

# United States Environmental Protection Agency Freedom of Information Act Annual Report

Fiscal Year 2024

### **EPA FOIA ANNUAL REPORT**

FOR 10/01/2023 THROUGH

09/30/2024

The following **Annual Freedom of Information Act** report covers the Period 10/01/2023, through 09/30/2024, as required by 5 U.S.C. 552.

#### I. BASIC INFORMATION REGARDING REPORT

1. Name, Title, Address, and Telephone Number:

Timothy Epp National FOIA Officer Environmental Protection Agency 1200 Pennsylvania Ave, NW Washington, DC 20460 2025662162

2. Electronic address for Report on the agency web site:

https://www.epa.gov/foia/foia-reports

3. How to obtain a copy of the report in paper form:

Timothy Epp, National FOIA Office, Office of General Counsel, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave, NW, Mail Code 2310 A, Washington, DC 20460, (202) 566-1667

#### II. MAKING A FOIA REQUEST

- 1. Submit a FOIA request through EPA's Public Access Link (PAL): <a href="https://foiapublicaccessportal.epa.gov">https://foiapublicaccessportal.epa.gov</a>
- 2. An electronic government submission website established pursuant to <u>5 U.S.C. 552(m)</u>, such as *FOIA.gov*
- 3. U.S. Mail sent to the following address: National FOIA Office, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue NW (2310A), Washington, DC 20460; or

4. Overnight delivery service to National FOIA Office, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, 1200 Pennsylvania NW, Room 7309C, Washington, DC 20460.

#### III. ABBREVIATION, DEFINITIONS, AND EXEMPTIONS

1. Abbreviation Component used:

Component Abbreviation	Component Name
Region 01	Region 1 (States: CT, ME, MA, NH, RI, VT)
Region 02	Region 2 (States: NJ, NY, PR USVI)
Region 03	Region 3 (States: DE, DC, MD, PA, VA, WV, 7 federally recognized Tribes)
Region 04	Region 4 (States: AL, FL, GA, KY, MS, NC, SC, TN)
Region 05	Region 5 (States: IL, IN, MI, MN, OH, WI)
Region 06	Region 6 (States: AR, LA, NM, OK, TX)
Region 07	Region 7 (States: IA, KS, MO, NE)
Region 08	Region 8 (States: CO, MT, ND, SD, UT, WY)
Region 09	Region 9 (States: AZ, CA, HI, NV, AS, GU)
Region 10	Region 10 (States: AK, ID, OR, WA, 271 federally recognized Tribes)
HQ	Headquarters

## 2. Definition of terms used in this report:

a. **Administrative Appeal** - a request to a federal agency asking that it review at a higher administrative level a FOIA determination made by the agency at the initial request level.

- b. **Average Number** the number obtained by dividing the sum of a group of numbers by the quantity of numbers in the group. For example, of 3, 7, and 14, the average number is 8.
- c. **Backlog** the number of requests or administrative appeals that are pending at an agency at the end of the fiscal year that are beyond the statutory time period for a response.
- d. Component for agencies that process requests on a decentralized basis, a "component" is an entity, also sometimes referred to as an Office, Division, Bureau, Center, or Directorate, within the agency that processes FOIA requests. The FOIA now requires that agencies include in their Annual FOIA Report data for both the agency overall and for each principal component of the agency.
- e. **Consultation** the procedure whereby the agency responding to a FOIA request first forwards a record to another agency for its review because that other agency has an interest in the document. Once the agency in receipt of the consultation finishes its review of the record, it responds back to the agency that forwarded it. That agency, in turn, will then respond to the FOIA requester.
- f. **Exemption 3 Statute** a federal statute that exempts information from disclosure and which the agency relies on to withhold information under subsection (b)(3) of the FOIA.
- g. **FOIA Request** a FOIA request is generally a request to a federal agency for access to records concerning another person (i.e., a "third-party" request), or concerning an organization, or a particular topic of interest. FOIA requests also include requests made by requesters seeking records concerning themselves (i.e., "first- party" requests) when those requesters are not subject to the Privacy Act, such as non-U.S. citizens. Moreover, because all first-party requesters should be afforded the benefit of both the access provisions of the FOIA as well as those of the Privacy Act, FOIA requests also include any first-party requests where an agency determines that it must search beyond its Privacy Act "systems of records" or where a Privacy Act exemption applies, and the agency looks to FOIA to afford the greatest possible access. All requests which require the agency to utilize the FOIA in responding to the requester are included in this Report.

