decisions during the conflict, and highlight the accomplishments of the DCI Interagency Balkan Task Force in streamlining intelligence for decision makers through a groundbreaking level of collaboration among federal agencies. President Clinton participated personally in this event.

From Typist to Trailblazer: The Evolving View of Women in the CIA's Workforce – This is a collection of declassified primary documents that shed light on the CIA's efforts to examine and address the status of its women employees from 1947 to today. Former female senior CIA officers who helped blaze this trail for women in the Agency, alongside current female senior CIA officers, participated in this event.

President Carter and the Role of Intelligence in the Camp David Accords – This collection of more than 250 declassified documents examines the role intelligence played in the Carter Administration's efforts to seek peace in the Middle East, which culminated in September 1978 in the Camp David Accords between Israel and Egypt. The documents detail diplomatic developments from the Arab peace offensive and President Sadat's dramatic trip to Jerusalem through responses worldwide in the immediate aftermath of Camp David. President Carter participated personally in this event.

A City Divided: Life and Death in the Shadow of the Berlin Wall – This collection focused on documents that reveal East and West Berliners' struggle for life and death in the shadow of the Berlin wall. For this project we released 1,324 documents (11,000 pages) of newly declassified material on various topics and activities on Berlin from 1962 to 1986—the years between two famous speeches on Berlin by American Presidents Kennedy and Reagan. The Archivist of the United States participated personally in this event.

11. **If your agency was not able to make any discretionary releases of information, please explain why.** Not Applicable

Other Initiatives:

12. **Did your agency post all of the required quarterly FOIA reports for Fiscal Year 2013? If not, please explain why not and what your plan is for ensuring that such reporting is successfully accomplished for Fiscal Year 2014.** CIA successfully posted the required quarterly FOIA reports of quarters one through three for Fiscal Year 2013. Due to an administrative oversight, quarter four data was not posted.
13. **Describe any other initiatives undertaken by your agency to ensure that the presumption of openness is being applied. If any of these initiatives are online, please provide links in your description.** In addition to the discretionary releases highlighted above, in June 2013, the CIA released 726,000 pages of declassified intelligence records to the public at the National Archives (NARA) facility in College Park, MD. The released declassified records are in the form of digital images in a full-text searchable database called CREST (CIA REcords Search Tool). The CREST system now contains about 11.8 million declassified pages of CIA records. Almost all CREST records have been declassified and released under the guidance of Executive Order (EO) 13526 that provides for automatic declassification of unreviewed records of permanent historical value over 25 years old.

The most recent additions to the electronic CREST system include records from all CIA directorates.

Included in the release are:

- 68,000 pages of Director, Central Intelligence Agency (D/CIA) Area organizational records and policy files
- 32,000 pages of D/CIA Area records from committees, task forces, boards and councils
- 45,000 pages of D/CIA Area records public affairs files
- 7,000 pages of D/CIA Area records intelligence publications files
- 117,000 pages of Directorate of Intelligence component intelligence publications files
- 28,000 pages of Directorate of Science and Technology research and development files
- 8,000 pages of Directorate of Science and Technology policy files
- 91,000 pages of Directorate of Science and Technology ground photo caption cards
- 15,000 pages of Directorate of Support organization records and policy files
- 263,000 pages of National Clandestine Service (formerly Directorate of Operations) information reports
- 10,000 pages of National Clandestine Service (formerly Directorate of Operations) directorate studies and publications files
- 42,000 pages of other historically-valuable CIA records

The public and research community have been avid users of CREST since its initial deployment in 2000. To date, more than 1,000,000 pages of records have been printed from CREST and these records have been cited in numerous scholarly publications including major books on CIA's history.

Section II: Steps Taken to Ensure that Your Agency

Has an Effective System in Place for Responding to Requests

Describe here the steps your agency has taken to ensure that your management of your FOIA program is effective and efficient. To do so, answer the questions below and then include any additional information that you would like to describe how your agency ensures that your FOIA system is efficient and effective.

