

#### UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT of JUSTICE

# Overview of the Annual Freedom of Information Act Report and Quarterly FOIA Reports 1



### **Agenda**

- > Annual FOIA Report
  - Statutory Requirements
  - Overview of Process and General Guidance
  - Section-by-Section Overview of the Annual Report
  - Tips and Tricks
- Quarterly FOIA Reports



#### 5 U.S.C. § 552(e)

FOIA requires agencies to submit a report to the Attorney General each year covering the preceding fiscal year.

Statute provides that the Attorney General:

- In consultation with the Director of OMB, shall develop reporting and performance guidelines for these reports, and
- May establish additional requirements for reports that may be useful.



### **Posting Raw Data**

- The raw, statistical data used in the agency's Annual FOIA Report must be made available for public inspection without charge in an electronic, aggregated, searchable format, that may be downloadable in bulk.
- ➤ OIP issued guidance in 2016 on how agencies can meet this requirement.



### **Open Government Directive**

- Requires agency Annual FOIA Reports to be published in a machine-readable, open format, in addition to the regular human-readable format.
- Accordingly, DOJ requires agencies to provide their data in a specified NIEM-XML format for uniformity and uploading onto FOIA.gov.



### Using FOIA.gov to Complete the Annual FOIA Report

- Agencies are required to submit their report to OIP using the FOIA.gov Annual Report Tool.
- Each agency has at least one Agency Manager account holder who will be able to create and submit the agency's report.
- ➤ If agencies require assistance using the FOIA.gov tool, contact OIP.



### FOIA.gov Annual Report Tool

- > Has built-in math and logic checks to assist agencies in compiling their data.
- > Generates the charts for the humanreadable version of the report and the machine-readable NIEM-XML.
- Agencies <u>must</u> use the charts produced by the tool as the basis of their human readable reports to ensure consistency between the two versions.



### **Annual FOIA Report Handbook**

Explains the legal, procedural, and technical requirements for the Annual FOIA Report:

- Chapter I: Describes the scope and overall process for completing the report.
- Chapter II: Provides guidance for FOIA professionals regarding data entry and case management, which also apply to the Annual FOIA Report.
- Chapter III: Provides step-by-step instructions for completing the report in FOIA.gov.

Posted on OIP's Reports page: <a href="https://www.justice.gov/oip/reports-1">https://www.justice.gov/oip/reports-1</a>



### **Using Raw Data to Prepare Report**

- We encourage agencies to review their raw data before aggregating the metrics for the FOIA.gov Annual Report Tool, to the extent feasible.
- For decentralized agencies, this includes reviewing each component's data.
- ➤ Validating the raw data first, if feasible, reduces discrepancies in the consolidated report.
- Review OIP's Resource for Reviewing Raw Data, posted on OIP's Reports page.



### Using Raw Data to Prepare Report

By beginning with the raw data, agencies can:

- Address discrepancies pertaining to individual requests and update the tracking system early in the review process.
- Consolidate and clear the final report more efficiently.
- Improve data quality by identifying requests that need refinement in how they are labeled for tracking and closure.

### **Using Raw Data to Prepare Report:**

Agencies can identify potential corrections earlier in the process, such as:

- Discrepancies in numbers of pending requests, appeals, and consultations across fiscal years
- Perfected dates
- "Other" dispositions used
- Ex. 3 statutes used (see Ex. 3 charts)
- Calculate medians, averages, # of days
- Ensure requests have all applicable data entered



#### Overview of Process for Fiscal Year 2025

- 1. After September 30, begin verifying your raw data and completing the Annual Report in FOIA.gov.
- 2. Resolve any validation errors in FOIA.gov.
- 3. Submit the draft report to OIP in FOIA.gov by no later than November 12, 2025.
  - Notify OIP by emailing DOJ.OIP.FOIA@usdoj.gov once your agency submits the report.

#### Overview of Process for Fiscal Year 2025

- 4. Make any necessary corrections resulting from the OIP review process.
- 5. Use the charts provided by OIP to complete the human-readable version of your Annual FOIA Report.



### Overview of Process for Fiscal Year 2025

- 6. Before March 1, post both the open format NIEM-XML and human-readable versions of your Annual FOIA Reports on your website and provide the links to OIP for aggregation on DOJ's website.
- 7. Post the raw data for the FY 2025 report on your website. Agencies will be required to provide a link to their raw data in their Chief FOIA Officer Reports.



### **Scope - Types of Requests**

Continue to give incoming requests the potential benefit of access under both the FOIA and the Privacy Act (PA).

**Do** include PA requests in the Annual Report when FOIA applies. FOIA applies when:

- A search goes beyond PA "system of records," and so involves a FOIA search, <u>or</u>
- PA exemptions apply to the records, so access under the FOIA is considered.



### **Scope - Types of Requests**

**Do not** include Privacy Act requests in the Annual Report when:

- You do not use the FOIA in any way to process the request.
- You search exclusively within PA "system of records", and you do not claim any PA exemptions.



### General Guidance Points for Sections IV – XII

- Ensure accurate data and reliable systems so that the Report is accurate and meaningful.
- ➤ All fields are required, even if your agency does not have data to report in a particular section. Enter N/A or 0 as indicated in the guidance.
- ➤ Carefully follow the directions in the DOJ Annual FOIA Report Handbook.



### General Guidance Points for Sections IV – XII

- For processing times and days pending, count days from receipt of a perfected request; use working days, unless otherwise stated.
- Section V of the Report reflects both perfected & non-perfected "purported" requests, whereas Section VII ("Response Time") reflects perfected requests only.



### General Guidance Points for Sections IV – XII

- When reporting total FOIA staffing numbers in Section IX, include employees who took the Deferred Resignation Program (DRP). Include a footnote that specifies how many FOIA personnel took the DRP for the entire agency. Exact wording of the footnote can be found in the handbook.
- For any offices that were dissolved where open pending requests were transferred to another agency for processing, count any transferred requests as "routed requests." The total number of routed requests should only count under the receiving component's numbers, not the dissolved component.



### **Calculating Agency Overall Data**

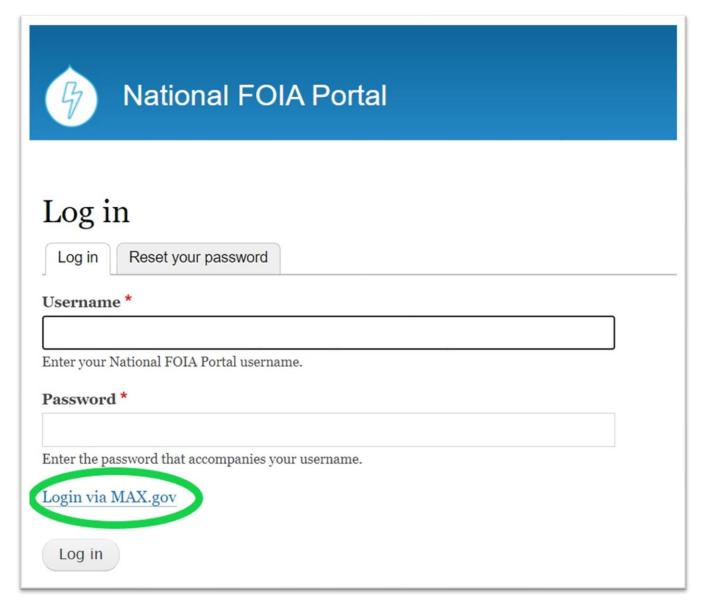
- Many Agency Overall data points are summed automatically; others must be manually entered.
- > Medians and Averages:
  - Must be true agency overall values. They should not be a "median of medians" or "average of averages."
  - ➤ Medians must be calculated from the raw data.
  - Averages may be calculated from the raw data or use a weighted average.



### FOIA.gov Access and Home Page

- Go to admin.foia.gov
- > Log in using Max.gov (PIV or authenticator app)
- ➤ Refer to the Agency Manager Guide for instructions
- > From the Home page you can:
  - Edit your agency's information
  - Create or Upload an Annual Report
  - Create Quarterly Reports
  - See status of existing reports

### Logging into the FOIA.gov Tool



Note: All agency users, except National Railroad Passenger Corporation (Amtrak), are required to login via MAX.gov authentication.