Additionally, a FOIA request includes records referred to the agency for processing and direct response to the requester. It does not, however, include records for which the agency has received a consultation from another agency. (Consultations are reported separately in Section XII of this Report.)

h. Full Grant - an agency decision to disclose all records in full in response to a FOIA request

- i. **Full Denial** an agency decision not to release any records in response to a FOIA request because the records are exempt in their entireties under one or more of the FOIA exemptions, or because of a procedural reason, such as when no records could be located.
- j. **Median Number** the middle, not average, number. For example, of 3, 7, and 14, the median number is 7.
- k. **Multi-Track Processing** a system in which simple requests requiring relatively minimal review are placed in one processing track and more voluminous and complex requests are placed in one or more other tracks. Requests granted expedited processing are placed in yet another track. Requests in each track are processed on a first in/first out basis.
- Expedited Processing an agency will process a FOIA request on an expedited basis when a requester satisfies the
  requirements for expedited processing as set forth in the statute and in agency regulations.
- m. **Simple Request** a FOIA request that an agency using multi-track processing places in its fastest (non- expedited) track based on the low volume and/or simplicity of the records requested.
- n. **Complex Request** a FOIA request that an agency using multi-track processing places in a slower track based on the high volume and/or complexity of the records requested.
- o. **Partial Grant/Partial Denial** in response to a FOIA request, an agency decision to disclose portions of the records and to withhold other portions that are exempt under the FOIA, or to otherwise deny a portion of the request for a procedural reason.
- p. **Pending Request or Pending Administrative Appeal** a request or administrative appeal for which an agency has not taken final action in all respects.
- q. Perfected Request a request for records which reasonably describes such records and is made in accordance with published rules stating the time, place, fees (if any) and procedures to be followed.
- r. **Processed Request or Processed Administrative Appeal** a request or administrative appeal for which an agency has taken final action in all respects.
- s. Range in Number of Days the lowest and highest number of days to process requests or administrative appeals.
- t. **Time Limits** the time period in the statute for an agency to respond to a FOIA request (ordinarily twenty working days from receipt of a perfected FOIA request).

- 3. Concise descriptions of the nine FOIA exemptions:
  - **Exemption 1** classified national defense and foreign relations information
  - Exemption 2 internal agency rules and practices
  - Exemption 3 information that is prohibited from disclosure by another federal law
  - **Exemption 4** trade secrets and other confidential business information
  - Exemption 5 inter-agency or intra-agency communications that are protected by legal privileges
  - **Exemption 6** information involving matters of personal privacy
  - **Exemption 7** records or information compiled for law enforcement purposes, to the extent that the production of those records:
    - (a) could reasonably be expected to interfere with enforcement proceedings;
    - (b) would deprive a person of a right to a fair trial or an impartial adjudication;
    - (c) could reasonably be expected to constitute an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy;
    - (d) could reasonably be expected to disclose the identity of a confidential source;
    - **(e)** would disclose techniques and procedures for law enforcement investigations or prosecutions, or would disclose guidelines for law enforcement investigations or prosecutions; or
    - (f) could reasonably be expected to endanger the life or physical safety of any individual
  - **Exemption 8** information relating to the supervision of financial institutions
  - Exemption 9 geological information on wells 3. Agency Component Abbreviations

# IV. Exemption 3 Statutes

Statute	Type of Information Withheld	Case Citation	Agency / Component	Number of Times Relied upon by Agency / Component	Total Number of Times Relied upon by Agency Overall
18 U.S.C. § 208(d)(1)	Providing that "a copy of any determination granting an exemption under subsection (b)(1) or (b)(3) [from application of penalties for acts affecting personal financial interests determined to constitute bribery, graft, or conflicts of interest] shall be made available to the public, but exempting from this disclosure requirement any information contained in the determination that would be	Seife v. NIH, 874 F. Supp. 2d 248, 256 (S.D.N.Y. 2012).	Region 05	1	1

	exempt from disclosure under section 552 of title 5"				
42 U.S.C. § 7412(r)(7)(H)(iii)	Certain off-site consequence	N/A	Region 03	1	
	analysis information and any ranking of stationary sources derived from the information		Region 06	1	2
7 U.S.C. § 136i- 1(b)	"[D]ata, including the location from which the data was derived, that would directly or indirectly reveal the identity of individual producers [of certain pesticides]"	Doe v. Veneman, 380 F.3d 807, 818- 19 (5th Cir. 2004).	HQ	18	18
41 U.S.C. § 4702 (formerly at 41 U.S.C. § 253b(m)(1))	Contractor proposals that are in the possession or control of an executive agency and that have not been set forth or incorporated by	Sinkfield v. HUD, No. 10- 885, 2012 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 35233, at *13- 15 (S.D. Ohio Mar. 15, 2012); Margolin v. NASA, No. 09-	HQ	1	1

	reference into contracts	00421, 2011 WL 1303221, at *6 (D. Nev. Mar. 31, 2011); Hornbostel v. U.S. Dep't of the Interior, 305 F. Supp. 2d 21, 30 (D.D.C. 2003), summary affirmance granted, No. 03-5257, 2004 WL 1900562 (D.C. Cir. Aug. 25, 2004).			
5 U.S.C. § 13109(a)(2) (formerly at 5 U.S.C. app. 4 § 107(a)(2))	Confidential financial disclosure report pertaining to certain government employees	Meyerhoff v. EPA, 958 F.2d 1498, 1500 02 (9th Cir. 1992); Boyd v. Exec. Office for U.S. Attorneys, 161 F. Supp. 3d 1, 7 (D.D.C.) 2015; Seife v. NIH, 874 F. Supp. 2d 248, 254 (S.D.N.Y. 2012).	Ħ	2	2

