Welcome

This is our second quarterly security newsletter. We hope this newsletter will accomplish two important things: enhancing your security consciousness and making you aware of security clearance policy developments.

Most University clearance holders are not custodians of classified documents, and unlike custodians are not constantly reminded of their security obligations. Nevertheless as a clearance holder you need to keep security clearly in mind. This newsletter contains stories and articles we hope will help you make security a priority in your life.

As you are aware, obtaining and maintaining a security clearance... Continued on page 8

Updates Regarding Your Security Clearance

Common Background Investigation Issue: Financial Responsibility

Active Shooter: How to Respond

Ex-Los Alamos Scientist Indicted

“Let there be light”

SF-86 News: A new version of the SF-86, Questionnaire for National Security Positions, has been postponed from January 2011 to sometime in the spring of 2011. The Office of Personnel Management will continue to allow use of the 2008 version until October 2011. At that time, any individual completing the SF-86, Questionnaire for National Security Positions, will be transferred over to the new version automatically. The Office of...
Personnel Management has informed us that no information previously entered into the e-QIP system will be lost. However, there will be additional questions to answer. Some of the changes include detailed branch questions for questions answered “yes.” This may increase the size of the SF-86; however, it should reduce the comments section. The Office of Personnel Management has also developed a Fair Credit Release form, which will accompany the other e-QIP signature pages. This will replace the Department of Energy (DOE) Fair Credit form you have signed in the past. Our office will keep you updated on these changes as they occur.

New DOE Forms coming soon: DOE Headquarters is in the process of finalizing administrative updates to various DOE forms to include the Security Acknowledgement and Data Report on Spouse. Some key changes include making these forms fillable with other minor corrections being made. There are no policy changes related to these changes.

SF-86, QNSP Copies: Need a copy of your SF-86, Questionnaire for National Security Positions (QNSP)? The PSD F 5633.9, Request for Copy of QNSP, has changed and will no longer contain e-mail as part of the process. The QNSP copy, if requested, will either be faxed or be mailed to you instead of using email due to the use of Personal Identifying Information. Please contact our office if you would like a copy of your QNSP.

Tiered investigations are on the horizon: The Office of Personnel Management and its partners are working on a tiered model for both security and suitability investigations, and position designation guidance that assists agencies in selecting the appropriate investigative level for their position. Standardizing the investigation levels based on position designations consistently across the government will not only help streamline the initiation process, but it will improve the ability to accept reciprocity from one agency to another.

The continuous evaluation process will lead to more frequent investigations of cleared individuals to ensure continuing eligibility for access to classified information thereby reducing risk to national security, and Periodic Reinvestigation for those in public trust positions.

Full implementation is expected sometime in 2013, and national guidance will be issued which will permit a phased implementation of the 5-year reinvestigation cycle beginning in late 2011 and 2012. DOE has informed us that Agencies will be permitted to implement the requirements in a staggered fashion. Our office will keep you updated on this change as more information becomes available.

“The greatest source of America’s generosity is not our government. It’s the heart of the American people”

President George W. Bush,
COMMON BACKGROUND INVESTIGATION ISSUE: FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

Failure or inability to live within one's means, satisfy debts, and meet financial obligations may indicate poor self-control, lack of judgment, or unwillingness to abide by rules and regulations, all of which can raise questions about an individual's reliability, trustworthiness and ability to protect classified information. An individual who is financially overextended is at risk of having to engage in illegal acts to generate funds. Compulsive gambling and unexplained affluence also creates serious concerns when evaluating a person’s eligibility for access to classified information.

Conditions that could raise concern include indebtedness caused by frivolous or irresponsible spending and the absence of any evidence of willingness or intent to pay the debt or establish a realistic plan to pay the debt, a history of not meeting financial obligations, and failure to file annual Federal, state, or local income tax returns as required, to name a few.

To mitigate these concerns, an individual can, among other things, provide documentation that demonstrates a goodfaith effort to repay overdue creditors (repayment plan, etc.) or information that shows the conditions that resulted in the financial problem were largely beyond the person's control (e.g. loss of employment, a business downturn, unexpected medical emergency, or a death, divorce or separation).

