MEMORANDUM FOR: Component Heads and Chief Security Officers

FROM: Jerry Williams
Chief Security Officer/Senior Agency Official

SUBJECT: Executive Order 13526, “Classified National Security Information”

Effective June 29, 2010, Executive Order 12958, as amended, “Classified National Security Information,” is rescinded and replaced with Executive Order 13526, same title (copy enclosed). With this change comes the introduction of new and revised standards that are designed to minimize impediments to information sharing, alleviate issues associated with over-classification, harmonize and prioritize the declassification of historical records, and increase individual accountability for classification activity. Significant among these changes and effective as of June 29, 2010, are:

- Elimination of the “Third Agency Rule.” EO 13526 states: “Classified information originating in one agency may be disseminated to another agency or U.S. entity by any agency to which it has been made available without the consent of the originating agency, as long as the criteria for access...are met, unless the originating agency has determined that prior authorization is required...and has indicated such requirement on the medium containing the classified information... (3) documents created prior to the effective date of this order shall not be disseminated outside any other agency to which they have been made available without the consent of the originating agency.” Two key elements of this change are:
  1. The term “U.S. entity” is incorporated into the language. U.S. entity is defined by the order as including: (1) State, local, or tribal governments; (2) State, local, and tribal law enforcement and firefighting entities; (3) public health and medical entities; (4) regional, state, local, and tribal emergency management entities, including State Adjutants General and other appropriate public safety entities; or (5) private sector entities serving as part of the nation’s critical infrastructure.
  2. Agencies no longer have to receive authority from an originating agency to further disseminate their classified information to other agencies, or U.S. entities, unless the classified information has been specifically marked with dissemination restrictions or it was created prior to the effective date of the order.

- Mandatory Training. All persons who have been delegated as an Original Classification Authority (OCA) must receive training initially upon delegation and annually thereafter. Additionally, all persons who perform derivative classification actions must receive training on the classification standards and processes at least once every two years. Pursuant to the order,

1 Derived classification means the incorporating, paraphrasing, restating, or generating in new form information that is already classified, and marking the newly developed material consistent with the classification markings that apply to the source information. Derived classification includes the classification of information based on OCA approved security classification guidance.
OCA's and derivative classifiers who do not attend the required training shall have their authority to perform these functions suspended until such training has been received. Given the limited number of OCA's within DHS, management of the OCA training requirement will have little impact. However, in order to ensure that persons who are performing derivative classification receive the required training, they will have to be designated as derivative classifiers by their respective supervisors/managers and the list of designees provided to and maintained by component security officials for training and tracking purposes.

- Increased Accountability. Persons who apply derivative classification markings must identify themselves by name and position in addition to identifying the classified source(s) used and the declassification instructions. An example of the new classification block for a derivatively classified document is:

  Classified By: Jimmy Smith, Director of Security  
  Derived From: DHS SCG 000-00, May 2010  
  Declassify On: May 27, 2020

- Comprehensive Security Classification Guide Review. By June 29, 2012, agencies are to have completed a comprehensive review of all the agency’s security classification guides to ensure they reflect current circumstances and the standards of the order. The classification guidance review is to include original classification authorities and agency subject matter experts to ensure a broad range of perspectives. When the review is complete, a report citing the results of the review must be submitted to the Information Security Oversight Office (ISOO) with an unclassified version made available to the public. In the coming months, representatives from the Administrative Security Division within the Office of the Chief Security Officer (OCSO) will be contacting component points of contact with published security classification guides to begin this process.

The changes cited above reflect only a couple of the more significant aspects of EO 13526 and is not an all-inclusive list of all changes represented in the order. To address these and other changes OCSO has convened two intra-agency working groups, one to address the training aspects and the other to consolidate and revise existing DHS directives on classification into a single one-stop-shop DHS implementing instruction. The efforts of both these groups and the products they produce will serve to ensure that the Department’s implementation of the order is consistent with the standards and requirements of the order and its implementing directives and that those standards and requirements are communicated effectively throughout the Department.

