

ANNUAL PEACE CORPS FOIA REPORT

October 1, 2008 to September 30, 2009

I. BASIC INFORMATION REGARDING REPORT

- 1. Name, address, and telephone number of person(s) to be contacted with questions about the report: Denora Miller, FOIA Officer at 202-692-1236.
- 2. Electronic address for report on the World Wide Web: http://www.peacecorps.gov/policies/foia.cfm
- 3. You may obtain a copy of the report in paper form by writing to:

Peace Corps Attention: FOIA 1111 20th St., NW Washington, DC 20526

II. MAKING A FOIA REQUEST

1. The following offices receive FOIA Requests:

Peace Corps FOIA/Privacy Act Office 1111 20th St., NW Washington, DC 20526 Phone: 202-692-1236

Email: foia@peacecorps.gov

Peace Corps
Office of the Inspector General
P.O. Box 57129
Washington, DC 20037
Phone: 202-692-2915

Email: oig@peacecorps.gov

2. Some requests cannot be granted because the records have been destroyed pursuant to Peace Corps' records schedule.

III. Definitions of Terms and Acronyms

- 1. Agency specific acronyms or other terms.
 - OIG- Office of Inspector General
- 2. Basic terms, expressed in common terminology.
 - 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.
 - i. **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.
 - ii. **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.
 - iii. **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.
- 1. **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.

- m. **Pending Request or Pending Administrative Appeal** a request or administrative appeal for which an agency has not taken final action in all respects.
- n. **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.
- o. **Processed Request or Processed Administrative Appeal** a request or administrative appeal for which an agency has taken final action in all respects.
- p. **Range in Number of Days** the lowest and highest number of days to process requests or administrative appeals.
- q. **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:
 - a. **Exemption 1**: classified national defense and foreign relations information
 - b. **Exemption 2**: internal agency rules and practices
 - c. **Exemption 3**: information that is prohibited from disclosure by another federal law
 - d. **Exemption 4**: trade secrets and other confidential business information
 - e. **Exemption 5**: inter-agency or intra-agency communications that are protected by legal privileges
 - f. **Exemption 6**: information involving matters of personal privacy
 - g. **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,
 - h. **Exemption 8**: information relating to the supervision of financial institutions
 - i. **Exemption 9**: geological information on wells

IV. EXEMPTION 3 STATUTES

Statue	Type of Information Withheld	Case Citation	Number of Times Relied upon per Component	Total Number of Times Relied upon by Agency
N/A	N/A	N/A	0	0

V. FOIA REQUESTS

A. Received, Processed and Pending FOIA Requests

	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
FOIA Office	22	229	249	2
OIG	0	11	11	0
AGENCY TOTAL	22	240	260	2

B. (1) Disposition of FOIA Requests – All Processed Requests

	# of Full Grants	# of Partial Grants/ Partial Denials	# of Full Denials Based on Exemptions			# of 1	Full Denial	s Based on Rea	sons Other tl	ian Exemp	tions		
			NOT ACT PLACE AS NOT AS A SALE OF STATE	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
FOIA Office	185	15	34	10	0	3	2	0	0	0	0	0	249
OIG	9	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	11
Agency Total	194	15	36	10	0	3	2	0	0	0	0	0	260

B. (2) Disposition of FOIA Requests – "Other" Reasons for "Full Denials Based on Reasons Other than Exemptions" from Section V, B (1) Chart 1.

Component	Description of "Other" Reasons for Denials from Chart B (1) & Number of Times Those Reasons Were Relied upon	TOTAL
FOIA Office	0	0
OIG	. 0	0

B. (3) Disposition of FOIA Requests – Number of Times Exemptions Applied

	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
FOIA Office	0	1	0	1	6	25	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
OIG	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	0 .	1	0	1	6	26	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

VI. ADMINISTRATIVE APPEALS OF INITIAL DETERMINATIONS OF FOIA REQUESTS

A. Received, Processed and Pending Administrative Appeals

	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
FOIA Office	3	6	9	0
OIG	1	0	1	0
Agency Overall	4	6	10	0

B. Disposition of Administrative Appeals – All Processed Appeals

	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
FOIA Office	8	0	0	1	9
OIG	1	0	0	0	1
Agency Overall	9	0	0	1	10

C. (1) Reasons for Denial on Appeal – Number of Times Exemptions Applied

	Ex.	Ex.	Ex.	Ex.	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.
FOIA Office	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
OIG	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Agency Overall	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

C. (2) Reasons for Denial on Appeal – Reasons Other than Exemptions

	No Records	Records Referred at Initial Request Level	Request With- drawn	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
FOIA Office	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	5	0	0	0
OIG	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Agency Overall	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	5	0	0	0