### Creating or Uploading a Report

Annual FOIA Report

Add new Annual FOIA Report



Upload Annual FOIA Report data



### **Agency Info**

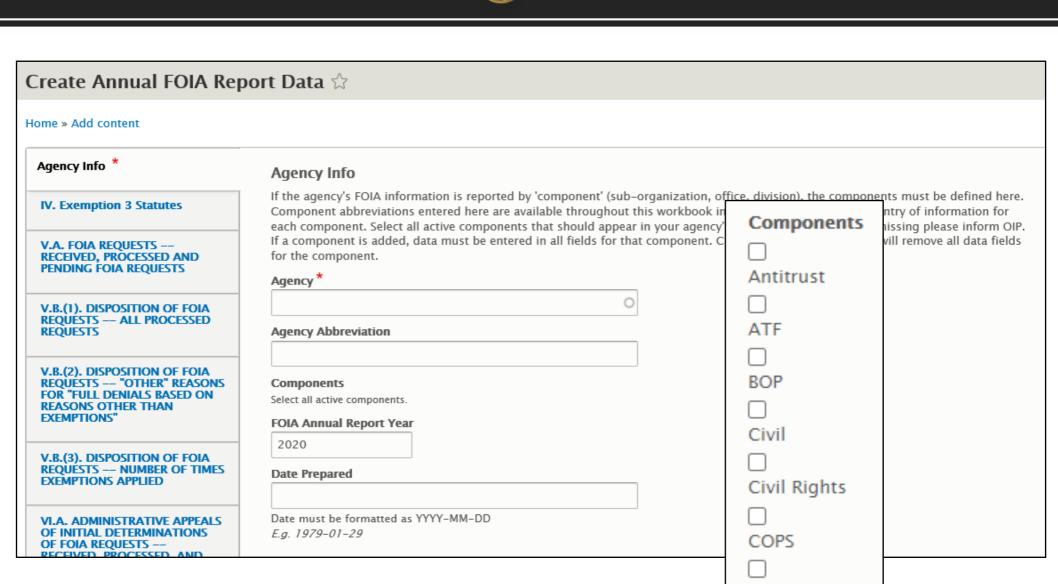
- Agency Name
- Agency Abbreviation
- Component Check Boxes
- Report Year
- Date

Guidance: Decentralized agencies should check off the acronyms for all components that are reporting this year. Centralized agencies should check off the only acronym that appears.

Criminal

CRS

DEA





- Agencies may "clone" an existing report and automatically or manually clear the old data so components are easily populated throughout each report section.
- Adding Placeholders for Components
  When creating a new blank report, the
  Add Placeholder button allows agencies
  to add all components section-by-section.

- To clone an existing report, please contact OIP. Please follow the instructions in the Handbook carefully to ensure you remove old data.
- ➤ Cloning is most useful for decentralized agencies that cannot upload an XML file.



- ➤ DOJ Annual FOIA Report Handbook includes instructions on how to add placeholders for all components to each section.
- This is useful for agencies building their reports from scratch (not cloning or uploading an XML).

Add placeholders for component data below

Use this button when starting a new report, to quickly add placeholders for all of the components that you have selected in the checkboxes above.



> Split Form View This functionality gives agencies two options for adding or editing data: the "Default" view of all the tabs and a "Split" view, showing each tab individually.



- DOJ Annual FOIA Report Handbook includes instructions on how to view the report in default or split view.
- > Split view is best suited for agencies with a lot of components that experienced significant slowness in adding components, adding Ex. 3 statutes, saving, or otherwise editing data.

Default/Full Mode	(X)
Agency Info	
IV Exemption 3 Statutes	
V.A FOIA Requests	eported by
V.B.1 – Disposition of FOIA Requests	Select all a ponent is a
V.B.(2). DISPOSITION OF FOIA REQUESTS	for the cor
V.B.(3). DISPOSITION OF FOIA REQUESTS	

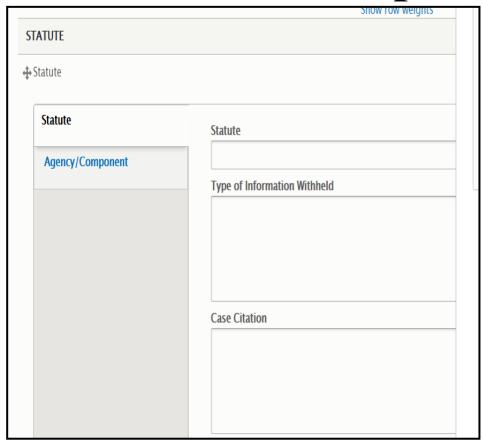


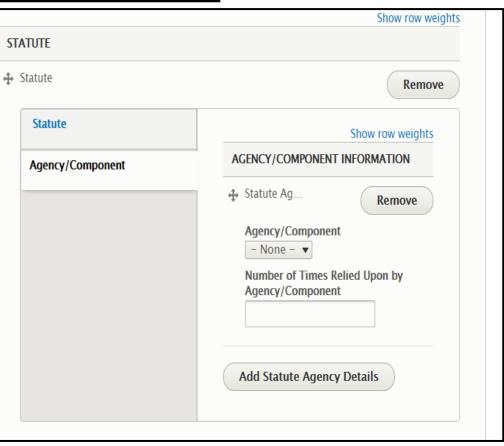
### **Section IV: Exemption 3 Statutes**

- Statute Citation
- Type of Information Withheld
- Case Citation (if applicable)
- Number of Times Relied Upon by Agency/Component
- Total Number of Times Relied Upon by Agency

**Guidance:** "Total" must be equal to/greater than total Ex. 3 citations in Section V.B.3.

### **Section IV: Exemption 3 Statutes**





**Guidance:** "Total" must be equal to/greater than total Ex. 3 citations in Section V.B.3

### **Section V: Types of Requests**

For charts in this Section, include all "purported" FOIA requests, both perfected and non-perfected.



### Section V.A: Received, Processed, & Pending FOIA Requests

- 1. Number of Requests <u>Pending</u> as of <u>Start</u> of FY
- 2. Number of Requests Received During FY
- 3. Number of Requests Processed During FY
- 4. Number of Requests <u>Pending</u> as of <u>End</u> of FY
- **Guidance:** 1. + 2. 3. (must) = 4. This is auto-calculated for you.

## Section V.A: Received, Processed, & Pending FOIA Requests

IV. Exemption 3 Statutes	FOIA REQUESTS V. A.
V.A. FOIA REQUESTS RECEIVED, PROCESSED AND PENDING FOIA REQUESTS	Agency/Component - None - ▼
V.B.(1). DISPOSITION OF FOIA REQUESTS — ALL PROCESSED REQUESTS	Number of Requests Pending as of Start of Fiscal Year
V.B.(2). DISPOSITION OF FOIA REQUESTS — "OTHER" REASONS FOR "FULL DENIALS BASED ON REASONS OTHER	Number of Requests Received in Fiscal Year
THAN EXEMPTIONS"	Number of Requests Processed in Fiscal Year
V.B.(3). DISPOSITION OF FOIA REQUESTS — NUMBER OF TIMES EXEMPTIONS APPLIED	Number of Requests Pending as of End of Fiscal Year

**Guidance:** 1. + 2. - 3. (must) = 4.



Dispositions to use when records were located and processed for release:

- > Full Grant
- Partial Grant/Partial Denial
- > Full Denial Based On Exemptions



### Section V.B.1: Disposition of FOIA Requests – All Processed Requests

Whenever possible, use "Full Grant," "Partial Grant/Partial Denial," or "Full Denial" dispositions to close a FOIA request.

Guidance: Partial Grant/Partial Denial should be used when information is released, even if the "partial denial" is based on a procedural reason.



# Section V.B.1: Disposition of FOIA Requests – All Processed Requests

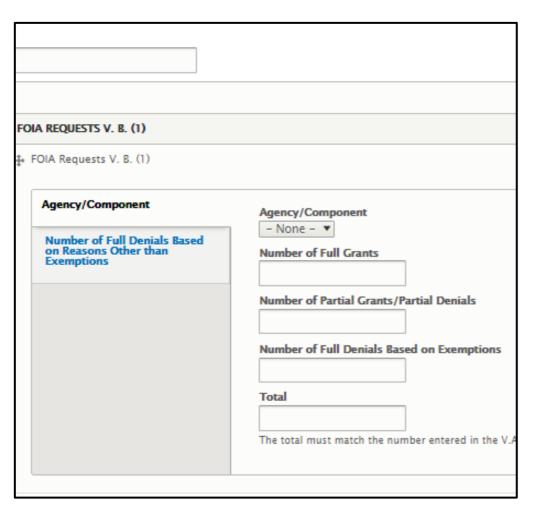
#### Procedural Dispositions:

- > No Records
- > All Records Referred
- > Request Withdrawn
- > Fee-Related Reasons
- Records notReasonablyDescribed

- Improper FOIA
  Request
- Not an Agency Record
- Duplicate
  Request
- > Other\*

### Section V.B.1: Disposition of FOIA Requests

#### - All Processed Requests



Agency/Component	No Records
Number of Full Denials Based on Reasons Other than Exemptions	All Records Referred to Another Component or Agend
	Request Withdrawn
	Fee-Related Reason
	Records Not Reasonably Described
	Improper FOIA Request for Other Reason
	Not Agency Record
	Duplicate Request
	Other <sup>™</sup>
	*Explain in chart V.B.(2).



## Section V.B.2: Disposition of FOIA Requests – "Other" Reasons

- Component/Agency
- Description of "Other" Reason
- Number of Times each "Other" Reason Used
- Total Number of "Other" Closures

Guidance: Total number must match total number of "other" closures in Section V.B.1.40

#### Section V.B.2: Other-Other FOIA Requests

#### - "Other" Reasons

#### Procedural Dispositions:

- > Aggregate Cases
- Court Sealed
- Directed Requester to Another Entity Subject to the FOIA
- Unable to Locate or Contact Requester
- Directed Requester to Publicly Available Information
- Referred Not Responsive

# Section V.B.2: Disposition of FOIA Requests – "Other" Reasons

ther" Reasons for Denials	FOIA REQUEST B.2 INFORMATION	
	FOIA Requests V. B. (2) Other Deni	
	Description of "Other" Reasons for Denials from Chart B(	
	Directed Requester to Publicly Available Information	
	Number of Times "Other" Reason Was Relied Upon	
	FOIA Requests V. B. (2) Other Deni	
	Description of "Other" Reasons for Denials from Chart B(	
	Litigation	
	Number of Times "Other" Reason Was Relied Upon	
	Add FOIA Requests V. B. (2) Other Denials Details	

Guidance: Total number must match total number of "other" closures in Section V.B.1.42



# Section V.B.3: Disposition of FOIA Requests – No. of Times Exemptions Applied

• Total number of times the agency applied each exemption during the fiscal year

Guidance: Count each exemption only once per request.