Please ensure this information is given widest dissemination within your respective components. If you have any questions please contact John J. Young, Chief, Administrative Security Division, at [REDACTED].

Enclosure: EO 13526
MEMORANDUM FOR: James F. Tomsheck  
Assistant Commissioner  
Customs and Border Protection (CBP)

FROM: Jerry Williams  
Chief Security Officer

SUBJECT: Comprehensive Security Classification Guide Review

As directed by the President through Executive Order 13526, “Classified National Security Information,” (hereafter the Order), all agencies shall conduct a fundamental and comprehensive review of all security classification guides to ensure the guidance reflects current circumstances and to identify classified information that no longer requires protection and can be declassified. The initial review is to be completed within two years of the effective date of the Order; June 27, 2012, and the results of the review are to be submitted in a report to the Information Security Oversight Office (ISOO) with an unclassified version made available to the public. The review shall include an evaluation of classified information to determine if it meets the standards for classification under section 1.4 of the Order, taking into account an up-to-date assessment of likely damage as described under section 2.1 of the Order. Each guide shall be reviewed by the original classification authority and agency subject matter experts to ensure a broad range of perspectives. All security classification guides issued by a DHS original classification authority will be reviewed and will be revised and reissued as part of this review, even if the classification guidance contained in the guide will not change.

Our records show that CBP has one guide (DHS SCG CBP-001). To begin this mandatory review process, receive additional guidance, and establish a timetable for completion, please have a member of your staff contact Scott Ackiss, Branch Chief, Administrative Security Policy and Implementation Branch (ASPIB), at [REDACTED], or Gail May, Senior Security Specialist, ASPIB, at [REDACTED]. Please send your response no later than twenty weeks from the date of this memo.

If you have any questions please contact John J. Young, Chief, Administrative Security Division, at [REDACTED].

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1 Any additional guides published by a DHS OCA and not listed must be reported to ASPIB and reviewed in accordance with this memo.
MEMORANDUM FOR: Dr. William Hagan  
Acting Director  
Domestic Nuclear Detection Office (DNDO)  

FROM: Jerry Williams  
Chief Security Officer  

SUBJECT: Comprehensive Security Classification Guide Review  

As directed by the President through Executive Order 13526, "Classified National Security Information," (hereafter the Order), all agencies shall conduct a fundamental and comprehensive review of all security classification guides to ensure the guidance reflects current circumstances and to identify classified information that no longer requires protection and can be declassified. The initial review is to be completed within two years of the effective date of the Order: June 27, 2012, and the results of the review are to be submitted in a report to the Information Security Oversight Office (ISOO) with an unclassified version made available to the public. The review shall include an evaluation of classified information to determine if it meets the standards for classification under section 1.4 of the Order, taking into account an up-to-date assessment of likely damage as described under section 2.1 of the Order. Each guide shall be reviewed by the original classification authority and agency subject matter experts to ensure a broad range of perspectives. All security classification guides issued by a DHS original classification authority will be reviewed and will be revised and reissued as part of this review, even if the classification guidance contained in the guide will not change.

Our records show that DNDO has five\(^1\) guide(s) (DHS SCG DNDO-001, DHS SCG DNDO-002, DHS SCG DNDO-003, DHS SCG DNDO-004, and DHS SCG DNDO-006) To begin this mandatory review process, receive additional guidance, and establish a timetable for completion, please have a member of your staff contact Scott Ackiss, Branch Chief, Administrative Security Policy and Implementation Branch (ASPIB), at or Gail May, Senior Security Specialist, ASPIB, at no later than two weeks from the date of this memo.