Personnel:

- 1. Has your agency converted all of its FOIA professionals to the new Government Information Specialist job series?** CIA has an established Information Review and Release Analyst job series for its FOIA professionals. At this time, the job series has not been renamed as Government Information Specialist.
- 2. If not, what proportion of personnel has been converted to the new job series?** None at this time.
- 3. If not, what is your plan to ensure that all FOIA professional's position descriptions are converted?** The element responsible for CIA's Information Review and Release Analyst job series is discussing how to best align its FOIA professionals to the new Government Information Specialist series.

Processing Procedures:

- 4. For Fiscal Year 2013 did your agency maintain an average of ten or less calendar days to adjudicate requests for expedited processing? If not, describe the steps your agency will take to ensure that requests for expedited processing are adjudicated within ten calendar days or less.** CIA maintained an average of 10 calendar days to adjudicate requests for expedited processing.
- 5. Has your agency taken any steps to make the handling of consultations and referrals more efficient and effective, such as entering into agreements with**

other agencies or components on how to handle certain categories or types of records involving shared equities so as to avoid the need for a consultation or referral altogether, or otherwise implementing procedures that speed up or eliminate the need for consultations. If so, please describe those steps. The organizational element responsible for the FOIA program has established process improvement teams to identify and undertake strategic objectives to drive efficiencies in the processing of public access requests received from the public as well as other government agencies. Internal business process reviews have teased out redundancies in case/document processing that, after having been eliminated, have resulted in a more streamlined, efficient work flow for requests, referrals, and coordinations.

Requester Services:

6. **Do you use e-mail or other electronic means to communicate with requesters when feasible?** While the CIA now accepts FOIA requests electronically, due to security concerns, we currently do not respond to requesters via email.
7. **Does your agency notify requesters of the mediation services offered by the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) at NARA?** Yes.
8. **Describe any other steps your agency has undertaken to ensure that your FOIA system operates efficiently and effectively, such as conducting self-assessments to find greater efficiencies, improving search processes, eliminating redundancies, etc.** The organizational element responsible for the FOIA program has established process improvement teams to identify and undertake strategic objectives to drive efficiencies in the processing of public access requests received from the public as well as other government agencies. Internal business process reviews have teased out redundancies in case/document processing that, after having been eliminated, have resulted in a more streamlined, efficient work flow for requests, referrals, and coordinations. Potential technical advancements are under consideration for future process improvement efforts.

Section III: Steps Taken to Increase Proactive Disclosures

Describe here the steps your agency has taken both to increase the amount of material that is available on your agency website, and the usability of such information, including providing examples of proactive disclosures that have been made during this past reporting period. In doing so, answer the questions listed below and describe any

additional steps taken by your agency to make and improve proactive disclosures of information.

Posting Material:

1. **Do your FOIA professionals have a system in place to identify records for proactive disclosures?** Yes.
2. **If so, describe the system that is in place.** Documents are processed for potential release to the public in the CIA's Automated Declassification and Release Environment (CADRE). In monthly intervals, the CADRE system is queried for records that have been reviewed and approved for public release under the FOIA. Identified documents deemed to be internet-ready are then posted onto CIA's Electronic Reading Room for public use. The CADRE system is also used to identify documents reviewed under the 25 Year Declassification program as well as the Historical Review Program as mentioned below.
3. **Provide examples of material that your agency has posted this past reporting period, including links to where this material can be found online.** The CIA provides new material to its public website and the Freedom of Information Act Electronic Reading Room throughout the year. Our public web site contains access to frequently requested records, special collections, a 25 year program archive, as well as press releases, speeches, featured stories and other items of public interest. In addition to posting some documents frequently requested from closed FOIA cases, the eFOIA Reading Room website also provides public access to documents released through the discretionary Historical Review Program (see Section 1 above for details) and other discretionary releases of high interest to the public.