### Section V.B.3: Disposition of FOIA Requests – No. of Times Exemptions

**Applied** 

IV. Exemption 3 Statutes	FOIA REQUESTS V. B (3)
V.A. FOIA REQUESTS — RECEIVED, PROCESSED AND PENDING FOIA REQUESTS	** Number of Times Exemptions Applied  **Agency/Component**  - None - **
V.B.(1). DISPOSITION OF FOIA REQUESTS — ALL PROCESSED REQUESTS	Ex. 1
V.B.(2). DISPOSITION OF FOIA REQUESTS — "OTHER" REASONS FOR "FULL DENIALS BASED ON REASONS OTHER THAN EVENDTIONS"	Ex. 2
THAN EXEMPTIONS"	Ex. 3
V.B.(3). DISPOSITION OF FOIA REQUESTS NUMBER OF TIMES EXEMPTIONS APPLIED	Ex. 4
VI.A. ADMINISTRATIVE APPEALS OF INITIAL DETERMINATIONS OF FOIA REQUESTS —	Ex. 5
RECEIVED, PROCESSED, AND PENDING ADMINISTRATIVE APPEA	Ex. 6
VI.B. DISPOSITION OF ADMINISTRATIVE APPEALS — ALL PROCESSED APPEALS	Ex. 7(A)
VI.C.(1). REASONS FOR DENIAL ON APPEAL NUMBER OF TIMES EXEMPTIONS APPLIED	Ex. 7(8)
VI.C.(2). REASONS FOR DENIAL ON APPEAL REASONS OTHER THAN EXEMPTIONS	Ex. 7(C)
	Ex. 7(D)
VI.C.(3). REASONS FOR DENIAL ON APPEAL "OTHER" REASONS	Ex. 7(E)
VI.C.(4). RESPONSE TIME FOR	EX. 7(E)
ADMINISTRATIVE APPEALS	Ex. 7(F)
VI.C.(5). TEN OLDEST PENDING ADMINISTRATIVE APPEALS	
	Ex. 8
VII.A. FOIA REQUESTS — RESPONSE TIME FOR ALL PROCESSED PERFECTED REQUESTS	Ex. 9
VII.B. PROCESSED REQUESTS RESPONSE TIME FOR PERFECTED	

Guidance: Count each exemption as only applying once for each request.



## Section VI.A: Received, Processed, & Pending Appeals

- 1. Number of Appeals <u>Pending</u> as of <u>Start</u> of FY
- 2. Number of Appeals Received During FY
- 3. Number of Appeals Processed During FY
- 4. Number of Appeals <u>Pending</u> as of <u>End</u> of FY

**Guidance:** 1. + 2. - 3. (must) = 4. This will be auto-calculated.

## Section VI.A: Received, Processed, & Pending Appeals

Agency Info *	
IV. Exemption 3 Statutes	AGENCY OVERALL ADMINISTRATIVE APPEALS VI. A. OF APPEALS PENDING AS OF START OF FISCAL YEAR
V.A. FOIA REQUESTS RECEIVED, PROCESSED AND PENDING FOIA REQUESTS	Administrative Appeals VI. A.  Agency/Component
V.B.(1). DISPOSITION OF FOIA REQUESTS ALL PROCESSED REQUESTS	- None - ▼  Number of Appeals Pending as of Start of Fiscal Year
V.B.(2). DISPOSITION OF FOIA REQUESTS "OTHER" REASONS FOR "FULL DENIALS BASED ON REASONS OTHER THAN EXEMPTIONS"	Number of Appeals Received in Fiscal Year  Number of Appeals Processed in Fiscal Year
V.B.(3). DISPOSITION OF FOIA REQUESTS NUMBER OF TIMES EXEMPTIONS APPLIED	Number of Appeals Pending as of End of Fiscal Year

**Guidance:** 1. + 2. - 3. (must) = 4.

# Section VI.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 Closed for Other Reasons
- Total

# Section VI.B: Disposition of Administrative Appeals — All Processed Appeals

Agency Info *	
IV. Exemption 3 Statutes	ADMINISTRATIVE APPEALS VI. B.
V.A. FOIA REQUESTS RECEIVED, PROCESSED AND PENDING FOIA REQUESTS	
V.B.(1). DISPOSITION OF FOIA REQUESTS ALL PROCESSED REQUESTS	Number Affirmed on Appeal
V.B.(2). DISPOSITION OF FOIA REQUESTS "OTHER" REASONS FOR "FULL DENIALS BASED ON REASONS OTHER THAN EXEMPTIONS"	Number Partially Affirmed & Partially Reversed/Remanded on Appeal  Number Completely Reversed/Remanded on Appeal
B.(3). DISPOSITION OF FOIA EQUESTS NUMBER OF TIMES (EMPTIONS APPLIED	Number of Appeals Closed for Other Reasons
I.A. ADMINISTRATIVE APPEALS OF INITIAL DETERMINATIONS OF FOIA REQUESTS ECEIVED, PROCESSED, AND ENDING ADMINISTRATIVE PPEA	Total  The total must match the number entered in section VI.A 'Number of Appeals Pro agency overall.

# Section VI.C.1: Reasons for Denial on Appeal – No. of Times Exemptions Applied

 Total number of times the agency applied each exemption during the fiscal year on appeal

Guidance: Count each exemption as only applying once for each appeal.

### Section VI.C.1: Reasons for Denial On Appeal – No. of Times Exemptions Applied

IV. Exemption 3 Statutes	ADMINISTRATIVE APPEALS VI. C. (1)
TV Exemption 5 Statutes	† Number of Times Committee
V.A. FOIA REQUESTS RECEIVED, PROCESSED AND PENDING FOIA REQUESTS	Agency/Component
V.B.(1). DISPOSITION OF FOIA REQUESTS ALL PROCESSED	- None - ▼ Ex. 1
REQUESTS	Ex. 2
V.B.(2). DISPOSITION OF FOIA REQUESTS "OTHER" REASONS FOR "FULL DENIALS BASED ON REASONS OTHER THAN EXEMPTIONS"	Ex. 3
V.B.(3). DISPOSITION OF FOIA REQUESTS NUMBER OF TIMES EXEMPTIONS APPLIED	Ex. 4
VI.A. ADMINISTRATIVE APPEALS OF INITIAL DETERMINATIONS	Ex. 5
OF FOIA REQUESTS RECEIVED, PROCESSED, AND PENDING ADMINISTRATIVE APPEA	Ex. 6
VI.B. DISPOSITION OF ADMINISTRATIVE APPEALS ALL PROCESSED APPEALS	Ex. 7(A)
ALL PROCESSED AFFEALS	Ex. 7(B)
VI.C.(1). REASONS FOR DENIAL ON APPEAL NUMBER OF TIMES EXEMPTIONS APPLIED	
THE DEATH HOLD THE ELECTRICAL PROPERTY OF THE	Ex. 7(C)
VI.C.(2). REASONS FOR DENIAL ON APPEAL — REASONS OTHER THAN EXEMPTIONS	Ex. 7(D)
VI.C.(3). REASONS FOR DENIAL ON APPEAL "OTHER" REASONS	Ex. 7(E)
VI.C.(4). RESPONSE TIME FOR ADMINISTRATIVE APPEALS	Ex. 7(F)
VI.C.(5). TEN OLDEST PENDING ADMINISTRATIVE APPEALS	Ex. 8
VII.A. FOIA REQUESTS RESPONSE TIME FOR ALL PROCESSED PERFECTED	Ex. 9



# Section VI.C.2: Reasons for Denial On Appeal – Reasons Other than Exemptions

- > No Records
- Records Referred at Initial Request Level
- > Request Withdrawn
- > Fee-Related Reasons
- Records not Reasonably Described
- ➤ Improper FOIA Request

- Not Agency Record
- Duplicate Request /Appeal
- > In Litigation
- Appeal Based Solely on Denial of Req. for Exp.
  - Processing
- ➤ Other\*