If you have any questions please contact John J. Young, Chief, Administrative Security Division, at

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MEMORANDUM FOR: Burt Thomas  
Chief Security Officer  
Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)  

FROM: Jerry Williams  
Chief Security Officer  

SUBJECT: Comprehensive Security Classification Guide Review  

As directed by the President through Executive Order 13526, “Classified National Security Information,” (hereafter the Order), all agencies shall conduct a fundamental and comprehensive review of all security classification guides to ensure the guidance reflects current circumstances and to identify classified information that no longer requires protection and can be declassified. The initial review is to be completed within two years of the effective date of the Order; June 27, 2012, and the results of the review are to be submitted in a report to the Information Security Oversight Office (ISOO) with an unclassified version made available to the public. The review shall include an evaluation of classified information to determine if it meets the standards for classification under section 1.4 of the Order, taking into account an up-to-date assessment of likely damage as described under section 2.1 of the Order. Each guide shall be reviewed by the original classification authority and agency subject matter experts to ensure a broad range of perspectives. All security classification guides issued by a DHS original classification authority will be reviewed and will be revised and reissued as part of this review, even if the classification guidance contained in the guide will not change.

Our records show that FEMA has three\(^1\) guide(s) (DHS SCG FEMA-001, DHS SCG FEMA-002, and Mount Weather Emergency Operations Center (MWEOC) Classification Guide). To begin this mandatory review process, receive additional guidance, and establish a timetable for completion, please have a member of your staff contact Scott Ackiss, Branch Chief, Administrative Security Policy and Implementation Branch (ASPIB), at [REDACTED] or Gail May, Senior Security Specialist, ASPIB, at [REDACTED] no later than two weeks from the date of this memo.

If you have any questions please contact John J. Young, Chief, Administrative Security Division, at [REDACTED].

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MEMORANDUM FOR: Caryn Wagner  
Under Secretary  
Office of Intelligence and Analysis (I&A)  

FROM: Jerry Williams  
Chief Security Officer  

SUBJECT: Comprehensive Security Classification Guide Review  

As directed by the President through Executive Order 13526, “Classified National Security Information,” (hereafter the Order), all agencies shall conduct a fundamental and comprehensive review of all security classification guides to ensure the guidance reflects current circumstances and to identify classified information that no longer requires protection and can be declassified. The initial review is to be completed within two years of the effective date of the Order; June 27, 2012, and the results of the review are to be submitted in a report to the Information Security Oversight Office (ISOO) with an unclassified version made available to the public. The review shall include an evaluation of classified information to determine if it meets the standards for classification under section 1.4 of the Order, taking into account an up-to-date assessment of likely damage as described under section 2.1 of the Order. Each guide shall be reviewed by the original classification authority and agency subject matter experts to ensure a broad range of perspectives. All security classification guides issued by a DHS original classification authority will be reviewed and will be revised and reissued as part of this review, even if the classification guidance contained in the guide will not change.

Our records show that I&A has one guide (DHS SCG I&A-001). To begin this mandatory review process, receive additional guidance, and establish a timetable for completion, please have a member of your staff contact Scott Ackiss, Branch Chief, Administrative Security Policy and Implementation Branch (ASPIB), at [redacted] or Gail May, Senior Security Specialist, ASPIB, at [redacted] no later than two weeks from the date of this memo.

If you have any questions please contact John J. Young, Chief, Administrative Security Division, at [redacted].

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MEMORANDUM FOR: Rand Beers  
Under Secretary  
National Protection & Programs Directorate (NPPD)

FROM: Jerry Williams  
Chief Security Officer

SUBJECT: Comprehensive Security Classification Guide Review

As directed by the President through Executive Order 13526, “Classified National Security Information,” (hereafter the Order), all agencies shall conduct a fundamental and comprehensive review of all security classification guides to ensure the guidance reflects current circumstances and to identify classified information that no longer requires protection and can be declassified. The initial review is to be completed within two years of the effective date of the Order: June 27, 2012, and the results of the review are to be submitted in a report to the Information Security Oversight Office (ISOO) with an unclassified version made available to the public. The review shall include an evaluation of classified information to determine if it meets the standards for classification under section 1.4 of the Order, taking into account an up-to-date assessment of likely damage as described under section 2.1 of the Order. Each guide shall be reviewed by the original classification authority and agency subject matter experts to ensure a broad range of perspectives. All security classification guides issued by a DHS original classification authority will be reviewed and will be revised and reissued as part of this review, even if the classification guidance contained in the guide will not change.

