IAC Ch 2, p.1

191—2.5(17A,22) Access to confidential records.

2.5(1) *Procedure.* The following provisions are in addition to those specified in rule 191—2.4(17A,22) and are minimum requirements. A statute or another administrative rule may impose additional requirements for access to certain classes of confidential records. A confidential record may, due to its nature or the way it is compiled or stored, contain a mixture of confidential and nonconfidential information. The division shall not refuse to release the nonconfidential information simply because of the manner in which the record is compiled or stored.

- a. Form of request. The division shall ensure that there is sufficient information to provide reasonable assurance that access to a confidential record may be granted. Therefore, the division may require the requester to:
 - (1) Submit the request in writing.
 - (2) Provide proof of identity and authority to secure access to the record.
- (3) Sign a certified statement or affidavit listing the specific reasons justifying access to the record and provide any proof necessary to establish relevant facts.
- b. Response to request. The division must notify the requester of approval or denial of the request for access. The notice must include:
 - (1) The name and title or position of the person responding on behalf of the division; and
- (2) A brief statement of the grounds for denial, including a citation to the applicable statute or other provision of law.
- c. Request granted. When the division grants a request for access to a confidential record to a particular person, the division must notify that person and indicate any lawful restrictions imposed by the division on that person's inspection and copying of the record.
- d. Reconsideration of denial. A requester whose request is denied by the division may apply to the commissioner of insurance for reconsideration of the request.
- **2.5(2)** Release of confidential records by the division. The division may release a confidential record or a portion of it to:
 - a. The legislative services agency pursuant to Iowa Code section 2A.3.
 - b. The ombudsman pursuant to Iowa Code section 2C.9.
- c. Other governmental officials and employees only as needed to enable them to discharge their duties.
 - d. The public information board pursuant to Iowa Code section 23.6.
 - **2.5(3)** Release of confidential records by the division.
- a. The division may release a confidential record or a portion of it to a person not covered in rule 191—2.6(17A,22) if the release:
 - (1) Is permitted by statute, rule or another provision of law; and
- (2) Is not inconsistent with the stated or implied purpose of the law which establishes or authorizes confidentiality.
- b. Before the division releases a record to a person not covered in rule 191—2.6(17A,22), the division may notify the subject of the record of the impending release and may give the subject a reasonable amount of time to seek an injunction.

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