## Section VI.C.2: Reasons for Denial On Appeal – Reasons Other than Exemptions

IV. Exemption 3 Statutes	ADMINISTRATIVE APPEALS VI. C. (2)
V.A. FOIA REQUESTS RECEIVED, PROCESSED AND	Administrative Appeals VI. C (2)
PENDING FOIA REQUESTS	Agency/Component  - None - ▼
V.B.(1). DISPOSITION OF FOIA REQUESTS — ALL PROCESSED REQUESTS	No Records
V.B.(2). DISPOSITION OF FOIA REQUESTS — "OTHER"	Records Referred at Initial Request Level
REASONS FOR "FULL DENIALS BASED ON REASONS OTHER THAN EXEMPTIONS"	Request Withdrawn
V.B.(3). DISPOSITION OF FOIA REQUESTS NUMBER OF TIMES EXEMPTIONS APPLIED	Fee–Related Reason
VI.A. ADMINISTRATIVE APPEALS OF INITIAL DETERMINATIONS	Records Not Reasonably Described
OF FOIA REQUESTS — RECEIVED, PROCESSED, AND PENDING ADMINISTRATIVE APPEA	Improper FOIA Request for Other Reason
VI.B. DISPOSITION OF ADMINISTRATIVE APPEALS ALL PROCESSED APPEALS	Not Agency Record
	Duplicate Request or Appeal
VI.C.(1). REASONS FOR DENIAL ON APPEAL — NUMBER OF TIMES EXEMPTIONS APPLIED	Request in Litigation
VI.C.(2). REASONS FOR DENIAL ON APPEAL REASONS OTHER THAN EXEMPTIONS	Appeal Based Solely on Denial of Request for Expedited Processing
VI.C.(3). REASONS FOR DENIAL ON APPEAL "OTHER" REASONS	Other*
VI.C.(4). RESPONSE TIME FOR ADMINISTRATIVE APPEALS	* Explain in chart VI.C.(3).
VI.C.(5). TEN OLDEST PENDING ADMINISTRATIVE APPEALS	Add Administrative Appeals VI. C (2) Agency Overall No Records
VII.A. FOIA REQUESTS	



## Section VI.C.3: Reasons for Denial On Appeal – "Other" Reasons

- Component/Agency
- Description of "Other" Reason
- Number of Times each "Other" Reason Used
- Total Number of "Other" Closures

Guidance: Total number must match total number of "other" closures in Section VI.C.2.

# Section VI.C.3: Reasons for Denial on Appeal – "Other" Reasons

- > Agency Performed Adequate Search
- > Appeal Withdrawn
- Component has no request
- Improper Appeal
- > Moot
- No component response to adjudicate
- > Records deemed unresponsive
- ➤ Unable to locate or contact requester
- Untimely

# Section VI.C.3: Reasons for Denial on Appeal – "Other" Reasons

ADM	INISTRATIVE APPEALS VI. C. (3)		
₿ Ac	dministrative Appeals VI. C (3)		Remove
	Agency/Component		Show row weights
	"Other" Reasons Information	ADMINISTRATIVE APPEAL VI.C.3 INFORMATION	
		Administrative A	Remove
		Description of "Other" Reasons for Denials from Char	t B(1)
		Number of Times "Other" Reason Was Relied Upon  Add Administrative Appeals VI. C (3) Other Denials	i Details
Adı	d Administrative Appeals VI. C (3	3)	
	y Overall Total		

Guidance: Total number must match total number of "other" closures in Section VI.C.2.

# Section VI.C.4: Response Time for Administrative Appeals

- Median number of days to process
- Average number of days to process
- Lowest number of days to process
- Highest number of days to process

## Section VI.C.4: Response Time for Administrative Appeals

	3/10/11/04	weights
IV. Exemption 3 Statutes	ADMINISTRATIVE APPEALS VI. C. (4)	
V.A. FOIA REQUESTS RECEIVED, PROCESSED AND PENDING FOIA REQUESTS	Administrative Appeals VI. C (4)  Rem  Agency/Component  - None - ▼	iove
V.B.(1). DISPOSITION OF FOIA REQUESTS — ALL PROCESSED REQUESTS	Median Number of Days	
V.B.(2). DISPOSITION OF FOIA REQUESTS "OTHER" REASONS FOR "FULL DENIALS	Average Number of Days	
BASED ON REASONS OTHER THAN EXEMPTIONS"	Lowest Number of Days	
V.B.(3). DISPOSITION OF FOIA REQUESTS NUMBER OF TIMES EXEMPTIONS APPLIED	Highest Number of Days	
VI.A. ADMINISTRATIVE APPEALS OF INITIAL DETERMINATIONS OF FOIA REQUESTS RECEIVED, PROCESSED, AND PENDING ADMINISTRATIVE APPEA	This is the first section in which the "Agency Overall" information cannot be calculated from component information, and must be enternanually.  Add Administrative Appeals VI. C (4)	ered
VI.B. DISPOSITION OF	Agency Overall Median Number of Days	
ADMINISTRATIVE APPEALS ALL PROCESSED APPEALS	Agency Overall Average Number of Days	
VI.C.(1). REASONS FOR DENIAL ON APPEAL NUMBER OF TIMES EXEMPTIONS APPLIED	Agency Overall Lowest Number of Days	
VI.C.(2). REASONS FOR DENIAL ON APPEAL REASONS OTHER THAN EXEMPTIONS	Agency Overall Highest Number of Days	
VI.C.(3). REASONS FOR DENIAL ON APPEAL "OTHER" REASONS	Footnotes (VI.C.(4).)	
VI.C.(4). RESPONSE TIME FOR ADMINISTRATIVE APPEALS		
VI.C.(5). TEN OLDEST PENDING	Allows entry of any free-format notes associated with this section of the report.	



## Section VI.C.5: Ten Oldest Pending Administrative Appeals

- Ten oldest pending administrative appeals at agency/component
- Date each administrative appeal was received and number of days pending as of the end of the fiscal year

Guidance: Data must be here if there are any pending appeals at the end of the fiscal year. 58



## Section VI.C.5: Ten Oldest Pending Administrative Appeals

V.A. FOIA REQUESTS	ADMINISTRATIVE APPEALS VI. C. (5)		
RECEIVED, PROCESSED AND PENDING FOIA REQUESTS	→ Oldest Days		Remove
V.B.(1). DISPOSITION OF FOIA REQUESTS ALL PROCESSED REQUESTS	Agency/Component  - None - ▼		
V.B.(2). DISPOSITION OF FOIA	Oldest	Date	
REQUESTS "OTHER" REASONS FOR "FULL DENIALS BASED ON REASONS OTHER THAN EXEMPTIONS"	2nd	Date must be formatted as YYYY-MM-DD	
	3rd	E.g. 1979-01-29  Number of Days Pending	
V.B.(3). DISPOSITION OF FOIA REQUESTS NUMBER OF TIMES EXEMPTIONS APPLIED	4th		
VI.A. ADMINISTRATIVE APPEALS OF INITIAL DETERMINATIONS	5th		
OF FOIA REQUESTS RECEIVED, PROCESSED, AND PENDING ADMINISTRATIVE APPEA	6th		
	7th		
VI.B. DISPOSITION OF ADMINISTRATIVE APPEALS ALL PROCESSED APPEALS	8th		
VI.C.(1). REASONS FOR DENIAL ON APPEAL NUMBER OF	9th		
TIMES EXEMPTIONS APPLIED	10th		
VI.C.(2). REASONS FOR DENIAL ON APPEAL REASONS OTHER THAN EXEMPTIONS			
VI.C.(3). REASONS FOR DENIAL ON APPEAL "OTHER"	Add Oldest Days		
ON APPEAL — OTHER REASONS	Agency Overall Oldest Appeal	Agency Overall Date of Appeal	
VI.C.(4). RESPONSE TIME FOR ADMINISTRATIVE APPEALS	Agency Overall 2nd	Date must be formatted as YYYY-MM-DD	
VI.C.(5). TEN OLDEST PENDING ADMINISTRATIVE APPEALS	Agency Overall 3rd	E.g. 1979-01-29  Agency Overall Number of Days Pending	
	Agency Overall 4th		

Guidance: Data must be here if there are any pending appeals at the end of the fiscal year.



# Section VII: FOIA Requests: Response Time for Processed & Pending Requests

- Include response times for <u>perfected</u> requests only.
- ➤ Begin counting from date of receipt of the perfected request.
- ➤ All agencies are required to have an expedited track.



### Section VII: FOIA Requests: Response Time for Processed & Pending Requests

- > If using a multi-track system, report for each track separately and use no more than the three designated tracks: simple, complex, and expedited.
- > If not using multi-track system, must report separately requests which have been granted expedited processing.



#### Sections VII: Special Instructions

- ➤ If not using multi-track processing, report requests in either the simple or complex track, whichever best characterizes majority of the requests processed.
- ➤ For Sections VII.A/VII.B if agency has no data to report for a specific track, input "N/A" instead of zero.