Our records show that NPPD has four guide(s) (DHS SCG OS-003, DHS SCG IAIIP-001, DHS SCG PREP-003 and Tier 1/Tier 2 Program Interim Classification Guide). To begin this mandatory review process, receive additional guidance, and establish a timetable for completion, please have a member of your staff contact Scott Ackiss, Branch Chief, Administrative Security Policy and Implementation Branch (ASPIB), at [REDACTED] or Gail May, Senior Security Specialist, ASPIB, at [REDACTED] no later than two weeks from the date of this memo.

If you have any questions please contact John J. Young, Chief, Administrative Security Division, at [REDACTED]

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MEMORANDUM FOR: David Heyman  
Assistant Secretary  
Office of Policy

FROM: Jerry Williams  
Chief Security Officer

SUBJECT: Comprehensive Security Classification Guide Review

As directed by the President through Executive Order 13526, " Classified National Security Information," (hereafter the Order), all agencies shall conduct a fundamental and comprehensive review of all security classification guides to ensure the guidance reflects current circumstances and to identify classified information that no longer requires protection and can be declassified. The initial review is to be completed within two years of the effective date of the Order; June 27, 2012, and the results of the review are to be submitted in a report to the Information Security Oversight Office (ISOO) with an unclassified version made available to the public. The review shall include an evaluation of classified information to determine if it meets the standards for classification under section 1.4 of the Order, taking into account an up-to-date assessment of likely damage as described under section 2.1 of the Order. Each guide shall be reviewed by the original classification authority and agency subject matter experts to ensure a broad range of perspectives. All security classification guides issued by a DHS original classification authority will be reviewed and will be revised and reissued as part of this review, even if the classification guidance contained in the guide will not change.

Our records show that Policy has three guide(s) (DHS SCG BTS-001, DHS SCG PLCY-001, and DHS SCG PLCY-002). To begin this mandatory review process, receive additional guidance, and establish a timetable for completion, please have a member of your staff contact Scott Ackiss, Branch Chief, Administrative Security Policy and Implementation Branch (ASPIB), at [REDACTED] or Gail May, Senior Security Specialist, ASPIB, at [REDACTED], no later than two weeks from the date of this memo.

If you have any questions please contact John J. Young, Chief, Administrative Security Division, at [REDACTED]

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MEMORANDUM FOR: Dr. Tara O'Toole  
Under Secretary  
Science and Technology (S&T)

FROM: Jerry Williams  
Chief Security Officer

SUBJECT: Comprehensive Security Classification Guide Review

As directed by the President through Executive Order 13526, "Classified National Security Information," (hereafter the Order), all agencies shall conduct a fundamental and comprehensive review of all security classification guides to ensure the guidance reflects current circumstances and to identify classified information that no longer requires protection and can be declassified. The initial review is to be completed within two years of the effective date of the Order; June 27, 2012, and the results of the review are to be submitted in a report to the Information Security Oversight Office (ISOO) with an unclassified version made available to the public. The review shall include an evaluation of classified information to determine if it meets the standards for classification under section 1.4 of the Order, taking into account an up-to-date assessment of likely damage as described under section 2.1 of the Order. Each guide shall be reviewed by the original classification authority and agency subject matter experts to ensure a broad range of perspectives. All security classification guides issued by a DHS original classification authority will be reviewed and will be revised and reissued as part of this review, even if the classification guidance contained in the guide will not change.

Our records show that S&T has four guide(s) (DHS SCG S&T-001, DHS SCG S&T-002, DHS SCG S&T-005, and DHS SCG S&T-006). To begin this mandatory review process, receive additional guidance, and establish a timetable for completion, please have a member of your staff contact Scott Ackiss, Branch Chief, Administrative Security Policy and Implementation Branch (ASPIB), at [REDACTED]. or Gail May, Senior Security Specialist, ASPIB, at [REDACTED], no later than two weeks from the date of this memo.

