

**EXECUTIVE ORDER 13392 IMPLEMENTATION
OFFICE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY POLICY
UPDATED STATUS REPORT**

On December 14, 2005, the President issued Executive Order 13392, entitled “Improving Agency Disclosure of Information.” This Order directed each federal agency to review its FOIA processing operations, to develop a FOIA Improvement Plan, and to report on its progress in implementing the milestones and goals established in its plan. Section 3(c) of the Executive Order requires each agency to periodically report both its successes and deficiencies in implementing its Improvement Plan.

In its Fiscal Year 2006 Annual FOIA Report (FY06 Report), the Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP) reported significant success in implementing its FOIA Improvement Plan. Indeed, OSTP identified only one “deficiency,” as that term is used in Order 13392 and Department of Justice (DOJ) guidance, at the time OSTP prepared its FY06 Report. Since submission of the FY06 Report, OSTP has undertaken efforts to further completion of the goals established in its Improvement Plan. This Updated Status Report describes the progress made in completing those actions.

This report follows the uniform template set out by the Department of Justice in Guidance entitled, “Updated Status Reports by Agencies That Reported Deficiencies in Their Implementation of Executive Order 13392, ‘Improving Agency Disclosure of Information.’”

1. Identify the FOIA Improvement Plan area to which your deficient milestone relates:

OSTP designated “Backlog Reduction” as Improvement Area number 4 in section D of its FOIA Improvement Plan. OSTP’s reported deficiency relates to this area.

2. Identify the deficient milestone (including the original target date listed in the agency's FOIA Improvement Plan).

OSTP intended to completely eliminate all backlogged requests by the end of Fiscal Year 2006.

3. Describe the specific steps you have taken to date to correct the deficiency, including the dates by which you completed these steps (this should include every corrective step listed in your FY06 Annual FOIA Report that you have since completed).

OSTP has invested additional time and effort in addressing its FOIA request backlog and has worked to maintain a low number of pending requests with respect to requests initiated in the current fiscal year. OSTP currently has four backlogged requests pending that do not require handling of classified information, and a similar number of requests that will likely require classification determinations.

4. Describe any additional steps that you will be taking in the future to correct the deficiency, including the dates by which you will complete these steps (this should include every corrective step listed in your FY06 Annual FOIA Report that you have not yet completed).

OSTP will continue working to process its existing backlog and remains confident that it will achieve its overall goal of complete backlog elimination by August 31, 2007.