As a reminder, Executive Order 12674, as amended by Executive Order 12731, titled "The Fourteen Principles of Ethical Conduct for Federal Employees" requires that "Employees shall satisfy in good faith their obligations as citizens, including all financial obligations, especially those - such as Federal, State, or local taxes - that are imposed by law."

DID YOU KNOW?

We are on the web! You can find information regarding your security clearance such as reporting requirements, foreign travel information, view our briefings and so much more at the click of a button.

Visit us at: http://labs.ucop.edu/security/index.html
ACTIVE SHOOTER: HOW TO RESPOND

Given the increase in incidents of shootings in workplaces and public areas, the following information was given to our office from The Department of Homeland Security. The following information is an excerpt that comes directly from a DHS briefing. If you would like more information, please contact our office and we can provide you with the full DHS briefing.

PROFILE OF AN ACTIVE SHOOTER

An Active Shooter is an individual actively engaged in killing or attempting to kill people in a confined and populated area; in most cases, active shooters use firearms(s) and there is no pattern or method to their selection of victims.

Active shooter situations are unpredictable and evolve quickly. Typically, the immediate deployment of law enforcement is required to stop the shooting and mitigate harm to victims.

Because active shooter situations are often over within 10 to 15 minutes, before law enforcement arrives on the scene, individuals must be prepared both mentally and physically to deal with an active shooter situation.

HOW TO RESPOND WHEN AN ACTIVE SHOOTER IS IN YOUR VICINITY

Quickly determine the most reasonable way to protect your own life. Remember that customers and clients are likely to follow the lead of employees and managers during an active shooter situation.

1. Evacuate

If there is an accessible escape path, attempt to evacuate the premises. Be sure to:

Common SF-86 Form Errors

Q What attachments are required when submitting a form in e-QIP?

A All release pages, must be attached, including resume (fed, not a reinvestigation), OF 306 (as needed), and once the 2010 SF86 is implemented, the credit release.

Q What are common errors with the release pages?

A The release pages must be signed using your proper name at birth and all handwritten information must be completed (Date of Signature, DOB, and SSN).

Q Are complete mailing addresses required on the questionnaire?

A Yes, please ensure you have entered complete mailing addresses for education, employment, personal references, court actions, etc.

Q What if I go by different names, how should it appear on my questionnaire?

A The name provided on the SF-86 and signed on the release pages must be the LEGAL name that is currently used and they must match. For example, if a female has married, but has not legally changed her last name, the maiden name must be shown.
• Have an escape route and plan in mind
• Evacuate regardless of whether others agree to follow
• Leave your belongings behind
• Help others escape, if possible
• Prevent individuals from entering an area where the active shooter may be
• Keep your hands visible
• Follow the instructions of any police officers
• Do not attempt to move wounded people
• Call 911 when you are safe

2. Hide out

If evacuation is not possible, find a place to hide where the active shooter is less likely to find you.

Your hiding place should:
• Be out of the active shooter’s view
• Provide protection if shots are fired in your direction (i.e., an office with a closed and locked door)
• Not trap you or restrict your options for movement

To prevent an active shooter from entering your hiding place:
• Lock the door
• Blockade the door with heavy furniture

If the active shooter is nearby:
• Lock the door
• Silence your cell phone and/or pager
• Turn off any source of noise (i.e., radios, televisions)
• Hide behind large items (i.e., cabinets, desks)
• Remain quiet

If evacuation and hiding out are not possible:
• Remain calm
• Dial 911, if possible, to alert police to the active shooter’s location
• If you cannot speak, leave the line open and allow the dispatcher to listen

3. Take action against the active shooter

As a last resort, and only when your life is in imminent danger, attempt to disrupt and/or incapacitate the active shooter by:
• Acting as aggressively as possible against him/her
• Throwing items and improvising weapons
• Yelling
• Committing to your actions

“The men and women who conduct background investigations for the Federal government play a very critical role in securing the nation.”