Making Posted Material More Useful:

4. **Beyond posting new material, is your agency taking steps to make the posted information more useful to the public, especially to the community of individuals who regularly access your agency's website, such as soliciting feedback on the content and presentation of posted material, improving search capabilities on the site, posting material in open formats, making information available through mobile applications, providing explanatory material, etc.?** In February 2013, CIA upgraded and enhanced its FOIA Electronic Reading Room. More recently, the organizational element responsible for the FOIA program established a working group to identify and implement site upgrades on a routine basis. The CIA's website has a "contact us" feature that can be accessed via the FOIA Electronic Reading Room, and provides a requester with the ability to provide feedback on the content of the site as well as how the content is displayed. Additionally, the CIA holds semi-annual meetings with the Historical Review Panel – a group of outside academics – who propose topics of public interest, and provide feedback from the academic community. We carefully consider the feedback and suggestions received throughout the year and incorporate them into our work planning processes. In an effort to gain greater public exposure,

CIA holds symposia featuring former Presidents of the United States and speakers at Presidential Libraries and other venues to accompany Historical Review Program releases.

5. **If so, provide examples of such improvements.** The organizational element responsible for the FOIA program and the eFOIA Reading Room has established a working group geared toward incorporating future updates into the site.

6. **Did your agency use any means to publicize or highlight important proactive disclosures for public awareness? If so, was social media utilized?** Historical collections released by CIA (as described in section 1 above) are provided to historians, scholars, and the public, through an active and highly visible outreach program. This ensures a maximum amount of material is placed into the public's hands. Copies of these declassified document collections are widely distributed through release events at universities and presidential libraries, presentations at academic conferences, and educational collaboration that result in the documents being placed directly into university classrooms. CIA does not utilize social media to broadcast discretionary or proactive releases but does announce releases of information as appropriate on its website.

7. **Has your agency encountered challenges that make it difficult to post records you otherwise would like to post?** No.

8. **Describe any other steps taken to increase proactive disclosures at your agency.** CIA has an established process of posting documents reviewed and released under the FOIA, 25 Year Declassification Program, and the Historical Review Program onto its Electronic Reading Room. Millions of pages of records processed by the 25 Year Declassification Program have been loaded onto CREST systems located at NARA as well as individual Presidential Libraries. At this time, CIA will continue to provide declassified records to the public in this way, which will ultimately increase the number of records provided to the public at large.

Section IV: Steps Taken to Greater Utilize Technology

Online tracking of FOIA requests:

1. **Can a FOIA requester track the status of his/her request electronically?** Not at this time.

2. **If yes, how is this tracking function provided to the public? For example, is it being done through regularly updated FOIA logs, online portals, or other**

mediums? Since CIA does not have a mechanism for requesters to track their cases electronically, this question is not applicable.

3. **Describe the information that is provided to the requester through the tracking system.** Since CIA does not have a mechanism for requesters to track their cases electronically, this question is not applicable.
4. **In particular, does your agency tracking system provide the requester with an estimated date of completion for her/her request?** This information is not available through an electronic tracking system; however, this information is provided upon request.
5. **If your agency does not provide online tracking of requests, is your agency taking steps to establish this capability?** This option continues to be considered as part of a business process improvement discussion.

Use of technology to facilitate processing of requests:

6. **Beyond using technology to redact documents, if your agency taking steps to utilize more advanced technology to facilitate overall FOIA efficiency, such as improving records search capabilities, utilizing document sharing platforms for consultations and referrals, or employing software that can sort and de-duplicate documents?**
Yes, as part of our technology advancement discussions.
7. **If so, describe the technological improvements being made.** Technological improvements, such as increased search capabilities and machine learning to assist in document review and redaction, are currently being investigated and assessed as part of our technology advancement discussions.
8. **Are there additional technological tools that would be helpful to achieving further efficiencies in your agency's FOIA program?** Tools such as machine learning systems for assistance in the review and redaction of documents could significantly increase the Agency's efficiency in the processing of public access requests.