16 U.S.C. § 470hh	Information pertaining to the nature and location of certain archaeological resources	Hornbostel v. U.S. Dep't of the Interior, 305 F. Supp. 2d 21, 30 (D.D.C. 2003), summary affirmance granted, No. 03 -5257, 2004 WL 1900562 (D.C. Cir. Aug. 2004); Starkey v. U.S. Dep't of the Interior, 238 F. Supp. 2d 1188, 1192-94 (S.D. Cal. 2002).	HQ	1	1
5 U.S.C. § 574(j)	Dispute resolution communications	N/A	Region 02	2	2
42 U.S.C. § 2167	"Restricted Data" pertaining to atomic weapons and special nuclear material and certain safeguards information for nuclear material	Meeropol v. Meese, 790 F.2d 942 (D.C. Cir. 1986).	Region 06	2	2
26 U.S.C. § 6103	Certain tax return information, to	Nosal v. IRS, 523 F. Supp.	Region 10	5	5

	include Taxpayer Identification Numbers of third parties, and certain tax convention information	3d 72, 79 (D.D.C. 2021); Church of Scientology v. IRS, 484 U.S. 9, 15 (1987) (26 U.S.C. § 6103); Elec. Priv. Info. Ctr. v. IRS, 910 F.3d 1232, 1237 (D.C. Cir. 2018); Leonard v. U.S. Dep't of Treasury, 590 F. App'x. 141, 143-44 (3d Cir. 2014) (per curiam); Pac. Fisheries, Inc. v. IRS, 395 F. App'x. 438, 440 (9th Cir. 2010) (unpublished disposition) (26 U.S.C. §§ 6103, 6105).			
5 U.S.C. § 420 (b)(2)(B)	The disclosure of the identity of any individual making a complaint of fraud, waste, or abuse to an	Sherven v. CIA, No. 23- 03214, 2024 WL 519809 (D.D.C. Jan. 30, 2024).	HQ	4	4

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# V.A. FOIA REQUESTS -- RECEIVED, PROCESSED AND PENDING FOIA REQUESTS

Agency / Component	Number of Requests Pending as of Start of Fiscal Year	Number of Requests Received in Fiscal Year	Number of Requests Processed in Fiscal Year	Number of Requests Pending as of End of Fiscal Year
Region 01	13	98	104	7
Region 02	113	393	406	100
Region 03	64	280	290	54
Region 04	83	410	429	64
Region 05	108	742	688	162
Region 06	66	366	330	102
Region 07	22	176	173	25
Region 08	18	138	130	26
Region 09	52	238	257	33
Region 10	50	165	149	66
HQ	1205	4545	4178	1572
AGENCY OVERALL	1794	7551	7134	2211

After reviewing its database, EPA updated the number of requests pending as of the start of the Fiscal Year.

### V.B.(1). DISPOSITION OF FOIA REQUESTS -- ALL PROCESSED REQUESTS

		Number			N	umber of Full [	Denials Bas	ed on Reasons	Other than E	xemptions			
Agency / Component	Number of Full Grants	of Partial Grants / Partial Denials	Number of Full Denials Based on Exemptions	No Records	All Records Referred to Another Component or Agency	Request Withdrawn	Fee- Related Reason	Records not Reasonably Described	Improper FOIA Request for Other Reason	Not Agency Record	Duplicate Request	Other *Explain in Chart Below	TOTAL
Region 01	46	16	0	28	0	13	0	0	0	0	1	0	104
Region 02	167	71	1	132	0	23	5	5	0	0	2	0	406
Region 03	116	48	2	57	0	51	0	5	0	0	11	0	290
Region 04	254	43	1	101	3	22	0	3	0	0	2	0	429
Region 05	294	61	0	226	0	54	14	25	0	1	12	1	688
Region 06	106	96	0	87	1	36	0	0	0	1	2	1	330
Region 07	74	26	3	44	0	13	3	8	0	0	1	1	173
Region 08	38	38	0	22	0	20	3	4	1	0	4	0	130
Region 09	91	58	0	60	2	27	10	3	0	0	1	5	257
Region 10	34	77	0	30	1	5	1	1	0	0	0	0	149
HQ	934	447	64	300	0	237	13	183	990	58	928	24	4178
AGENCY OVERALL	2154	981	71	1087	7	501	49	237	991	60	964	32	7134

V.B.(2). DISPOSITION OF FOIA REQUESTS -- "OTHER" REASONS FOR "FULL DENIALS BASED ON REASONS OTHER THAN EXEMPTIONS"

Agency / Component	Description of "Other" Reasons for Denials from Chart B(1)	Number of Times "Other" Reason Was Relied Upon	TOTAL	
Region 01	N/A	0	0	
Region 05	Unable to Locate or Contact Requester	1	1	
Region 06	Directed Requester to Another Entity Subject to the FOIA	1	1	
Region 07	Unable to Locate or Contact Requester	1	1	
Region 08	N/A	0	0	
Region 09	Directed Requester to Another Entity Subject to the FOIA	1	5	
	Unable to Locate or Contact Requester	4		
HQ	Unable to Locate or Contact Requester	11		
	Referred Not Responsive	12	24	
	Directed Requester to Another Entity Subject to the FOIA	1		
AGENCY OVERALL			32	