C. (3) Reasons for Denial on Appeal – "Other" Reasons from Section VI, C (2) Chart

Description of "Other" Reasons for Denial on Appeal from Chart C (2) & Number of Times Those Reasons Were Relied upon	TOTAL
0	0

C. (4) Response Time for Administrative Appeals

		SIMP	LE			COM	PLEX		EXPEDITED PROCESSING				
	Median # of Days	Average #of Days	Lowest # of Days	Highest # of Days	Median # of Days	Average # of Days	Lowest # of Days	Highest # of Days	Median # of Days	Average # of Days	Lowest # of Days	Highest # of Days	
FOIA Office	21	28	11	59	<1	<1	<1	<1	<1	<1	<1	<1	
OIG	0	0	0	0	<1	<1	<1	<1	<1	<1	<1	<1	
Agency Overall	21	28	11	59	<1	<1	<1	<1	<1	<1	<1	<1	

C. (5) Ten Oldest Pending Administrative Appeals

		SIM	PLE			COMI	PLEX		EXPEDITED PROCESSING				
	Median	Average	Lowest	Highest	Median	Average	Lowest	Highest	Median	Average	Lowest	Highest	
	# of	#of	# of	# of	# of	# of	# of	# of	# of	# of	# of	# of	
	Days	Days	Days	Days	Days	Days	Days	Days	Days	Days	Days	Days	
FOIA Office	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
OIG	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Agency Overall	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	

VII. FOIA REQUESTS: RESPONSE TIME FOR PROCESSED AND PENDING REQUESTS

A. Processed Requests – Response Time for All Processed Perfected Requests

		SIM	PLE			COMI	PLEX		EX	PEDITED	PROCESS	SING
	Median # of	Average #of	Lowest # of	Highest # of	Median # of	Average # of	Lowest # of	Highest # of	Median # of	Average # of	Lowest # of	Highest # of Days
	Days	Days	Days	Days	Days	Days	Days	Days	Days	Days	Days	Of Days
FOIA Office	10	12	<1	58	<1	<1	<1	<1	<1	<1	<1	<1
OIG	6	5	<1	22	<1	<1	<1	<1	<1	<1	<1	<1
Agency Overall	10	8	<1	58	<1	<1	<1	<1	<1	<1	<1	<1

B. Processed Requests – Response Time for Perfected Requests in Which Information Was Granted.

		SIMPLE				COMI	PLEX		EXPEDITED PROCESSING			
	Median	Average	Lowest	Highest	Median	Average	Lowest	Highest	Median	Average	Lowest	Highest
	# of	#of	# of	# of	# of	# of	# of	# of	# of	# of	# of	# of
	Days	Days	Days	Days	Days	Days	Days	Days	Days	Days	Days	Days
FOIA Office	10	10	<1	58	<1	<1	<1	<1	<1	<1	<1	<1
OIG	6	5	<1	22	<1	<1	<1	<1	<1	<1	<1	<1
Agency Overall	10	8	<1	58	<1	<1	<1	<1	<1	<1	<1	<1

C. Processed Requests – Response Time in Day Increments.

Simple Requests

	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
FOIA Office	196	27	6	0	0	. 0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	229
OIG	10	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	11
Agency Overall	206	28	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	240

Complex Requests

	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
FOIA Office	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
OIG	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Agency Overall	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Requests Granted Expedited Processing

	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
FOIA Office	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
OIG	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Agency Overall	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

D. Pending Requests – All Pending Perfected Requests

		SIMPLE			COMPLEX		EXPEDITED PROCESSING		
	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
FOIA Office	2	64	64	0	0	0	0	0	0
OIG	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Agency Overall	2	64	64	0	0	0	0	0	0

E. Pending Requests – Ten Oldest Pending Perfected Requests

	10 th Oldest Request and Number of Days Pending	9 th	8 th	7 th	6 th	5 th	4 th	3 rd	2nd	Oldest Request and Number of Days Pending
FOIA	Date								04/06/2009	04/16/2008
Office		0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
	Number of Days								127	226
OIG	Date									
		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Number of Days									

	10 th Oldest Request and Number of Days Pending	9 th	8 th	7 th	6 th	5 th	4 th	3 rd	2nd	Oldest Request and Number of Days Pending
Agency Overall	Date			-					04/06/2009	04/06/2008
Overall		0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
	Number of Days								127	226

VIII. REQUESTS FOR EXPEDITED PROCESSING AND REQUESTS FOR FEE WAIVER

A. Requests for Expedited Processing

	Number Granted	Number Denied	Median Number of Days to Adjudicate	Number Adjudicated Within Ten Calendar Days
FOIA Office	0	0	0	0
OIG	0	0	0	0
AGENCY OVERALL	0	0	0	0