Section V: Steps Taken to Improve Timeliness in Responding to Requests and Reducing Backlogs

Simple Track Requests:

1. **Section VII.A of your agency's Annual FOIA Report, entitled "FOIA Requests – Response Time for All Processed Requests," includes figures that show your agency's average response times for processed requests. For agencies utilizing a**

multi-track system to process requests, there is a category for “simple” requests, which are those requests that are placed in the agency’s fastest (non-expedited) track, based on the low volume and/or simplicity of the records requested.

- a. Does your agency utilize a separate track for simple requests? Yes.**
- b. If so, for your agency overall, for Fiscal Year 2013, was the average number of days to process simple requests twenty working days or fewer? No.** The average number of days was 35, but this is a poor representation of normal processing time since a very small number of simple cases are cross-reference to a complex case. Thus, the median number of days to complete a request – 13 days for FY2013 – is a better performance measure.
- c. If your agency does not track simple requests separately, was the average number of days to process non-expedited requests twenty working days or fewer? Since CIA tracks simple requests separately, this question is not applicable.**

Backlogs and “Ten Oldest” Requests, Appeals, and Consultations:

- 2. Section XII.A of your agency’s Annual FOIA Report, entitled “Backlogs of FOIA Requests and Administrative Appeals” shows the numbers of any backlogged requests or appeals from the fiscal year. Section VII.E, entitled “Pending Requests – Ten Oldest Pending Requests,” Section VI.C.(5), entitled “Ten Oldest Pending Administrative Appeals,” and Section XII.C., entitled “Consultations on FOIA Requests – Ten Oldest Consultations Received from Other Agencies and Pending at Your Agency,” show the ten oldest pending requests, appeals, and consultations.**

Backlogs

- a. If your agency had a backlog of requests at the close of Fiscal Year 2013, did that backlog decrease as compared with Fiscal Year 2012? Yes.**
- b. If your agency had a backlog of administrative appeals in Fiscal Year 2013, did that backlog decrease as compared to Fiscal Year 2012? Yes.**

Ten Oldest Requests

- c. In Fiscal Year 2013, did your agency close the ten oldest requests that were pending as of the end of Fiscal Year 2012? Yes.**
- d. If no, please provide the number of these requests your agency was able to close by the end of the fiscal year, as listed in Section VII.E of your Fiscal Year 2012 Annual FOIA Report. Since CIA decreased its backlog of pending requests, this question is not applicable.**

Ten Oldest Appeals

- e. **In Fiscal Year 2013, did your agency close the ten oldest administrative appeals that were pending as of the end of the Fiscal Year 2012? Yes.**
- f. **If no, please provide the number of these appeals your agency was able to close, as well as the number of appeals your agency had in section VI.C.(5) of your Fiscal Year 2012 Annual FOIA Report. Since CIA decreased its backlog of pending requests and appeals, this question is not applicable.**

Ten Oldest Consultations

- g. **In Fiscal Year 2013, did your agency close the ten oldest consultations received by your agency and pending as of the end of Fiscal Year 2012? No.**
- h. **If no, please provide the number of these consultations your agency did close, as well as the number of pending consultations your agency listed in Section XII.C. of your Fiscal Year 2012 Annual FOIA Report. CIA closed nine out of ten oldest pending consultations.**

Reasons for Any Backlogs:

- 3. **If you answered “no” to any of the questions in item 2 above, describe why your agency was not able to reduce backlogs and/or close the ten oldest pending requests, appeals, and consultations. In doing so, answer the following questions then include any additional explanation:**

Request and/or Appeal Backlog

- a. **Was the lack of a reduction in the request and/or appeal backlog a result of an increase in the number of incoming requests or appeals? Since CIA decreased its backlogs of requests and appeals this question is not applicable.**
- b. **Was the lack of a reduction in the request and/or appeal backlog caused by a loss of staff? Since CIA decreased its backlogs of requests and appeals this question is not applicable.**
- c. **Was the lack of a reduction in the request and/or appeal backlog caused by an increase in the complexity of the requests received? Since CIA decreased its backlogs of requests and appeals this question is not applicable.**
- d. **What other causes, if any, contributed to the lack of a decrease in the request and/or appeal backlog? Since CIA decreased its backlogs of requests and appeals this question is not applicable.**

“Ten oldest” Not Closed

- e. **Briefly explain the obstacles your agency faced in closing its ten oldest requests, appeals, and consultations from Fiscal Year 2012.** Due to the age of CIAs ten oldest requests and appeals, investigation into each case and all prior processing was imperative to understand what actions were required to bring them to closure. Each case presented unique challenges that required extensive analysis and processing.
- f. **If your agency was unable to close any of its ten oldest requests or appeals because you were waiting to hear back from other agencies on consultations you sent, please provide the date the request was initially received by your agency, the date when your agency sent the consultation, and the date when you last contacted the agency where the consultation was pending.** Since CIA decreased its backlogs of requests and appeals this question is not applicable.

Plans for Closing of Ten Oldest Pending Requests, Appeals, and Consultations and Reducing Backlogs:

Given the importance of these milestones, it is critical that Chief FOIA Officers assess the causes for not achieving success and create plans to address them.

4. **If your agency did not close its ten oldest pending requests, appeals, and consultations, please provide a plan describing how your agency intends to close those “ten oldest” requests, appeals, and consultations during Fiscal Year 2014.** Out of the ten oldest pending requests, appeals, and consultations, all but one pending oldest consultation was closed in Fiscal Year 2013. Closure of the pending consultation from 2012 was an administrative oversight, and CIA will focus on this pending consultation in an effort to meet this critical milestone in FY2014.
5. **If your agency had a backlog of more than 1000 pending requests and did not reduce that backlog in Fiscal Year 2013, provide your agency’s plan for achieving backlog reduction in the year ahead.** Not Applicable.

Interim Responses:

6. **Does your agency have a system in place to provide interim responses to requesters when appropriate?** The CIA can provide interim responses to requesters when appropriate.
7. **If your agency had a backlog in Fiscal Year 2013, please provide an estimate of the number or percentage of cases in the backlog where a substantive, interim response was provided during the fiscal year, even though the request was not finally closed.** While CIA does not have a mechanism in place to track this, we do provide interim responses on an ad hoc basis. A rough estimate of interim responses provided in FY2013 is 1% of cases processed.

Use of FOIA's Law Enforcement "Exclusions"

In order to increase transparency regarding the use of the FOIA's statutory law enforcement exclusions, which authorize agencies under certain exceptional circumstances to "treat the records as not subject to the requirements of [the FOIA]," 5 U.S.C. § 552(c)(1), (2), (3), please answer the following questions:

1. **Did your agency invoke a statutory exclusion during Fiscal Year 2013?** No.
2. **If so, what was the total number of times exclusions were invoked?** Since CIA did not invoke a statutory exclusion during FY2013, this question is not applicable.

Spotlight on Success

Out of all the activities undertaken by your agency since march 2013 to increase transparency and improve FOIA administration, please briefly describe here at least on success story that you would like to highlight as emblematic of your agency's efforts. The success story can come from any one of the five key areas.

CIA closed out its most successful public access request year in recent memory. The public's appetite for declassified records reached an all-time high in the fiscal year that just concluded. Never before had we received more than **7,000** FOIA, Privacy Act (PA), and EO 13526 declassification requests that were submitted in FY13. Receipts were 30% percent higher than similar figures from the previous fiscal year, and annual FOIA/PA/EO submissions have nearly doubled over the past five years.

Notwithstanding this steady rise in overall workload, case closures also crested to nearly 6,500 cases over this span, and thanks to a greater focus on the FOIA and Privacy Act programs in FY13 we were able to reduce CIA's backlog of pending cases for the first time since 2009.

We closed all 10 cases from the list of CIA's oldest FOIA/PA initial and appeal requests as well. Our formerly oldest initial case was from 2001, and our 10 oldest appeals were all from the mid- to late 1990s. Success in the appellate arena is a particularly high accomplishment because OIP has noted each year CIA having had the four oldest FOIA/PA appeal cases in the entire federal system.