# V.B.(3). DISPOSITION OF FOIA REQUESTS -- NUMBER OF TIMES EXEMPTIONS APPLIED

Agency /	Ex.	Ex.	Ex.	Ex.	Ex.	Ex.	Ex.	Ex.						
Component	1	2	3	4	5	6	7(A)	7(B)	7(C)	7(D)	7(E)	7(F)	8	9
Region 01	0	0	0	1	8	11	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	3
Region 02	0	0	2	8	16	52	23	0	1	0	0	0	0	2
Region 03	0	0	1	14	21	37	5	0	2	1	2	0	0	13
Region 04	0	0	0	18	12	26	3	0	3	0	0	0	0	2
Region 05	0	0	1	8	38	44	30	1	20	0	2	2	0	1
Region 06	0	0	3	60	17	38	6	0	3	0	2	0	0	47
Region 07	0	0	0	14	13	12	2	0	2	1	1	0	0	1
Region 08	0	0	0	10	20	29	2	0	4	0	0	0	0	2
Region 09	0	0	0	20	28	27	6	0	2	0	1	0	0	5
Region 10	0	0	5	28	15	70	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
HQ	1	6	26	78	229	378	25	2	72	0	16	2	0	1
AGENCY OVERALL	1	6	38	259	417	724	106	3	109	2	25	4	0	78

# VI.A. ADMINISTRATIVE APPEALS OF INITIAL DETERMINATIONS OF FOIA REQUESTS -- RECEIVED, PROCESSED, AND PENDING ADMINISTRATIVE APPEALS

Agency / Component	Number of Appeals Pending as of Start of Fiscal Year	Number of Appeals Received in Fiscal Year	Number of Appeals Processed in Fiscal Year	Number of Appeals Pending as of End of Fiscal Year
HQ	4	207	204	7
AGENCY OVERALL	4	207	204	7

#### VI.B. DISPOSITION OF ADMINISTRATIVE APPEALS -- ALL PROCESSED APPEALS

Agency / Component	Number Affirmed on Appeal	Number Partially Affirmed & Partially Reversed/Remanded on Appeal	Number Completely Reversed/Remanded on Appeal	Number of Appeals Closed for Other Reasons	TOTAL
HQ	48	31	40	85	204
AGENCY OVERALL	48	31	40	85	204

### VI.C.(1). REASONS FOR DENIAL ON APPEAL -- NUMBER OF TIMES EXEMPTIONS APPLIED

Agency / Component	Ex. 1	Ex. 2	Ex. 3	Ex. 4	Ex. 5	Ex. 6	Ex. 7(A)	Ex. 7(B)	Ex. 7(C)	Ex. 7(D)	Ex. 7(E)	Ex. 7(F)	Ex. 8	Ex. 9
HQ	0	0	0	1	12	10	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
AGENCY OVERALL	0	0	0	1	12	10	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

# VI.C.(2). REASONS FOR DENIAL ON APPEAL -- REASONS OTHER THAN EXEMPTIONS

Agency / Component	No Records	Records Referred at Initial Request Level	Request Withdrawn	Fee- Related Reason	Records not Reasonably Described	Improper Request for Other Reasons	Not Agency Record	Duplicate Request or Appeal	Request in Litigation	Appeal Based Solely on Denial of Request for Expedited Processing	Other *Explain in chart below
HQ	7	0	4	2	0	0	2	4	0	1	79
AGENCY OVERALL	7	0	4	2	0	0	2	4	0	1	79

# VI.C.(3). REASONS FOR DENIAL ON APPEAL -- "OTHER" REASONS

Agency / Component	Description of "Other" Reasons for Denial on Appeal from Chart C(2)	Number of Times "Other" Reason Was Relied Upon	TOTAL
HQ	Moot	79	79
AGENCY OVERALL			79

# VI.C.(4). RESPONSE TIME FOR ADMINISTRATIVE APPEALS

Agency / Component	Median Number of Days	Average Number of Days	Lowest Number of Days	Highest Number of Days
HQ	16.5	14.5	1	27
AGENCY OVERALL	16.5	14.5	1	27

### VI.C.(5). TEN OLDEST PENDING ADMINISTRATIVE APPEALS

Agency / Component		10th Oldest Appeal	9th	8th	7th	6th	5th	4th	3rd	2nd	Oldest Appeal
	Date of Appeal	N/A	N/A	N/A	2024- 09-05	2024- 09-24	2024- 09-24	2024- 09-17	2024- 09-13	2024- 09-12	2024- 09-05
HQ	Number of Days Pending	0	0	0	3	4	4	9	11	12	17
AGENCY	Date of Appeal	N/A	N/A	N/A	2024- 09-05	2024- 09-24	2024- 09-24	2024- 09-17	2024- 09-13	2024- 09-12	2024- 09-05
OVERALL	Number of Days Pending	0	0	0	3	4	4	9	11	12	17

