

Department of Health and Human Services

§ 2.4

“information acquired in the course of performing official duties or because of the person’s official capacity,” within the meaning of § 2.1(a).

[52 FR 37146, Oct. 5, 1987, as amended at 55 FR 4611, Feb. 9, 1990; 68 FR 25838, May 14, 2003]

§ 2.2 Definitions.

Agency head refers to the head of the relevant operating division or other major component of the DHHS, or his or her delegatee. *Agency head* for the purposes of this part means the following officials for the components indicated:

- (1) Office of the Secretary—Assistant Secretary for Administration and Management;
- (2) Administration on Aging—Assistant Secretary for Aging;
- (3) Administration for Children and Families—Assistant Secretary for Children and Families;
- (4) Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality—Administrator;
- (5) Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry—Administrator;
- (6) Centers for Disease Control and Prevention—Director;
- (7) Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services—Administrator;
- (8) Health Resources and Services Administration—Administrator;
- (9) Indian Health Service—Director;
- (10) National Institutes of Health—Director;
- (11) Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration—Administrator;
- (12) Office of Inspector General—Inspector General.

Employee includes:

- (1) Commissioned officers in the Public Health Service Commissioned Corps, as well as regular and special DHHS employees (except employees of the Food and Drug Administration), when they are performing the duties of their regular positions, as well as when they are performing duties in a temporary assignment at DHHS or another organization.
- (2) Any employees of health insurance intermediaries and carriers performing functions under agreements entered into pursuant to sections 1816 and 1842 of the Social Security Act, 42 U.S.C. 1395h, 1395u; *and*

(3) Current and former employees and contractors of entities covered under the Federally Supported Health Centers Assistance Act of 1992, as amended, 42 U.S.C § 233 (FSHCAA), provided that the requested testimony or information relates to the performance of medical, surgical, dental or related functions which were performed at a time when the DHHS deemed the entity to be covered by the FSHCAA.

Certify means to authenticate under seal, pursuant to 42 U.S.C 3505, official documents of the Department.

Testify and testimony includes both in-person, oral statements before a court, legislative or administrative body and statements made pursuant to depositions, interrogatories, declarations, affidavits, or other formal participation.

[68 FR 25839, May 14, 2003]

§ 2.3 Policy on Presentation of testimony and production of documents.

No employee or former employee of the DHHS may provide testimony or produce documents in any proceedings to which this part applies concerning information acquired in the course of performing official duties or because of the person’s official relationship with the Department unless authorized by the Agency head pursuant to this part based on a determination by the Agency head, after consultation with the Office of the General Counsel, that compliance with the request would promote the objectives of the Department.

[68 FR 25839, May 14, 2003]

§ 2.4 Procedures when voluntary testimony is requested or when an employee is subpoenaed.

(a) All requests for testimony by an employee or former employee of the DHHS in his or her official capacity and not subject to the exceptions set forth in § 2.1(d) of this part must be addressed to the Agency head in writing and must state the nature of the requested testimony, why the information sought is unavailable by any other means, and the reasons why the testimony would be in the interest of the DHHS or the federal government.

(b) If the Agency head denies approval to comply with a subpoena for testimony, or if the Agency head has