Alex,
How does your email follow the guidance issued by A/S, PMB?

MEMORANDUM

TO: PMB Office Directors

FROM: P. Lynn Scarlett /s/
       Assistant Secretary - Policy, Management and Budget

SUBJECT: DISSEMINATING INFORMATION

During this time of heightened sensitivity to all matters related to safety, I need your help in assuring that any security-related information we give to employees that involves a change in policy or business practice is soundly coordinated within our offices. Therefore, I ask that prior to disseminating security-related information you please alert me immediately so that I can determine the level of involvement of other Office Directors as warranted by the situation.

I appreciate your understanding and cooperation. Coordination of our efforts will reinforce confidence in the leadership we provide and serve to mitigate confusion and fear among our employees.

cc: DAS--Policy and International Affairs
    DAS--Human Resources
    DAS--Budget and Finance
    DAS--Performance and Management

Alexandra Mallus
BUREAU/OFFICE FOIA OFFICERS & COORDINATORS:

Please note Karen Mouritsen’s (SOL-GL) message, below, concerning the new FOIA policy which Attorney General John Ashcroft issued on October 12, 2001. It eliminates the foreseeable harm standard of the Reno policy. The new policy, along with some explanation, is on DOJ's FOIA Post web site at:


If you can’t get it on the Internet, let me know and I will fax it.

The document also briefly discusses the issue of how to protect documents that have sensitive information in them, like blueprints for dams, buildings, etc.

I’ll be attending the meeting that DOJ is holding for the agencies on Thursday, October 18, regarding the new policy and how to protect sensitive information which may impact our national security. I’ll brief you at our meeting next Wednesday, October 24.

Please ensure that this information is disseminated to all of your FOIA folks in the field—thanks.

Alexandra Mallus
Departmental FOIA Officer
Department of the Interior
Phone: 202/208-5342
Fax: 202/501-2360
----- Forwarded by Alexandra Mallus/PRI/OS/DOI on 10/17/01 07:43 AM -----
Hi everyone

We just found out this morning that Attorney General John Ashcroft has issued a new policy on FOIA. It eliminates the foreseeable harm standard of the Reno policy. The new policy, along with some explanation, is on DOJ's FOIA Post web site at:

If you can't get it on the internet, let me know and I will fax it.

The document also briefly discusses the issue of how to protect documents that have sensitive information in them, like blueprints for dams, buildings, etc.

The FOIA Post mentions a meeting that DOJ is holding for the agencies on Thursday, Oct. 18, to give more explanation on the new policy. Bob Moll is going to attend, along with Amy Sosion, (Div L&W), Jessica Roth (DIA) and Andrew Tittler (program atty soon to be in Boston). The meeting will also cover the issue of how to protect documents such as blueprints of dams, buildings, etc. I'll get a report from Bob, Amy, Jessica and Andrew on all these topics and send to you.

Karen Mouritsen
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