### Section VII.A: Processed Requests — Response Time for All Perfected Requests

- Simple, Complex, & Expedited Processing Tracks
- For each Track, must report:
  - Median number of days to process
  - Average number of days to process
  - Lowest number of days to process
  - Highest number of days to process

### Section VII.A: Processed Requests — Response Time for All Perfected Requests

RECEIVED, PROCESSED AND PENDING FOIA REQUESTS	♣ Processed Requests VII.	Remove
V.B.(1). DISPOSITION OF FOIA REQUESTS ALL PROCESSED REQUESTS	Simple	Agency/Component  - None - ▼
V.B.(2). DISPOSITION OF FOIA REQUESTS "OTHER"	Expedited Processing	Median Number of Days
REASONS FOR "FULL DENIALS BASED ON REASONS OTHER THAN EXEMPTIONS"	Expedited Floressing	Average Number of Days
V.B.(3). DISPOSITION OF FOIA REQUESTS NUMBER OF TIMES EXEMPTIONS APPLIED		Lowest Number of Days
VI.A. ADMINISTRATIVE APPEALS OF INITIAL DETERMINATIONS OF FOIA REQUESTS RECEIVED, PROCESSED, AND PENDING ADMINISTRATIVE APPEA		Highest Number of Days
VI.B. DISPOSITION OF ADMINISTRATIVE APPEALS ALL PROCESSED APPEALS	Add Processed Requests VII.	
ADMINISTRATIVE APPEALS ALL PROCESSED APPEALS	Add Processed Requests VII.  Agency Overall Simple	Agency Overall Median Number of Days
ADMINISTRATIVE APPEALS		Agency Overall Median Number of Days  Agency Overall Average Number of Days
ADMINISTRATIVE APPEALS — ALL PROCESSED APPEALS  VI.C.(1). REASONS FOR DENIAL ON APPEAL — NUMBER OF	Agency Overall Simple	
ADMINISTRATIVE APPEALS ALL PROCESSED APPEALS  VI.C.(1). REASONS FOR DENIAL ON APPEAL NUMBER OF TIMES EXEMPTIONS APPLIED  VI.C.(2). REASONS FOR DENIAL ON APPEAL REASONS OTHER	Agency Overall Simple  Agency Overall Complex  Agency Overall Expedited	Agency Overall Average Number of Days



# Section VII.B: Processed Requests — Response Time for Perfected Requests Where Information Was Granted

- Simple, Complex, & Expedited Processing Tracks
- For each Track, must report:
  - Median number of days to process
  - Average number of days to process
  - Lowest number of days to process
  - Highest number of days to process

# Section VII.B: Processed Requests – Response Time for Perfected Requests Where Information Was Granted

Agency Info *		ot be calculated from component information, and must be entered. Enter "N/A" for Median, if Days if there are no requests for that track.
IV. Exemption 3 Statutes		Show row weigh
	PROCESSED REQUESTS VII. B.	
V.A. FOIA REQUESTS RECEIVED, PROCESSED AND PENDING FOIA REQUESTS	♣ Processed Requests VII.	Remove
V.B.(1). DISPOSITION OF FOIA REQUESTS — ALL PROCESSED REQUESTS	Simple	Agency/Component
	Complex	- None - ▼  Median Number of Days
V.B.(2). DISPOSITION OF FOIA REQUESTS — "OTHER" REASONS FOR "FULL DENIALS BASED ON REASONS OTHER THAN EXEMPTIONS"	Expedited Processing	Average Number of Days
V.B.(3). DISPOSITION OF FOIA REQUESTS NUMBER OF TIMES EXEMPTIONS APPLIED		Lowest Number of Days
VI.A. ADMINISTRATIVE APPEALS OF INITIAL DETERMINATIONS OF FOIA REQUESTS — RECEIVED, PROCESSED, AND PENDING ADMINISTRATIVE APPEA		Highest Number of Days
VI.B. DISPOSITION OF ADMINISTRATIVE APPEALS ALL PROCESSED APPEALS	Add Processed Requests VII.	
VI.C.(1). REASONS FOR DENIAL	Agency Overall Simple	Agency Overall Median Number of Days
ON APPEAL NUMBER OF TIMES EXEMPTIONS APPLIED	Agency Overall Complex	Agency Overall Average Number of Days
VI.C.(2). REASONS FOR DENIAL ON APPEAL REASONS OTHER	Agency Overall Expedited Processing	
THAN EXEMPTIONS		Agency Overall Lowest Number of Days
VI.C.(3). REASONS FOR DENIAL ON APPEAL "OTHER" REASONS		Agency Overall Highest Number of Days
VI.C.(4). RESPONSE TIME FOR ADMINISTRATIVE APPEALS	Footnotes (VII.B.)	



### Section VII.C.1: Processed Requests – Response Time in Day Increments

For Each Track – Simple, Complex, Expedited

- Total number of requests processed in the simple track by amount of time to process
- 13 periods, from 1-20 days to 401+ days
- Number of requests in each time period added together equals total number of requests in simple track

## Section VII.C.: Processed Requests – Response Time in Day Increments

IV. Exemption 3 Statutes	PROCESSED REQUESTS VII. C. (
V.A. FOIA REQUESTS RECEIVED, PROCESSED AND PENDING FOIA REQUESTS	♣ Processed Requests VII. C. Agency/Component – None – ▼
V.B.(1). DISPOSITION OF FOIA REQUESTS ALL PROCESSED REQUESTS	<1-20 Days
V.B.(2). DISPOSITION OF FOIA REQUESTS "OTHER" REASONS FOR "FULL DENIALS BASED ON REASONS OTHER THAN EXEMPTIONS"	21–40 Days 41–60 Days
V.B.(3). DISPOSITION OF FOIA REQUESTS NUMBER OF TIMES EXEMPTIONS APPLIED	61-80 Days
VI.A. ADMINISTRATIVE APPEALS OF INITIAL DETERMINATIONS OF FOIA REQUESTS RECEIVED, PROCESSED, AND PENDING ADMINISTRATIVE APPEA	81–100 Days 101–120 Days
VI.B. DISPOSITION OF ADMINISTRATIVE APPEALS ALL PROCESSED APPEALS	121-140 Days
VI.C.(1). REASONS FOR DENIAL	141–160 Days



#### **Sections VII.C: Special Instructions**

- ➤ If no data to report in any of the Section VII.C charts, input zero for each of the time periods.
- The total number of requests captured in charts VII.C.1, VII.C.2, & VII.C.3 should be equal to or less than the total number of requests processed from Section V.B.1.

# Section VII.D: Pending Requests – All Pending Perfected Requests

For Each Track – Simple, Complex, Expedited

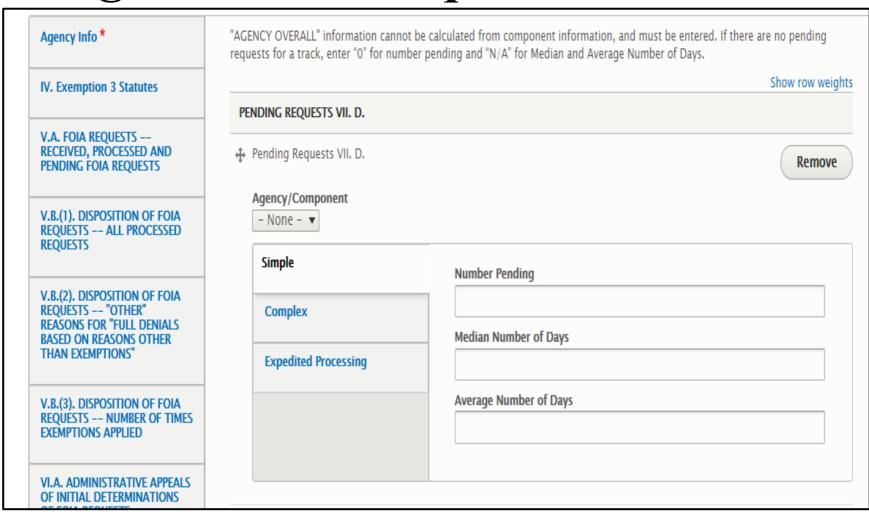
- For each Track report:
  - Number of requests pending
  - Median number of days pending
  - Average number of days pending



#### Section VII.D: Special Instructions

- ➤ If no requests pending in a particular track at the end of the fiscal year, input "0" for number pending and "N/A" for median and average number of days pending.
- If the agency has perfected requests pending at the end of the fiscal year, this data must be equal to or less than the number pending in section V.A.

# Section VII.D: Pending Requests – All Pending Perfected Requests





### Section VII.E: Pending Requests – Ten Oldest Pending Perfected Requests

- Ten oldest pending perfected requests at agency/component
- Date each request was received and number of days pending as of the end of the fiscal year

Guidance: If there is data in Section VII.D, then data must be reported in this section.



#### **Section VII.E: Special Instructions**

- > If no requests to list in this chart, or fewer than ten to report, input "N/A" into the "Date of Receipt" field and input "0" for the "Number of Days Pending."
- > If one of the requests listed in this chart for your agency has been tolled, please enter requests in order based on the number of days pending. 74

## Section VII.E: Pending Requests – Ten Oldest Pending Perfected Requests

ENDING REQUESTS VII. E.	Show	row weig
Oldest Days		Remove
Agency/Component  - None - ▼		
Oldest	Date	
2nd	Date must be formatted as YYYY-MM-DD	
3rd	E.g. 1979–01–29  Number of Days Pending	
4th		
5th		
6th		
7th		
8th		
9th		
10th		

Guidance: If there is data in Section VII.D, then data must be reported in this section.



#### Section VIII: Requests for Expedited Processing & Requests for Fee Waiver

- > Report only requests for expedited processing and requests for fee waiver which the agency adjudicated during the fiscal year, i.e. granted or denied.
- > Do not report requests which became moot for various reasons and were thus, neither granted or denied.



