

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE  
WASHINGTON, DC 20511

MAR 7 2013

Mr. Steven Aftergood  
Federation of American Scientists  
1725 DeSales Street NW  
Suite 600  
Washington, DC 20036

Reference: DF-2012-00113

Dear Mr. Aftergood:

This responds to your 26 July 2012 email to the Office of the Director of National Intelligence (ODNI), wherein you requested, under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), a memorandum entitled: **“Deterring and Detecting Unauthorized Disclosures, Including Leaks to the Media, Through Strengthened Polygraph Programs.”**

Your request was processed in accordance with the FOIA, 5 U.S.C § 552, as amended. Upon review, it was determined that the document may be released in its entirety (enclosed).

If you have any questions, please call the Requester Service Center at (703) 874-8500.

Sincerely,



John F. Hackett  
Chief, Information and Data Management Group

Enclosure

DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE  
WASHINGTON, DC 20511

E/S 00447

**MEMORANDUM FOR:** Distribution

**SUBJECT:** Deterring and Detecting Unauthorized Disclosures, Including Leaks to the Media, Through Strengthened Polygraph Programs

**AUTHORITIES:**

- A. The National Security Act of 1947 (NSA of 1947), as amended by the 2010 Intelligence Authorization Act (Pub. L. No. 111-259) codified at 50 U.S.C. 435b
- B. Executive Order (EO) 13467, *Reforming Processes Related to Suitability for Government Employment, Fitness for Contractor Employees, and Eligibility for Access to Classified National Security Information*

**REFERENCE:** Security Executive Agent Directive 1, Subject: *Security Executive Agent Authorities and Responsibilities*, 13 March 2012

Unauthorized disclosures of classified information, including "leaks" of classified information to the media, endanger vital intelligence sources and methods and damage international relationships. Aggressive action is required to better equip United States Government elements to prevent unauthorized disclosures.

In my role as Security Executive Agent, I am hereby standardizing how the topic of unauthorized disclosures is addressed during the polygraph interview process. One key to obtaining a reliable response to polygraph questions is to ensure that the subject understands the full meaning and implications of the questions posed. This explanation is provided during a pre-test dialogue between the polygraph examiner and the subject, during which more detailed versions of the questions are used than are asked during the test itself.

CIA's pre-test explanation related to unauthorized disclosures contains the requisite level of detail to support a thorough inquiry. During the pre-test discussion, CIA specifically asks whether an individual has provided classified information or facilitated access to classified information to any unauthorized persons, to include the media, unauthorized U.S. persons, or foreign nationals. The polygraph process is also used to identify deliberate disclosures. To strengthen our collective practices, I am directing that agencies authorized to conduct polygraphs for security clearance-related purposes immediately incorporate into their polygraph process a pre-test dialogue on unauthorized disclosures that includes an equivalent level of detail.

Agencies authorized to conduct polygraphs for security clearance-related purposes will ensure that their polygraph processes address the issue of unauthorized disclosures of classified information by including a definition that explicitly states that an unauthorized disclosure includes providing, or facilitating access to, classified information to any unauthorized persons.

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including members of the media. The polygraph examiner will thoroughly explain this issue to the subject and will also include the following details:

- "Unauthorized recipient" includes any U.S. person or foreign national without a need to know or not cleared at the appropriate level for the information, including any member of the media.
- "Unauthorized disclosure" means a communication, confirmation, acknowledgement, or physical transfer of classified information, including the facilitation of, or actual giving, passing, selling, keeping, publishing, or in any way making such information available, to an unauthorized recipient.
- Classified information includes information classified at any level, including Confidential, Secret, or Top Secret.

This policy will serve as a strong deterrent to would-be leakers while reinforcing the values of all the dedicated intelligence personnel who exemplify the highest standards of professionalism. If you or your staff has questions regarding this policy direction, please contact Mr. Michael Londregan, Assistant Director for Special Security at [Michael.P.Londregan@dni.gov](mailto:Michael.P.Londregan@dni.gov) or 571-204-6593.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
James R. Clapper

13 July 2012  
Date

cc: See Distribution List

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Through Strengthened Polygraph Programs**

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**Secretary of the Air Force, United States Air Force**  
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**Secretary of Transportation, Department of Transportation**  
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Director, Broadcasting Board of Governors  
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National Center for Credibility Assessment (NCCA)**

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