### VII.A. FOIA REQUESTS -- RESPONSE TIME FOR ALL PROCESSED PERFECTED REQUESTS

		SIM	PLE			COM	PLEX		E.	XPEDITED I	PROCESSIN	G
Agency / Component	Median Number of Days	Average Number of Days	Lowest Number of Days	Highest Number of Days	Median Number of Days	Average Number of Days	Lowest Number of Days	Highest Number of Days	Median Number of Days	Average Number of Days	Lowest Number of Days	Highest Number of Days
Region 01	13.5	15.52	<1	172	46.5	70.15	16	221	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Region 02	21	33.5	<1	162	65.5	89.95	1	783	41	41	41	41
Region 03	33	50.87	<1	366	111.5	131.73	3	356	48.5	48.5	23	74

Region 04	16	22.11	<1	304	22	64.84	1	1101	26	41	10	87
Region 05	20	32.77	<1	380	45	62.79	4	397	176	176	120	232
Region 06	20.5	25.26	<1	130	26.5	52.52	1	916	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Region 07	18	21.62	<1	199	17	40.33	15	89	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Region 08	8	12.17	<1	93	56	80.42	<1	396	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Region 09	20.5	45.78	1	511	164	147.75	20	395	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Region 10	18	18.53	4	84	88	170.16	16	1076	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
HQ	20	47.11	<1	1760	122.5	235.75	<1	1855	31	121	1	469
AGENCY OVERALL	10	27.6	<1	1760	59	160.83	<1	1855	45	95.71	1	469

## VII.B. PROCESSED REQUESTS -- RESPONSE TIME FOR PERFECTED REQUESTS IN WHICH INFORMATION WAS GRANTED

		SIM	PLE			COM	PLEX		E.	XPEDITED I	PROCESSIN	G
Agency / Component	Median Number of Days	Average Number of Days	Lowest Number of Days	Highest Number of Days	Median Number of Days	Average Number of Days	Lowest Number of Days	Highest Number of Days	Median Number of Days	Average Number of Days	Lowest Number of Days	Highest Number of Days
Region 01	16	20.2	<1	172	59	78.65	23	221	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Region 02	33.5	48	13	162	70	109.77	8	783	41	41	41	41
Region 03	44	69.14	<1	366	158	171.85	3	356	48.5	48.5	23	74
Region 04	15.5	25.31	1	304	28	68.77	1	1101	26	41	10	87
Region 05	24	47	1	380	52.5	78.15	4	397	176	176	120	232

Region 06	21	28.03	5	130	38	68.88	9	916	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Region 07	19	25.86	3	199	52	52	15	89	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Region 08	13	18.51	1	93	66	89.29	19	396	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Region 09	28	53.8	3	511	166	187.22	112	395	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Region 10	19	21.31	5	84	88	173.13	16	1076	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
HQ	23	47.8	<1	1068	118	213.85	<1	1780	49	145	13	469
AGENCY OVERALL	21	49.85	<1	1068	71	162.65	<1	1780	49	103	10	469

### VII.C. PROCESSED SIMPLE REQUESTS -- RESPONSE TIME IN DAY INCREMENTS

Agency / Component	<1- 20 Days	21- 40 Days	41- 60 Days	61- 80 Days	81- 100 Days	101- 120 Days	121- 140 Days	141- 160 Days	161- 180 Days	181- 200 Days	201- 300 Days	301- 400 Days	401+ Days	TOTAL
Region 01	72	10	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	84
Region 02	19	16	8	3	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	49
Region 03	97	58	41	21	18	6	1	3	0	1	10	6	0	262
Region 04	110	32	9	0	2	1	2	1	0	0	0	1	0	158
Region 05	276	139	48	11	3	7	3	1	2	2	9	7	0	508
Region 06	89	66	13	4	2	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	178
Region 07	113	37	4	4	3	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	162
Region 08	88	8	3	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	101

Region 09	120	53	19	21	6	3	7	5	2	0	2	2	3	243
Region 10	88	5	3	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	98
HQ	1742	366	105	56	42	38	25	7	9	12	33	11	39	2485
AGENCY OVERALL	2814	790	254	121	79	59	40	17	15	16	54	27	42	4328

### VII.C. PROCESSED COMPLEX REQUESTS -- RESPONSE TIME IN DAY INCREMENTS

Agency / Component	<1- 20 Days	21- 40 Days	41- 60 Days	61- 80 Days	81- 100 Days	101- 120 Days	121- 140 Days	141- 160 Days	161- 180 Days	181- 200 Days	201- 300 Days	301- 400 Days	401+ Days	TOTAL
Region 01	1	9	2	1	2	1	0	2	1	0	1	0	0	20
Region 02	26	71	60	83	23	27	11	9	9	4	20	2	9	354
Region 03	4	4	2	0	0	3	0	2	1	0	4	2	0	22
Region 04	131	48	27	17	9	4	6	0	1	2	8	9	6	268
Region 05	15	52	42	18	12	3	3	1	2	0	5	4	0	157
Region 06	52	52	22	9	2	7	1	2	0	0	2	0	3	152
Region 07	2	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
Region 08	3	6	4	1	4	0	3	2	0	0	0	1	0	24
Region 09	1	2	0	0	0	1	0	1	5	1	0	1	0	12
Region 10	1	5	11	6	4	4	4	2	1	2	4	3	4	51
HQ	69	52	37	37	28	23	17	21	5	15	56	40	125	525