B. Requests for Fee Waiver

	Number Granted	Number Denied	Median Number of Days to Adjudicate	Number Adjudicated Within Ten Calendar Days
FOIA Office	0	0	0	0
OIG	0	0	0	0
AGENCY OVERALL	0	0	0	0

IX. FOIA PERSONNEL AND COSTS

		PERSONNEL		COSTS			
	Number of "Full- Time FOIA Employees	Number of "Equivalent Full-Time FOIA Employees"	Total Number of "Full-Time FOIA Staff" (The sum of Columns 1 & 2)	Processing Costs	Litigation- Related Costs	Total Costs	
FOIA Office	0	1.20	1.20	58265	N/A	58265	
OIG	0	0.10	0.10	8952	N/A	8952	
AGENCY OVERALL	0	1.30	1.30	67217	N/A	67217	

X. FEES COLLECTED FOR PROCESSING REQUESTS

	Total Amount of Fees Collected	Percentage of Total Costs
FOIA Office	184	0.3%
OIG	0	0
AGENCY OVERALL	184	0.3%

XI. FOIA REGULATIONS

The agency's regulations implementing the FOIA, which include its fee schedule, can be found at 22 C.F.R. Part 303 and at the agency's website:

http://multimedia.peacecorps.gov/multimedia/pdf/policies/foia/cfr.pdf

XII. BACKLOGS, CONSULTATIONS, AND COMPARISONS

A. Backlogs of FOIA Requests and Administrative Appeals

	Number of Backlogged Requests as of End of Year	Number of Backlogged Appeals as of End of Fiscal Year
FOIA Office	1	0
OIG	0	0
AGENCY	1	0
OVERALL	1	U

B. Consultations on FOIA Requests – Received, Processed, and Pending Consultations

	Number of Consultations	Number of	Number of Consultations	Number of Consultations
	Received from Other	Consultations	from Other Agencies that	from Other Agencies that
	Agencies that Were	Received from Other	Were <u>Processed</u> by Your	Were Pending at Your
	Pending at Your Agency as	Agencies During the	Agency During the Fiscal	Agency as of End of
	of <u>Start</u> of the Fiscal Year	Fiscal Year	Year	Fiscal Year
FOIA Office	0	0	0	0
OIG	0	0	0	0
AGENCY	0	0	0	0
OVERALL	U	U		

C. Consultations on FOIA Requests - Ten Oldest Consultations Received from Other Agencies and Pending at Your Agency

	10 th Oldest Consultation and Number of Days Pending	9 th	8 th	7 th	6 th	5 th	4 th	3 rd	2nd	Oldest Consultation and Number of Days Pending
FOIA Office		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
OIG		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Agency Overall		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

D. Comparison of Numbers of Requests from Previous and Current Annual Report – Requests Received, Processed, and Backlogged

	NUMBER OF REQU	JESTS <u>RECEIVED</u>	NUMBER OF REQUESTS PROCESSED			
	Number Received	Number Received	Number Processed	Number Processed		
	During Fiscal Year from	During Fiscal Year	During Fiscal Year from	During Fiscal Year from		
	Last Year's Annual	from Current Annual	Last Year's Annual	Current Annual Report		
	Report	Report	Report			
FOIA Office	139	229	121	249		
OIG	14	11	14	11		
AGENCY OVERALL	153	240	135	260		

	Number of Backlogged Requests as of End of	Number of Backlogged Requests as of Ends as of End		
	Year from previous Annual Report	of Fiscal Year from Current Annual Report		
FOIA Office	16	2		
OIG	0	0		
AGENCY	16	2		
OVERALL	10	2		

E. Comparison of Numbers of Administrative Appeals from Previous and Current Annual Report – Appeals Received, Processed, and Backlogged

	NUMBER OF APP	EALS <u>RECEIVED</u>	NUMBER OF APPEALS <u>PROCESSED</u>			
ĺ	Number Received During Fiscal Year from	Number Received During Fiscal Year	Number Processed During Fiscal Year from	Number Processed During Fiscal Year from		
	Last Year's Annual Report	from Current Annual Report	Last Year's Annual Report	Current Annual Report		
FOIA Office	4	6	1	9		
OIG	1	0	0	1		
AGENCY OVERALL	5	6	1	10		

	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
FOIA Office	3	0
OIG	1	0
AGENCY	4	0
OVERALL_		<u> </u>

F. Discussion of Other FOIA Activities

The FOIA Staff conducts training at the New Employee Orientation which is held every two weeks and Supervisory Skills Training which is held twice a year.