Subject: RE: QFR

I am nervous about mentioning PIA in context of national security systems. It is true the FBI currently requires PIAs for NS systems as well as non-NS systems. However, the recent statutory PIA requirement (E-Gov Act) and implementing OMB regs expressly exclude NS systems from this requirement. Among other things, creating PIAs for major systems like VCF can entail substantial costs. Accordingly we have had preliminary staff musings that maybe we should now move to limit FBI PIA requirements to non-NS systems, and our plan is to surface this question for a decision by the Director. (But we probably will also him the option of still doing some sort of internal privacy policy scrub on NS systems, though less onerous than PIA and called something else.)

But given possibility that in near future Director might opt to forego PIAs for NS systems, I recommend against raising congressional consciousness levels and expectations re NS PIAs. Plus as suggested by Pat's comments, it's entirely possible that we haven't done a PIA on at least some of the systems where the instant data resides/will reside. (We have done a number of PIAs on IDW, but not on ACS or on numerous case specific databases.)

The following isn't quite correct. "We do not expect that extraneous, irrelevant data will be entered into our databases, but, to the extent such information is added to a database, all databases are subject to review pursuant to a
Privacy Impact Assessment. "We don't subject every database to a privacy impact assessment. Systems, such as ACS, that were extant when we began the PIA process were grandfathered in; hence, only new, significant systems are subject to review under our current regs. If a system has gone through a PIA and been approved, then the addition of new information won't necessarily trigger the need for another review. Certainly, if the additions are significant or alter the nature of the system or its uses, then another PIA is warranted. So, I think you would want to change the statement to something like: "We do not intentionally add extraneous, irrelevant data to our record systems and attempt to include safeguards against doing so in their design and operation. We employ a Privacy Impact Analysis process to review significant new systems or the addition into existing systems of significant new data in an effort to balance our investigative needs with the privacy interests of the citizenry."

-----Original Message-----
From: Caproni, Valerie E. (OGC) (FBI)
Sent: Wednesday, May 11, 2005 6:28 PM
To: KELLEY, PATRICK W. (OGC) (FBI)
A. (OGC) (FBI)
Subject: QFR

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NON-RECORD

I played around a little with the wording of this answer. Is the answer still correct? I would like still like to slide something in about PIA to give him a sense that we really do worry about the privacy interests of uninvolved people whose data we slurp up. Any suggestions would be appreciated.

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