If you have any questions please contact John J. Young, Chief, Administrative Security Division, at [REDACTED].

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MEMORANDUM FOR: Tom Wiley  
Chief Security Officer  
Transportation Security Administration (TSA)  

FROM: Jerry Williams  
Chief Security Officer  

SUBJECT: Comprehensive Security Classification Guide Review  

As directed by the President through Executive Order 13526, "Classified National Security Information," (hereafter the Order), all agencies shall conduct a fundamental and comprehensive review of all security classification guides to ensure the guidance reflects current circumstances and to identify classified information that no longer requires protection and can be declassified. The initial review is to be completed within two years of the effective date of the Order: June 27, 2012, and the results of the review are to be submitted in a report to the Information Security Oversight Office (ISOO) with an unclassified version made available to the public. The review shall include an evaluation of classified information to determine if it meets the standards for classification under section 1.4 of the Order, taking into account an up-to-date assessment of likely damage as described under section 2.1 of the Order. Each guide shall be reviewed by the original classification authority and agency subject matter experts to ensure a broad range of perspectives. All security classification guides issued by a DHS original classification authority will be reviewed and will be revised and reissued as part of this review, even if the classification guidance contained in the guide will not change.

Our records show that TSA has 11\(^1\) guide(s) (DHS SCG TSA-001, DHS SCG TSA-002, DHS SCG TSA-004, DHS SCG TSA-005, DHS SCG TSA-006, DHS SCG TSA-007, DHS SCG TSA-008, DHS SCG TSA-010, DHS SCG TSA-011, DHS SCG TSA-012, and DHS SCG TSA-013). To begin this mandatory review process, receive additional guidance, and establish a timetable for completion, please have a member of your staff contact Scott Ackiss, Branch Chief, Administrative Security Policy and Implementation Branch (ASPIB), at [REDACTED], or Gail May, Senior Security Specialist, ASPIB, at [REDACTED], no later than two weeks from the date of this memo.

If you have any questions please contact John J. Young, Chief, Administrative Security Division, at [REDACTED].

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MEMORANDUM FOR: John G. Steele  
Chief Security Officer  
United States Coast Guard (USCG)  

FROM: Jerry Williams  
Chief Security Officer  

SUBJECT: Comprehensive Security Classification Guide Review  

As directed by the President through Executive Order 13526, “ Classified National Security Information,” (hereafter the Order), all agencies shall conduct a fundamental and comprehensive review of all security classification guides to ensure the guidance reflects current circumstances and to identify classified information that no longer requires protection and can be declassified. The initial review is to be completed within two years of the effective date of the Order; June 27, 2012, and the results of the review are to be submitted in a report to the Information Security Oversight Office (ISOO) with an unclassified version made available to the public. The review shall include an evaluation of classified information to determine if it meets the standards for classification under section 1.4 of the Order, taking into account an up-to-date assessment of likely damage as described under section 2.1 of the Order. Each guide shall be reviewed by the original classification authority and agency subject matter experts to ensure a broad range of perspectives. All security classification guides issued by a DHS original classification authority will be reviewed and will be revised and reissued as part of this review, even if the classification guidance contained in the guide will not change.

Our records show that USCG has six1 guide(s) (DHS SCG USCG-001.1, DHS SCG USCG-002.1, DHS SCG USCG-003, DHS SCG USCG-005, DHS SCG USCG-006, and DHS SCG USCG-007). To begin this mandatory review process, receive additional guidance, and establish a timetable for completion, please have a member of your staff contact Scott Ackiss, Branch Chief, Administrative Security Policy and Implementation Branch (ASPIB), at [REDACTED] or Gail May, Senior Security Specialist, ASPIB, at [REDACTED], no later than two weeks from the date of this memo.

If you have any questions please contact John J. Young, Chief, Administrative Security Division, at [REDACTED].

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