and mandatory declassification review requests, and shall be subject to the fees applicable to FOIA requests.

§ 171.25 Applicability of other laws.

Exemptions from disclosure set forth in the Freedom of Information Act, the Privacy Act, and other statutes or privileges protecting information from disclosure recognized in discovery or other such litigation-related procedures may be applied to withhold information declassified under the provisions of this subpart.

Subpart D—Privacy Act Provisions

§ 171.30 Purpose and scope.

This subpart contains the rules that the Department follows under the Privacy Act of 1974, 5 U.S.C. 552a. These rules should be read together with the Privacy Act, which provides additional information about records maintained on individuals. The rules in this subpart apply to all records in systems of records maintained by the Department that are retrieved by an individual's name or personal identifier. They describe the procedures by which individuals may request access to records about themselves, request amendment or correction of those records, and request an accounting of disclosures of those records by the Department. If any records retrieved pursuant to an access request under the Privacy Act are found to be exempt from disclosure under that Act, they will be processed for possible disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), 5 U.S.C. 552. No fees shall be charged for access to or amendment of Privacy Act records.

§ 171.31 Definitions.

As used in this subpart, the following definitions shall apply:

(a) *Department* means the United States Department of State, including its field offices and Foreign Service posts abroad.

(b) *Individual* means a citizen of the United States or an alien lawfully admitted for permanent residence.

(c) *Maintain* includes maintain, collect, use, or disseminate.

(d) *Record* means any item, collection, or grouping of information about an individual that is maintained by the Department, including, but not limited to education, financial transactions, medical history, and criminal or employment history, that contains the individual's name or the identifying number, symbol, or other identifying particular assigned to the individual, such as a finger or voice print or photograph.

(e) *System of Records* means a group of any records under the control of the Department from which information is retrieved by the name of the individual or by some identifying number, symbol, or other identifying particular assigned to an individual.

(f) *Control* has the meaning set forth in § 171.11(f)

(g) *Information and Privacy Coordinator* has the meaning set forth in § 171.11(d).

(h) *DS* is the abbreviation for the Bureau of Diplomatic Security of the U.S. Department of State.

(i) *OIG* is the abbreviation for the Office of the Inspector General of the U.S. Department of State.

§ 171.32 Request for access to records.

(a) *Description of records sought.* All requests for access to a record must reasonably describe the System of Records and the individual's record within the system in sufficient detail to permit identification of the requested record. At a minimum, requests should include the individual's full name (including maiden name, if appropriate) and any other names used, present mailing address and ZIP Code, date and place of birth, and any other information that might help in identifying the record. Helpful data includes the approximate time period of the record and the circumstances that give the individual reason to believe that the Department of State maintains a record under the individual's name or personal identifier. In certain instances, it may be necessary for the Department to request additional information from the requester, either to ensure a full search, or to ensure that a record retrieved does in fact pertain to the individual.

(b) *Verification of personal identity.* The Department will require reasonable identification of individuals requesting records under the Privacy Act to ensure that records are disclosed only to the proper persons. Requesters must state their full name, current address, date and place of birth, and, at the requester's option, social security number. The request must be signed, and the requester's signature must be either notarized or submitted under penalty of perjury (28 U.S.C. 1746) as a substitute for notarization. If the requester seeks records under another name the requester has used, a statement, under penalty of perjury, that the requester has also used the other name must be included.

(c) *Third party access.* The Department shall allow third party access to records under certain conditions:

(1) *Parents.* Upon presentation of documentation of the parental relationship, a parent of a minor (an unmarried person under the age of 18) may, on behalf of the minor, request records pertaining to the minor and the Department may, in its discretion, disclose such records to the parent to the extent determined by the Department to be appropriate in the circumstances of the case. In any case, minors may request such records on their own behalf.

(2) *Guardians.* A guardian of a minor or of an individual who has been declared by a court to be incompetent may act for and on behalf of the minor or the incompetent individual upon presentation of appropriate documentation of the guardian relationship.

(3) *Authorized representatives or designees.* When an individual wishes to authorize another person or persons access to his or her records, the individual shall submit, in addition to the identifying information described in paragraph (b) of this section, a signed statement, either notarized or made under penalty of perjury, authorizing and consenting to access by a designated person or persons. Such requests shall be processed under the FOIA (*see* §171.12).

(d) *Records relating to civil actions.* Nothing in this subpart entitles an individual to access to any information compiled in reasonable anticipation of a civil action or proceeding.

(e) *Time limits.* The Department will acknowledge the request promptly and furnish the requested information as soon as possible thereafter.

(f) *Information on amending records.* At the time the Department grants access to a record, it will also furnish guidelines for requesting amendment of a record. These guidelines may also be obtained by writing to the Information and Privacy Coordinator at the address given in §171.5. The guidelines are also available in the reading room described in §171.3 and in the electronic reading room described in §171.4.

§171.33 Request to amend or correct records.

(a) An individual has the right to request that the Department amend a record pertaining to the individual that the individual believes is not accurate, relevant, timely, or complete.

(b) Requests to amend records must be in writing and mailed or delivered to the Information and Privacy Coordinator, at the address given in §171.5, who will coordinate the review of the request with the appropriate offices of the Department. The Department will require verification of personal identity as provided in §171.32(b) before it will initiate action to amend a record. Amendment requests should contain, as a minimum, identifying information needed to locate the record in question, a description of the specific correction requested, and an explanation of why the existing record is not accurate, relevant, timely, or complete. The requester should submit as much pertinent documentation, other information, and explanation as possible to support the request for amendment.

(c) All requests for amendments to records will be acknowledged within 10 days (excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and legal public holidays).

(d) In reviewing a record in response to a request to amend, the Department shall review the record to determine if it is accurate, relevant, timely, and complete.

(e) If the Department agrees with an individual's request to amend a record, it shall: