



OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
5000 DEFENSE PENTAGON
WASHINGTON, DC 20301-5000

CLEARED
For Open Publication

Jul 18, 2025

Department of Defense
OFFICE OF PREPUBLICATION AND SECURITY REVIEW

JUL 14 2025

MEMORANDUM FOR SENIOR PENTAGON LEADERSHIP
COMMANDERS OF THE COMBATANT COMMANDS
DEFENSE AGENCY AND DOD FIELD ACTIVITY DIRECTORS

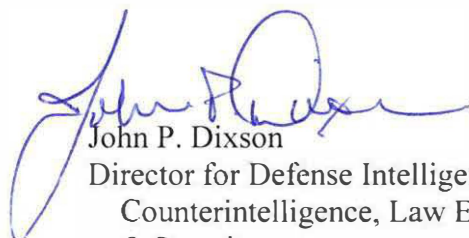
SUBJECT: Reminder of the Prohibition of the Use of the "For Official Use Only" Marking

Executive Order (E.O.) 13556, "Controlled Unclassified Information," established the Controlled Unclassified Information (CUI) program for the Executive Branch to manage information that requires safeguarding or dissemination controls, pursuant to and consistent with applicable law, regulations, and Government-wide policies. The CUI program eliminates the use of ad hoc, agency-specific policies, procedures, and markings, and creates a single, uniform framework for identifying and marking CUI.

DoD Instruction 5200.48, "Controlled Unclassified Information (CUI)" implemented E.O. 13556 for the Department, including eliminating the "For Official Use Only" (FOUO) marking. Documents generated after the issuance of DoDI 5200.48 may not be marked FOUO. Further, when creating new documents using information from older materials containing the FOUO marking, the information must be reviewed against the DoD CUI Registry to determine if the previously FOUO-marked information qualifies as CUI and requires appropriate CUI controls. The FOUO marking will not be carried over to the new document.

The Office of the Director for National Intelligence (ODNI) has not yet implemented CUI for the Intelligence Community (IC), thereby creating two disparate systems for the DoD Components that are elements of the IC. To accommodate this, the Directors of the Defense Intelligence Agency, National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency, National Reconnaissance Office, and National Security Agency have been granted a waiver that permits these DoD Components to continue to use FOUO markings in certain limited circumstances for information provided to ODNI, other elements of the IC, and the congressional intelligence committees. This waiver does not allow these DoD Components to use FOUO in any other context (e.g., with other DoD Components in the Fourth Estate).

Consistent and proper safeguarding of DoD information is a mission enabler, essential for protecting national security and a piece of the critical information security foundation. My point of contact for information security issues is the Chief, Information Security Accountability at (703) 545-9988 or osd.pentagon.rsrmgmt.list.ousd-intel-infosec-mbx@mail.mil.


John P. Dixon
Director for Defense Intelligence
Counterintelligence, Law Enforcement,
& Security