#### VII.C. PROCESSED REQUESTS GRANTED EXPEDITED PROCESSING -- RESPONSE TIME IN DAY INCREMENTS

Agency / Component	<1- 20 Days	21- 40 Days	41- 60 Days	61- 80 Days	81- 100 Days	101- 120 Days	121- 140 Days	141- 160 Days	161- 180 Days	181- 200 Days	201- 300 Days	301- 400 Days	401+ Days	TOTAL
Region 01	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Region 02	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Region 03	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Region 04	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
Region 05	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	2
Region 06	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Region 07	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Region 08	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Region 09	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Region 10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
HQ	2	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	6
AGENCY OVERALL	3	3	2	1	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	14

#### VII.D. PENDING REQUESTS -- ALL PENDING PERFECTED REQUESTS

		SIMPLE			COMPLEX		EXPED	ITED PROC	ESSING
Agency / Component	Number Pending	Median Number of Days	Average Number of Days	Number Pending	Median Number of Days	Average Number of Days	Number Pending	Median Number of Days	Average Number of Days
Region 01	3	3	11.67	2	62.5	62.5	0	N/A	N/A
Region 02	6	11	88.33	87	37	76.55	1	14	14
Region 03	48	35.5	75.29	3	272	229.33	0	N/A	N/A
Region 04	23	12	12.61	34	74	210.68	0	N/A	N/A
Region 05	100	15	40.92	47	48	130.45	0	N/A	N/A
Region 06	33	12	57.67	68	47	127.54	0	N/A	N/A
Region 07	19	9	16.95	0	N/A	N/A	0	N/A	N/A
Region 08	11	11	11.82	15	74	96.73	0	N/A	N/A
Region 09	29	35	57.69	3	222	299.67	0	N/A	N/A
Region 10	13	13	34.77	52	248	372.08	0	N/A	N/A
HQ	542	25	169.94	993	37.5	229	2	<1	96
AGENCY OVERALL	827	35	191.05	1304	178	378	3	<1	963.33

# VII.E. PENDING REQUESTS -- TEN OLDEST PENDING PERFECTED REQUESTS

Agency / Component		10th Oldest Request	9th	8th	7th	6th	5th	4th	3rd	2nd	Oldest Request
	Date of Receipt	N/A	N/A	N/A	2024- 09-30	2024- 09-30	2024- 09-11	2024- 08-21	2024- 09-05	2024- 07-03	2024- 05-23
Region 01	Number of Days Pending	0	0	0	0	0	5	13	17	43	82
	Date of Receipt	2024- 01-03	2023- 08-25	2023- 11-15	2023- 10-05	2023- 08-24	2023- 07-12	2023- 04-06	2022- 06-16	2022- 08-19	2020- 01-07
Region 02	Number of Days Pending	185	196	207	246	271	301	343	434	528	1080
	Date of Receipt	2024- 04-04	2024- 02-26	2023- 11-29	2023- 11-09	2023- 10-30	2023- 08-29	2023- 07-12	2023- 06-29	2023- 04-17	2023- 01-20
Region 03	Number of Days Pending	123	151	210	222	230	272	299	314	365	425
	Date of Receipt	2023- 08-28	2023- 08-18	2023- 01-20	2022- 09-26	2022- 05-18	2022- 03-30	2022- 01-31	2022- 01-31	2022- 01-06	2021- 03-16
Region 04	Number of Days Pending	273	279	425	503	592	627	668	668	684	826
Region 05	Date of Receipt	2023- 05-26	2023- 04-17	2023- 03-15	2023- 02-22	2023- 02-24	2023- 02-21	2022- 08-03	2022- 10-24	2022- 07-28	2022- 03-24

	Number of Days Pending	329	365	388	393	400	404	456	484	544	615
	Date of Receipt	2023- 04-14	2023- 02-01	2023- 03-14	2023- 03-13	2023- 02-08	2023- 02-02	2022- 12-06	2022- 09-07	2022- 05-05	2020- 07-23
Region 06	Number of Days Pending	366	385	389	390	412	416	455	516	601	1049
	Date of Receipt	2024- 09-06	2024- 09-09	2024- 09-09	2024- 09-09	2024- 09-06	2024- 09-05	2024- 09-05	2024- 05-15	2024- 03-25	2024- 06-03
Region 07	Number of Days Pending	9	15	15	15	16	17	17	25	75	82
	Date of Receipt	2024- 06-25	2024- 06-27	2024- 06-06	2024- 06-06	2024- 05-16	2024- 06-05	2023- 12-12	2023- 11-02	2023- 10-19	2022- 12-13
Region 08	Number of Days Pending	55	65	75	75	77	78	81	227	237	342
	Date of Receipt	2024- 06-04	2024- 05-15	2024- 04-15	2024- 04-10	2024- 04-08	2023- 12-26	2023- 12-19	2023- 11-09	2023- 06-02	2022- 10-27
Region 09	Number of Days Pending	81	94	116	119	121	192	196	222	332	481
	Date of Receipt	2017- 03-07	2017- 02-06	2016- 12-13	2016- 04-25	2016- 06-16	2016- 06-02	2016- 04-27	2016- 04-11	2015- 12-24	2015- 06-12
Region 10	Number of Days Pending	1899	1919	1955	1986	2078	2088	2113	2125	2198	2332