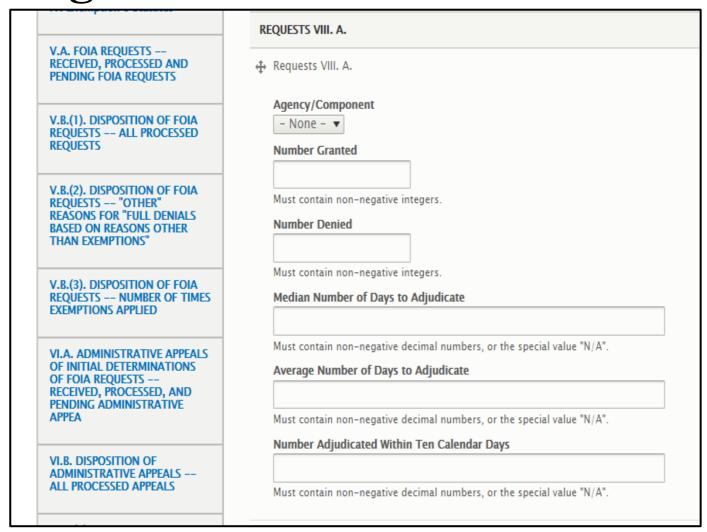
### Section VIII.A: Requests for Expedited Processing

Expedited Processing – count <u>calendar</u> days starting the day the request for expedition is received through the day you provide notice to the Requester of your determination to grant or deny the request.

### Section VIII.A: Requests for Expedited Processing

- Number of Requests Granted
- Number of Requests Denied
- Median Number of Days to Adjudicate
- Average Number of Days to Adjudicate
- Number Adjudicated within 10 <u>Calendar</u>
   <u>Days</u>

### Section VIII.A: Requests for Expedited Processing





#### Section VIII.B: Requests for Fee Waiver

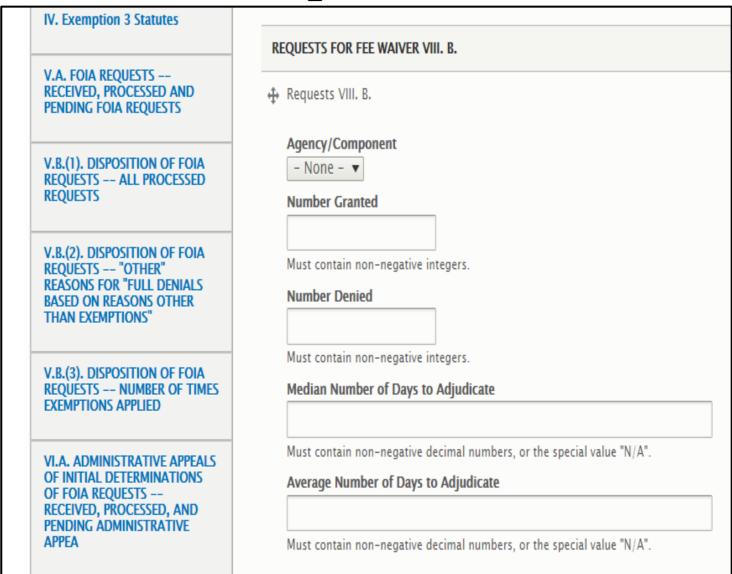
- Fee Waiver count **working** days from the day you determine that fees will be assessed, if a fee waiver was requested, through the day you make the determination whether to grant or deny the fee waiver.
- ➤ If no fees are assessed, request for fee waivers are moot & should not be counted.

#### Section VIII.B: Requests for Fee Waiver

- Number of Requests for Fee Waiver Granted
- Number of Requests Fee Waiver Denied
- Median Number of Days to Adjudicate Request
- Average Number of Days to Adjudicate Request



#### Section VIII.B: Requests for Fee Waiver





➤ If no requests for either expedited processing or fee waiver were adjudicated during the fiscal year, then the "Median" or "Average" number of days to adjudicate in either Section VIII.A or VIII.B should be reported as <u>N/A</u> instead of zero.



#### Section IX: FOIA Personnel & Costs

- 1. Number of "Full-Time" FOIA Employees
- 2. Number of "Equivalent Full-Time FOIA Employees"
- 3. Total Number of "Full-Time" FOIA Staff
- 4. Processing Costs
- 5. Litigation-Related Costs
- 6. Total Costs

**Guidance:** 
$$1. + 2. = 3.$$

$$4. + 5. = 6.$$



#### **Section IX Special Instructions**

- ➤ "Equivalent full-time FOIA employee" created by adding together the % of time dedicated to FOIA duties by employees performing less than full-time FOIA work. Each time 100% is reached, the time expended is counted as one "equivalent full-time FOIA employee."
- ➤ If an agency processed FOIA requests during the fiscal year, some amount of personnel data must be reported.



#### **Section IX Special Instructions**

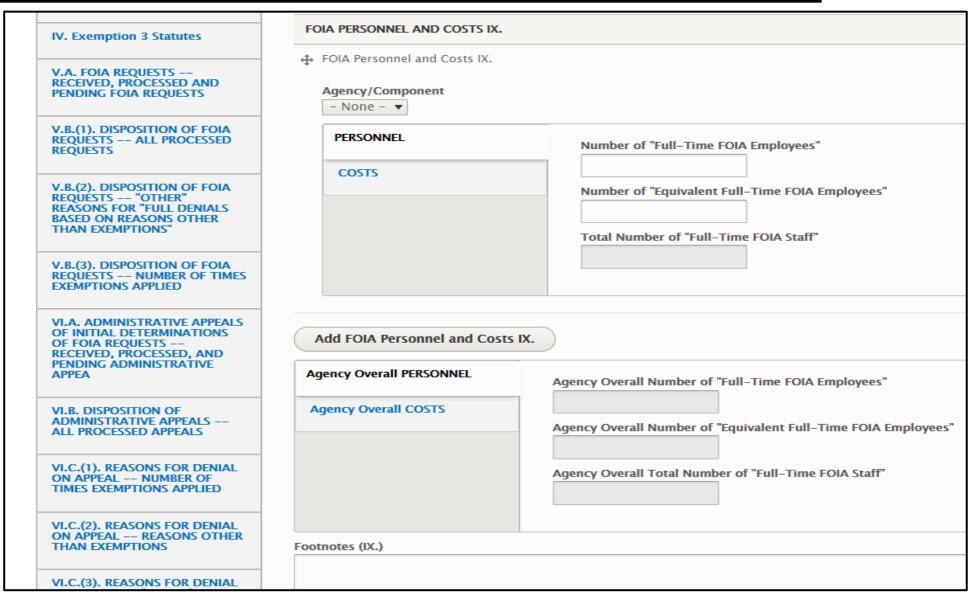
- ➤ Processing Costs Administrative cost for processing both initial requests and administrative appeals.
- ➤ If an agency processed FOIA requests during the fiscal year, processing costs data must be reported.
- Agency budgets will be helpful resources to determine processing and litigation costs. 86



#### **Section IX Special Instructions**

- ➤ Litigation-Related Costs Sum of all costs expended by the agency in litigating FOIA requests.
- ➤ Includes salaries of personnel involved in FOIA litigation, litigation overhead, attorney fees and costs, and any other FOIA litigation-related expenses.

#### Section IX: FOIA Personnel & Costs





### Section X: Fees Collected for Processing Requests

- Total Amount of Fees Collected
- Percentage of Total Processing Costs
   (calculated by taking amount of fees
   collected divided by processing costs)

Guidance: When inputting both processing costs & amount of fees collected, percentage of total costs will be auto-calculated.

89



Section X: Fees Collected for Processing

#### Requests

FE	EES X.
4	Fees X.
	Agency/Component  - None - ▼
	Total Amount of Fees Collected
	Percentage of Total Costs
	The "Percentage of Total Costs" field is calculated by compar
	Add Fees X.  ency Overall Total Amount of Fees Collected
Age	ncy Overall Percentage of Total Costs
	"Percentage of Total Costs" field is calculated by comparing t

Guidance: When inputting both processing costs & amount of fees collected, percentage of total costs will be auto-calculated.

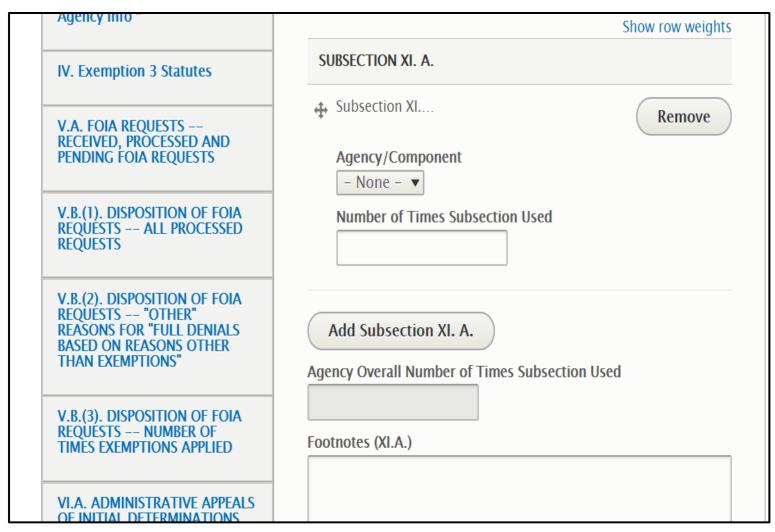


### Section XI.A: Number of Times Subsection (c) Used

- Number of times the agency or component used a FOIA subsection (c) exclusion.
- Most agencies do not use exclusions; <u>all</u> exclusion use must be approved by OIP.
- Decentralized agencies must account for each of their components when reporting.

### Section XI.A: Number of Times Subsection

#### (c) Used





### Section XI.B: Number of (a)(2) Records Posted

- Provide the sum of all (a)(2) records posted to your agency's FOIA webpage.
- Provide an estimate of all (a)(2) records posted to the agency's webpage outside the FOIA office by your agency's program offices.



