



TIMELINE 1978–Present

ISOO was established by Executive Order 12065, “National Security Information” in 1978, with the goal of balancing the public’s interest in access to Government information with the need to protect certain national security information from disclosure. Today, the programs of ISOO support the President by ensuring that the Government protects and provides proper access to information to advance the national and public interest.



NATIONAL ARCHIVES AND RECORDS ADMINISTRATION

President Jimmy Carter established ISOO with the signing of Executive Order 12065, “National Security Information,” on June 29, 1978. ISOO replaced the Interagency Classification Review Committee (ICRC) which was created by Executive Order 11652, “Classification and Declassification of National Security Information and Material,” issued by President Richard Nixon in 1972.

President Carter stated that the new Order “will increase and accelerating declassification. At the same time, needs to be kept secret.” In establishing ISOO, he recognized the importance of oversight to ensure agencies followed the procedures in the new Order. ISOO received the authority to review agencies’ rules and regulations and review individual records for compliance; and was authorized to overrule agency regulations and classification decisions if it determined those actions were not in accordance with the Order. The Order also mandated that ISOO report to the President and the National Security Council annually on compliance. President Carter concluded by stating that ISOO “is a key element to the new classification system, and it will have my strong support.”

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Jimmy Carter'.



1978

June 28, 1978, President Jimmy Carter signed **Executive Order 12065**, "National Security Information."

December 1, 1978, the Information Security Oversight Office (ISOO) is established as part of the General Services Administration (GSA) and former Iowa Congressman Michael Blouin is appointed as the first Director of ISOO in 1979.

1980

May 1980, with the approval of the President, the GSA Administrator appointed Steven Garfinkel as ISOO's second Director, who served in the position until his retirement in January 3, 2002.

1982

April 2, 1982, President Ronald W. Reagan signed **Executive Order 12356**, "National Security Information."

1985

April 1, 1985, National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) became an independent agency.

1993

January 6, 1993, President George H. W. Bush signed **Executive Order 12829**, "National Industrial Security Program." The Order established a program to safeguard Federal Government classified information that is provided to contractors, licensees, and grantees of the United States Government. The Order also created the National Industrial Security Program Policy Advisory Committee (NISPPAC) and directed that the Director of ISOO serve as Executive Secretary.

1994

October 1, 1994, ISOO became a part of the Office of Management and Budget (OMB).

1995

April 17, 1995, President William J. Clinton signed **Executive Order 12958**, "Classified National Security Information." The Order created the Interagency Security Classification Appeals Panel (ISCAP) and named the Director of ISOO as the Executive Secretary.

November 17, 1995, ISOO became a part of the National Archives and Records Administration.

2000

December 27, 2000, Congress passed the Public Interest Declassification Act of 2000, as amended, creating the Public Interest Declassification Board (PIDB) and the Director of ISOO as the Executive Secretary.

2002

May 2, 2002, with the approval of the President, the Archivist of the United States appointed J. William Leonard as ISOO's third Director, who served in the position until his retirement in January 2008.

2003

March 25, 2003, President George W. Bush signed **Executive Order 13292**, "Classified National Security Information." The Order amended Executive Order 12958.

2005

December 16, 2005, President Bush instructed Federal agencies to standardize procedures to designate, mark, and handle Sensitive but Unclassified (SBU) information, and to forward recommendations for government-wide standards to the Director of National Intelligence (DNI).

2006

April 10, 2006, President Bush amended **Executive Order 12829**, "National Industrial Security Program."

2008

April 14, 2008, with approval of the President, the Archivist of the United States appointed William J. Bosanko as ISOO's fourth Director, who served in the position until March 26, 2011.

May 7, 2008, President Bush issued a memorandum to departments and agencies, "Designation and Sharing of Controlled Unclassified Information (CUI)," that established the CUI Office and assigned NARA as the Executive agent.

May 21, 2008, The Archivist of the United States appointed William J. Bosanko as Director of the CUI Office.

2009

December 29, 2009, President Barack Obama signed **Executive Order 13526**, "Classified National Security Information." The Order directed agencies to establish a classification guidance review program and established the National Declassification Center within NARA. On the same date, the President issued an implementing memorandum to the heads of Federal agencies emphasizing his commitment to reforming the classification system and directing agencies to complete declassification reviews of 400 million pages awaiting review at NARA.

2010

June 28, 2010, NARA issued the Final Rule implementing **Executive Order 13526**.

August 18, 2010, President Obama signed **Executive Order 13549**, "Classified National Security Information Programs for State, Local, Tribal, and Private Sector Entities (SLTPS)." The Order established policies to ensure the proper sharing and safeguarding of classified information with those entities. It also established a Policy Advisory Committee to ensure uniform implementation of security standards and chaired by the Director of ISOO.

November 4, 2010, President Obama signed **Executive Order 13556**, "Controlled Unclassified Information." The Order established a uniform program for managing information that requires safeguarding or dissemination controls in accordance with law, regulations, or Government-wide policies.

2011

August 1, 2011, with the approval of the President, the Archivist of the United States appointed John P. Fitzpatrick as ISOO's fifth Director, who served in the position until January 8, 2016.

October 7, 2011, President Obama signed **Executive Order 13587**, "Structural Reforms to Improve the Security of Classified Networks and the Responsible Sharing and Safeguarding of Classified Information." The Director of ISOO serves as a member of the Senior Information Sharing and Safeguarding Steering Committee, developing policies and standards to implement the Order.

2012

July 9, 2012, NARA issued the Final Rule amending the ISCAP Bylaws, Rules, and Appeal Procedures.

2015

February 13, 2015, President Obama signed **Executive Order 13691**, "Promoting Private Sector Cybersecurity Information Sharing." The Order required the Department of Homeland Security as Executive Agent to consult with ISOO as it develops standards for implementing the Order.

2016

January 8, 2016, the Archivist of the United States appointed William Cira, Associate Director for Classification Management, as acting Director until his retirement in December 2016.

September 14, 2016, NARA issued the Final Rule implementing a standard Government-wide CUI policy.

December 25, 2016, with the approval of the President, the Archivist of the United States appointed Mark Bradley as the 6th Director of ISOO.