	Date of	2017-	2017-	2017-	2017-	2017-	2017-	2016-	2016-	2015-	2015-
	Receipt	03-15	03-16	03-15	03-15	03-15	02-06	12-23	04-27	12-23	06-11
HQ	Number of Days Pending	1869	1869	1869	1869	1869	1879	1881	2092	2177	2312
AGENCY	Date of	2017-	2017-	2017-	2017-	2017-	2017-	2016-	2016-	2015-	2015-
	Receipt	03-15	03-15	03-15	03-15	03-15	02-06	12-23	04-27	12-23	06-11
OVERALL	Number of Days Pending	1869	1869	1869	1869	1869	1870	1881	2092	2177	2312

#### **VIII.A. REQUESTS FOR EXPEDITED PROCESSING**

Agency / Component	Number Granted	Number Denied	Median Number of Days to Adjudicate	Average Number of Days to Adjudicate	Number Adjudicated Within Ten Calendar Days
Region 01	0	4	1	4.25	3
Region 02	2	13	<1	1.2	15
Region 03	2	15	1	2.41	17
Region 04	3	27	<1	1.53	30
Region 05	1	37	1	1.24	38
Region 06	0	22	2.5	4.68	20
Region 07	0	6	7	8.5	3
Region 08	0	12	<1	3.5	11

Region 09	1	18	1	2.16	18
Region 10	1	13	<1	1	14
HQ	5	126	1	1	115
AGENCY OVERALL	15	293	1	4.13	284

# VIII.B. Requests for Fee Waiver

Agency / Component	Number Granted	Number Denied	Median Number of Days to Adjudicate	Average Number of Days to Adjudicate
Region 01	9	6	1	2.07
Region 02	20	29	2	8.33
Region 03	14	29	3	6.16
Region 04	20	33	2	18.08
Region 05	22	51	2	5.89
Region 06	15	41	2.5	5.59
Region 07	3	11	7.5	8.36
Region 08	11	18	2	7.07
Region 09	13	24	2	3.78
Region 10	15	17	2	5.41
HQ	227	637	2	7.81

AGENCY OVERALL	369	896	2	8.07

This data represents the requests processed by each component that included a fee waiver request. All fee waiver requests, however, are processed by HQ.

#### IX. FOIA Personnel and Costs

		PERSONNEL			COSTS	
Agency / Component	Number of "Full-Time FOIA Employees"	Number of "Equivalent Full-Time FOIA Employees"	Total Number of "Full- Time FOIA Staff"	Processing Costs	Litigation- Related Costs	Total Costs
Region 01	4	0.00	4.00	756000.00	0.00	756000.00
Region 02	4	3.12	7.12	1345680.00	0.00	1345680.00
Region 03	6	0.17	6.17	1166130.00	0.00	1166130.00
Region 04	9	0.00	9.00	1701000.00	0.00	1701000.00
Region 05	32	0.52	32.52	6146280.00	0.00	6146280.00
Region 06	10	0.55	10.55	1193950.00	0.00	1193950.00
Region 07	17	0.00	17.00	3213000.00	0.00	3213000.00
Region 08	5	0.00	5.00	945000.00	0.00	945000.00
Region 09	11	0.34	11.34	2143260.00	0.00	2143260.00

Region 10	7	0.00	7.00	1323000.00	0.00	1323000.00
HQ	137	5.00	142.00	26838000.00	79250.00	26917250.00
AGENCY OVERALL	242	9.70	251.70	46771300.00	79250.00	46850550.00

# X. Fees Collected for Processing Requests

Agency / Component	Total Amount of Fees Collected	Percentage of Total Costs
Region 01	14200.50	1.8800
Region 02	17023.52	1.2700
Region 03	5335.06	0.4600
Region 04	2305.00	0.1400
Region 05	5134.70	0.0800
Region 06	9014.19	0.7500
Region 07	5040.14	0.1600
Region 08	26095.25	2.7600
Region 09	30870.80	1.4400
Region 10	2592.92	0.2000
HQ	31925.96	0.1200
AGENCY OVERALL	149538.04	0.3200

# XI.A. Number of Times Subsection (C) Used

A /	
Agency / Component	Number of Times Subsection Used
Region 01	0
Region 02	0
Region 03	0
Region 04	0
Region 05	0
Region 06	0
Region 07	0
Region 08	0
Region 09	0
Region 10	0
HQ	0
AGENCY OVERALL	0

# XI.B. Number of Subsection (A)(2) Postings

-		
Agency / Component	Number of Records Posted by the FOIA Office	Number of Records Posted by Program Offices
Region 01	9283	0
Region 02	43783	0
Region 03	58019	0
Region 04	68570	0
Region 05	98003	0
Region 06	136877	0
Region 07	19191	0
Region 08	81303	0
Region 09	152038	0
Region 10	36470	0
HQ	242996	0
AGENCY OVERALL	946533	0