### Section XI.B: Number of (a)(2) Records Posted – FOIA.gov Tool

View Edit Delete	Revisions Generate docx XML				
lome » FOIA-90 test karen					
Title *					
FOIA-90 test karen					
Agency Info *	XI.B. Number of Subsection (A)(2) Postings				
IV. Exemption 3 Statutes	If the component field is filled in, all other editable columns must be filled in. All values must be non-negative integers. To add a component click "Add" above the "Agency Overall" fields. The "Agency Overall" field(s) will be autocalculated as you enter data in this section.				
V.A. FOIA REQUESTS RECEIVED, PROCESSED AND	Show row weights				
PENDING FOIA REQUESTS	SUBSECTION XI. B.				
V.B.(1). DISPOSITION OF FOIA REQUESTS ALL PROCESSED REQUESTS	Subsection XI. B. Remove				
V.B.(2). DISPOSITION OF FOIA REQUESTS "OTHER" REASONS FOR "FULL DENIALS BASED ON REASONS OTHER THAN EXEMPTIONS"	Agency/Component  - None - ▼  Number of Records Posted by the FOIA Office  Number of Records Posted by Program Offices				
V.B.(3). DISPOSITION OF FOIA REQUESTS NUMBER OF TIMES EXEMPTIONS APPLIED					
VI.A. ADMINISTRATIVE APPEALS OF INITIAL DETERMINATIONS OF FOIA REQUESTS RECEIVED, PROCESSED, AND PENDING ADMINISTRATIVE APPEAL	Add Subsection XI. B.  Agency Overall Number of Records Posted by the FOIA Office				
VI.B. DISPOSITION OF ADMINISTRATIVE APPEALS ALL PROCESSED APPEALS	Agency Overall Number of Records Posted by Program Offices  Footnotes (XI.B.)				
VI.C.(1). REASONS FOR DENIAL ON APPEAL NUMBER OF TIMES EXEMPTIONS APPLIED					
VI.C.(2). REASONS FOR DENIAL ON APPEAL REASONS OTHER THAN EXEMPTIONS	Allows entry of any free-format notes associated with this section of the report.				



### Section XII.A: Backlogs of FOIA Requests and Administrative Appeals

- Number of Backlogged Requests as of End of FY
- Number of Backlogged Appeals as of End of FY

Guidance: Data must be less than or equal to # pending at end of FY in Section V.A (requests) & in Section VI.A (appeals).

### Section XII.A: Backlogs of FOIA Requests and Administrative Appeals

FOIA REQUESTS AND ADMINISTRATIVE APPEALS :	XII. A.
FOIA Requests an	Remove
Agency/Component	
– None – ▼	
Number of Backlogged Requests as of End of F	Fiscal Year
Number of Backlogged Appeals as of End of Fi	iscal Year

Guidance: Data must be less than or equal to no. pending at end of FY in Section V.A (requests) & in Section VI.A (appeals).



## Section XII.B: Consultations on FOIA Requests – Received, Processed, and Pending Consultations

- 1. Number of Consultations Pending at Start of FY
- 2. Number of Consultations Received in FY
- 3. Number of Consultations Processed in FY
- 4. Number of Consultations Pending at End of FY

**Guidance:** 1. + 2. - 3. (must) = 4.

#### Section XII.B Special Instructions

Count only consultations received at agency, not those consultations that were sent by your agency to another agency.



## Section XII.B: Consultations on FOIA Requests – Received, Processed, and Pending Consultations

,	
FOIA REQUESTS AND ADMINISTRATIVE APPEALS XII. B.	
+ FOIA Requests and Administra	Remove
Agency/Component  - None - ▼	
Number of Consultations Received from Other Agencies that were Pending at the Agency as of Start of the F	iscal Year
Number of Consultations Received from Other Agencies During the Fiscal Year	
Number of Consultations Received from Other Agencies that were Processed by the Agency During the Fisca	l Year
Number of Consultations Received from Other Agencies that were Pending at the Agency as of End of the Fis	scal Year

**Guidance:** 1. + 2. - 3. (must) = 4.



## Section XII.C: Consultations on FOIA Requests – Ten Oldest Pending Consultations

- Ten oldest pending consultations at agency/component
- Date each consultation was received and number of days pending as of the end of the fiscal year

Guidance: Chart must contain data if Section XII.B lists consultations pending at end of FY.<sup>100</sup>

### Section XII.C: Consultations on FOIA Requests – Ten Oldest Pending

#### **Consultations**

Oldest Days		Remove
Agency/Component  - None - ▼		
Oldest	Date	
2nd	Date must be formatted as YYYY-MM-DD	
3rd	E.g. 1979-01-29  Number of Days Pending	
4th		
5th		
6th		
7th		
8th		
9th		
10th		

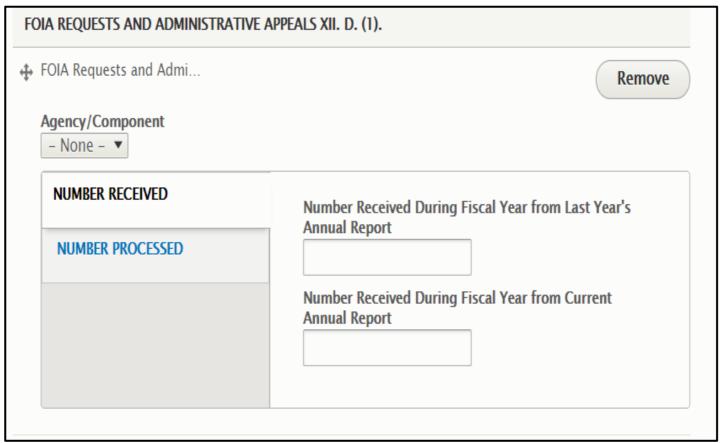
Guidance: Chart must contain data if Section XII.B lists consultations pending at end of FY.



## Section XII.D.1: Comparison of Nos. of Requests Received and Processed (Previous to Current Annual Report)

- Number of requests received/processed during FY from last year's Annual Report
- Number of requests received/processed during FY from current Annual Report

## Section XII.D.1: Comparison of Nos. of Requests Received and Processed

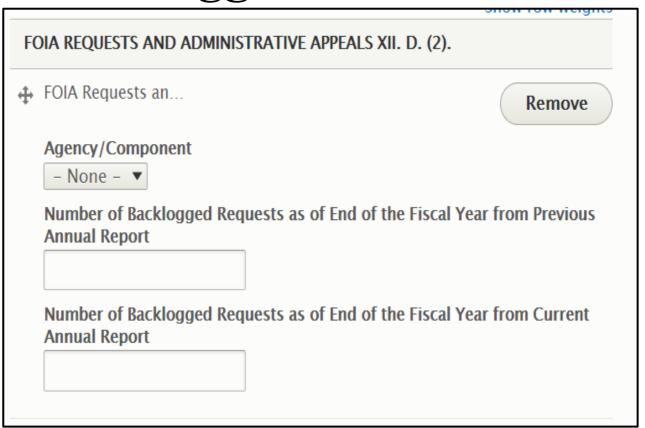




## Section XII.D.2: Comparison of Nos. of Requests Backlogged (Previous to Current Annual Report)

- Number of requests backlogged as of end of FY from last year's Annual Report
- Number of requests backlogged as of end of FY from current Annual Report

### Section XII.D.2: Comparison of Nos. of Requests Backlogged

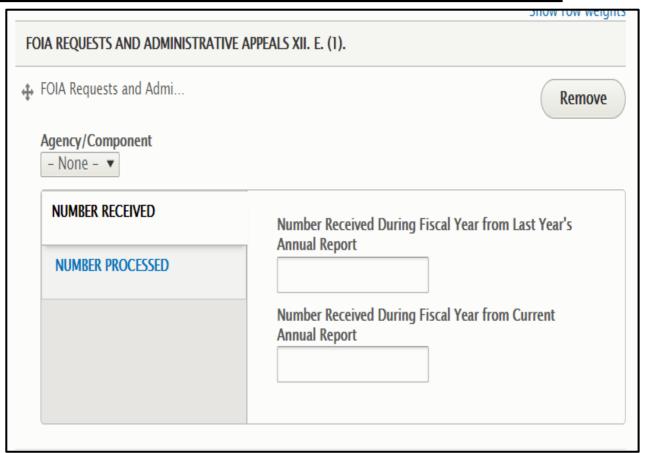




# Section XII.E.1: Comparison of Nos. of Appeals Received and Processed (Previous to Current Annual Report)

- Number of appeals received/processed during FY from last year's Annual Report
- Number of appeals received/processed during FY from current Annual Report

### Section XII.E.1: Comparison of Nos. of Appeals Received and Processed

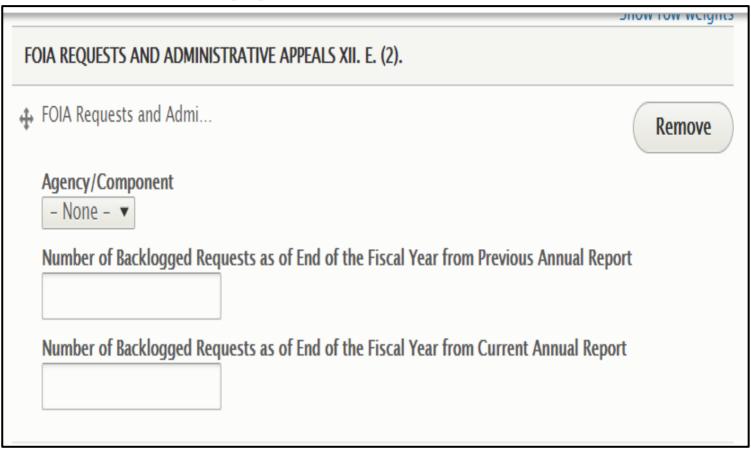




# Section XII.E.2: Comparison of Nos. of Appeals Backlogged (Previous to Current Annual Report)

- Number of appeals backlogged as of end of FY from last year's Annual Report
- Number of appeals backlogged as of end of FY from current Annual Report

# Section XII.E.2: Comparison of Nos. of Appeals Backlogged



Guidance: Numbers for previous FY should come directly from previous Annual Report.