Kay Coles James, OPM
Director
EX-LOS ALAMOS SCIENTIST AND WIFE INDICTED IN ALLEGED ATOMIC WEAPON CONSPIRACY

A former scientist at the Los Alamos National Laboratory and his wife have been indicted by a federal grand jury on charges of communicating classified nuclear weapons data to a person they believed to be a Venezuelan government official and conspiring to participate in the development of an atomic weapon for Venezuela, according to the Justice Department.

Pedro Leonardo Mascheroni, originally from Argentina, came to the US in 1963 to study at the University of California, Berkeley, where he gained a doctorate. He worked at Los Alamos National Laboratory from 1979 to 1987. In the 1980s he was suspected by some of his superiors of being a spy for Argentina, and whilst never charged (and no evidence being found by the FBI), was stripped of his security clearance and fired from Los Alamos in 1987.

He left Los Alamos after a controversy surrounding his idea of using hydrogen fluoride lasers to generate nuclear fusion. Since then, he has been critical of Los Alamos and has attempted to lobby the United States Congress to fund his idea. According to the Miami Herald, he has been described as both a "nut" and a "prophet". He is married to Marjorie Roxby Mascheroni, herself a former technical writer for Los Alamos.

In 2009, the FBI raided Mascheroni's home on suspicion of his being a spy, an allegation he denied in an interview with the Albuquerque Journal: "I would have left this country already if I were a spy...Spies do not take their case in front of Congress, and they don't leave all their files and computers and everything here for the FBI to just come and take." Some fellow scientists defended Mascheroni at the time, saying he was not a spy.

In 2010, Mascheroni was indicted on suspicion of selling classified information. According to the United States, Mascheroni allegedly told a man whom he believed to be from the Venezuelan embassy that he could help Venezuela develop a nuclear bomb within ten years using a secret underground nuclear reactor. The man turned out to be an undercover FBI agent, and Mascheroni was subsequently arrested. Mascheroni allegedly charged the phony Venezuelan agent $793,000 for the 132-page document, which he titled A Deterrence Program for Venezuela. Mascheroni was also reportedly interested in obtaining Venezuelan citizenship. He denied the accusations, claiming that he was merely "driven by science". Venezuelan leader Hugo Chávez, who has denied being interested in developing nuclear weapons, has been critical of the United States' conduct in the Mascheroni case, "suggesting the FBI deliberately created a disinformation campaign."

If convicted, Mascheroni and his wife could face life sentences.

SECURITY WORD SCRAMBLE!

Test your knowledge on personnel security and information security issues.

OPM categorizes issues developed during an investigation under one of fourteen categories. Do you know them all?

Unscramble the following words:

1) ntinaxcslot
2) Dgru eUs
3) liacniFan ytilibisposeR
4) limCrina Ctcudno
5) snHoety
6) netloIV Bheariov
7) eanmrbteD
8) oylaytL dan Scerutiy
9) aitausoilQnicf
10) oiAsaetscs
11) Rateevlsi
12) elnlaMosuecsi
13) pmloEtnyme Msicnodcut
14) eoanpsW

Answers can be found on the following page
Welcome message continued from page 1...

clearance is an intrusive and complex process. We want to keep you informed of policy developments as we learn of them. This may not make compliance with new requirements pleasant or easier, but avoiding a surprise may make compliance less stressful for you.

In closing, we send our deepest condolences to all that have been affected by the tragic disaster in Japan. We pray you’re given the strength, faith and courage to get through this.

Sincerely,

Ronald Nelson
Research Facility
Security Officer

Brandi Marotta
Assistant Research Facility
Security Officer

“The ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands in moments of comfort and convenience, but where he stands at times of challenge and controversy”.

Martin Luther King Jr.

FINAL THOUGHT…

If you would like to see us address a particular topic, process, or guideline in a future newsletter, please submit your request to the Research Security office at Brandi.Marotta@ucop.edu