XII.A. Backlogs of FOIA Requests and Administrative Appeals

Agency / Component	Number of Backlogged Requests as of End of Fiscal Year	Number of Backlogged Appeals as of End of Fiscal Year
Region 01	3	N/A
Region 02	80	N/A
Region 03	43	N/A
Region 04	32	N/A
Region 05	85	N/A
Region 06	67	N/A
Region 07	3	N/A
Region 08	13	N/A
Region 09	21	N/A
Region 10	55	N/A
HQ	1162	0
AGENCY OVERALL	1564	0

# XII.B. CONSULTATIONS ON FOIA REQUESTS -- RECEIVED, PROCESSED, AND PENDING CONSULTATIONS

Agency / Component	Number of Consultations Received from Other Agencies that were Pending at the Agency as of Start of the Fiscal Year	Number of Consultations <u>Received</u> from Other Agencies During the Fiscal Year	Number of Consultations Received from Other Agencies that were Processed by the Agency During the Fiscal	Number of Consultations Received from Other Agencies that were Pending at the Agency as of End of the Fiscal Year
Region 01	0	1	1	0
Region 02	0	3	3	0
Region 03	0	0	0	0
Region 04	0	3	3	0
Region 05	0	6	5	1
Region 06	0	2	2	0
Region 07	0	2	2	0
Region 08	0	3	3	0
Region 09	0	0	0	0
Region 10	0	4	4	0
HQ	4	62	62	4
AGENCY OVERALL	4	86	85	5

### XII.C. CONSULTATIONS ON FOIA REQUESTS -- TEN OLDEST CONSULTATIONS RECEIVED FROM OTHER AGENCIES AND PENDING AT THE AGENCY

Agency / Component		10th Oldest Consultation	9th	8th	7th	6th	5th	4th	3rd	2nd	Oldest Consultation
	Date	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Region 01	Number of Days	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Date	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Region 02	Number of Days	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Date	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Region 03	Number of Days	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Date	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Region 04	Number of Days	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Date	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	2024-09-13
Region 05	Number of Days	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	11
	Date	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Region 06	Number of Days	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Region 07	Date	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

	Number of Days	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Date	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Region 08	Number of Days	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Date	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Region 09	Number of Days	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Date	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Region 10	Number of Days	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Date	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	2024- 09-27	2024- 09-25	2024- 09-09	2024-09-02
HQ	Number of Days	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	3	15	18
AGENCY	Date	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	2024- 09-27	2024- 09-25	2024- 09-13	2024- 09-09	2024-09-02
OVERALL	Number of Days	0	0	0	0	0	1	3	11	15	18

XII.D.(1). COMPARISON OF NUMBERS OF REQUESTS FROM PREVIOUS AND CURRENT ANNUAL REPORT -- REQUESTS RECEIVED AND PROCESSED

	NUMBER OF REC	UESTS <u>RECEIVED</u>	NUMBER OF REQUESTS PROCESSED		
Agency / Component	Number Received During Fiscal Year from Last Year's Annual Report	Number Received During Fiscal Year from Current Annual Report	Number Processed During Fiscal Year from Last Year's Annual Report	Number Processed During Fiscal Year from Current Annual Report	
Region 01	85	98	78	104	
Region 02	396	393	418	406	
Region 03	316	280	330	290	
Region 04	438	410	453	429	
Region 05	712	742	672	688	
Region 06	395	366	400	330	
Region 07	181	176	180	173	
Region 08	145	138	138	130	
Region 09	297	238	299	257	
Region 10	155	165	156	149	
HQ	3468	4545	3653	4178	
AGENCY OVERALL	6588	7551	6777	7134	

XII.D.(2). COMPARISON OF NUMBERS OF REQUESTS FROM PREVIOUS AND CURRENT ANNUAL REPORT -- BACKLOGGED REQUESTS

Agency / Component	Number of Backlogged Requests as of End of the Fiscal Year from Previous Annual Report	Number of Backlogged Requests as of End of the Fiscal Year from Current Annual Report
Region 01	5	3
Region 02	80	80
Region 03	35	43
Region 04	38	32
Region 05	48	85
Region 06	38	67
Region 07	4	3
Region 08	9	13
Region 09	35	21
Region 10	40	55
HQ	986	1162
AGENCY OVERALL	1318	1564

XII.E.(1). COMPARISON OF NUMBERS OF ADMINISTRATIVE APPEALS FROM PREVIOUS AND CURRENT ANNUAL REPORT -- APPEALS RECEIVED AND PROCESSED

	NUMBER OF AP	NUMBER OF APPEALS <u>PROCESSED</u>		
Agency / Component	Number Received During Fiscal Year from Last Year's Annual Report	Number Received During Fiscal Year from Current Annual Report	Number Processed During Fiscal Year from Last Year's Annual Report	Number Processed During Fiscal Year from Current Annual Report
HQ	116	207	119	204
AGENCY OVERALL	116	207	119	204

XII.E.(2). COMPARISON OF NUMBERS OF ADMINISTRATIVE APPEALS FROM PREVIOUS AND CURRENT ANNUAL REPORT -- BACKLOGGED APPEALS

Agency / Component	Number of Backlogged Appeals as of End of the Fiscal Year from Previous Annual Report	Number of Backlogged Appeals as of End of the Fiscal Year from Current Annual Report
HQ	0	0
AGENCY OVERALL	0	0