### Validating and Saving the Report

- Complete all data entry, then click "Validate," which will flag errors in red
- > Review and correct any errors
- > Save the report before closing
- ➤ Do not close the window before it returns to the "Home" screen
- ➤ If you must step away from the computer, save to prevent losing data if your session times out

#### Validating and Saving the Report

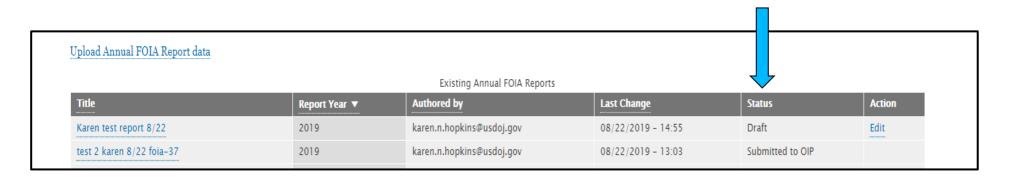




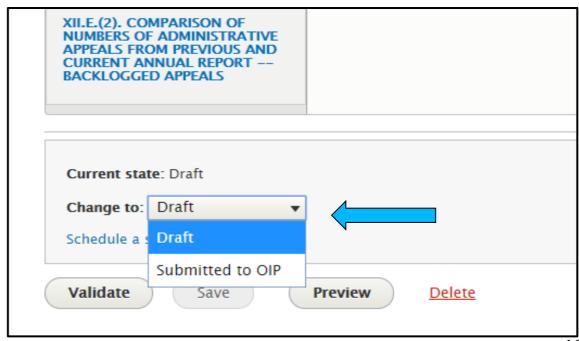
### Submission of Data & Review by OIP

- Agencies must submit their Annual Report to OIP by no later than November 12th.
- Members of OIP's Compliance Team will review the submission and advise agencies of any outstanding issues prior to clearing.

#### Status and Submitting the Report to OIP



Note: Once a report is "Submitted to OIP" you will not be able to edit the report.





#### Submission of Data & Review by OIP

- ➤ Once the report has been approved, OIP will provide agencies with the charts for Sections IV through XII of their human-readable report and the final XML file.
- Agencies will then add the first three sections of the human-readable report outlined in the Annual FOIA Report Handbook to the charts and provide the relevant information for those sections.



# Completing the Human-Readable Version: Adding Sections I – III of the Report

#### I. Basic Information Regarding Report

- Provide name, title, address, and telephone number of person(s) to be contacted with questions about the Report.
- Provide an electronic link for access to the Report on the agency FOIA website.
- Explain how to obtain a copy of the Report in paper form.



# Completing the Human-Readable Version: Adding Sections I – III of the Report

#### II. Making a FOIA Request

- Provide Components' contact information for receiving requests.
- Provide description of why some requests are not granted & the general categories of exempt records at the agency.
- Provide electronic link to the agency's FOIA regulations, including the fee schedule.



# Completing the Human-Readable Version: Adding Sections I – III of the Report

#### III. Acronyms, Definitions & Exemptions

- Agency acronyms and definitions of terms used in the Report.
- Concise descriptions of the Exemptions.



### **Posting the Report**

Once cleared by OIP, agencies must post both versions of their Annual Report (NIEM-XML and human-readable) on their FOIA website and send OIP the links to the Reports.

The links will be posted on OIP's website, and the data will be made available on FOIA.gov.

Agencies must maintain previous Reports on their websites for at least seven years.



#### **Tips and Tricks**

- > Grey fields are auto-calculated.
- ➤ Red tabs/fields mean there is a validation error that needs to be addressed.
- Some validation occurs in real time; some occurs after clicking validate; recommend entering all data before addressing any validation errors.
- ➤ Build a shell report before you start entering data to save time on data entry.
- When editing, suggest making all changes at once, rather than incrementally, to save load time.



### **Questions on the Annual Report?**

If you have any questions regarding this presentation, the Annual FOIA Report Handbook, or the completion of your Annual Report, please contact OIP's Compliance Team.

Phone: (202) 514-FOIA (3642)

Email: DOJ.OIP.FOIA@usdoj.gov



#### UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT of JUSTICE

### **Quarterly FOIA Reports**



### **Quarterly FOIA Report Guidance**

- ➤ OIP issued updated quarterly report guidance in 2021.
- ➤ Guidance provides that Agency Managers now submit their Quarterly Report data directly into FOIA.gov.
- Agencies do not need to post the files on their websites.
- > Overall data points and deadlines remain the same.



### **Updated Quarterly FOIA Report Guidance**

- ➤ Previously, agencies entered data into an online generator that provided a .zip file for posting on the agency website.
- Now, agencies enter their data into FOIA.gov and "Submit to OIP."
- > OIP will then "publish" all data after the deadline.

# **Updated Quarterly FOIA Report Guidance**

Data points remain the same:

- Number of Ten Oldest Requests Closed for agency overall
- Number of requests received during the reporting period
- Number of requests processed during the reporting period
- Number of requests in an agency's backlog at the end of the reporting period

### **Quarterly FOIA Report Posting Deadlines**

- > Quarter 1: January 30, 2026
- > Quarter 2: April 24, 2026
- > Quarter 3: July 31, 2026
- > Quarter 4: October 30, 2026

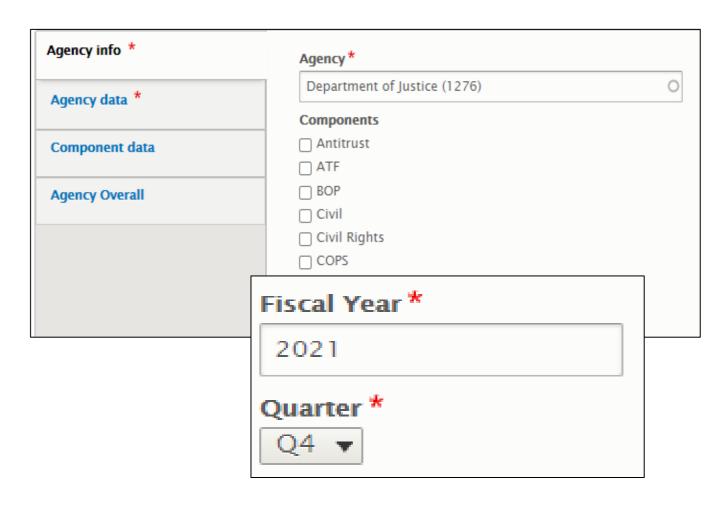


## **Updated Quarterly FOIA Report Guidance**

- Once your data is ready, Agency Managers should log into www.FOIA.gov.
- ➤ Once logged in, select "Create Quarterly FOIA Report Data" on your home page.
- > A new blank quarterly report will appear.



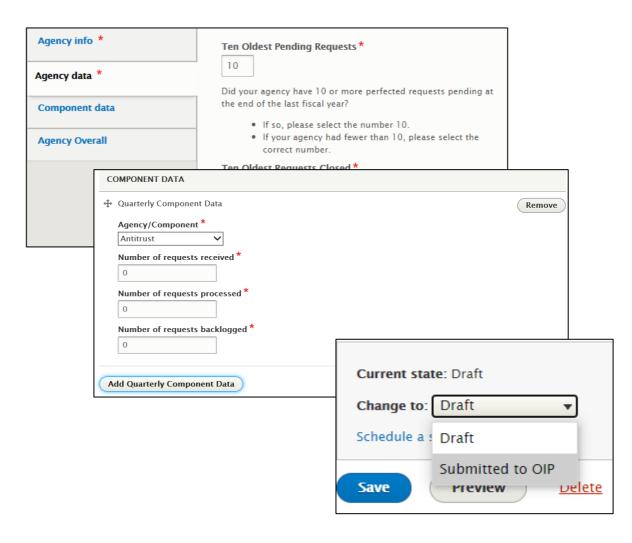
- 1. Enter your agency
- 2. Select components
- 3. Enter Fiscal Year and Quarter



### **Updated Quarterly FOIA Report**

#### **Guidance**

- 1. Enter your agency data in each of the tabs. You may add component placeholders.
- 2. Submit to OIP when final.



Updated Quarterly Report Guidance has detailed instructions<sup>28</sup>



### UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT JUSTICE

### Questions?