

The Federal Register and PKI

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What is the Federal Register System?



- The Federal Register system is an official legal information service of the United States government.
- This system operates under the general authority of the Administrative Committee of the Federal Register (ACFR)
 - Specific statutory and regulatory authority of the Office of the Federal Register (OFR).
- The OFR is a component of the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA).
- NARA is joined in this mission under statutory partnership with the U.S. Government Publishing Office (GPO)
 - The Federal Register Act (44 U.S.C. Ch. 15)
 - The GPO Access legislation (44 U.S.C. 4101)
 - and related public information laws of the United States.

What is the *Federal Register*?



- The *Federal Register* is a daily gazette containing the regulatory activities of the Executive Branch of government
- Available online and in print, it contains:
 - Federal Agency Regulations
 - Proposed Rules
 - Public Notices
 - Executive Orders
 - Proclamations
 - other Presidential Documents
- From the *Federal Register*, other publications are derived such as the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), FR Index, CFR Index and finding aids.





Document Submission



- Agencies must submit their documents to the OFR for publishing
 - Signed Original
 - Two Certified Copies
 - Electronic copy on disk
 - Disk Certification letter
 - Signed Special Handling letter (as appropriate)
 - **OR**, submit a PKI-signed document on our Web Portal



OFR's use of PKI Signatures



- Federal Register documents require an official signature
- The OFR requires a PKI digital signature using a Medium Assurance level PKI certificate issued from a PKI cross-certified to the FPKI
 - Requires the open, international standard PKCS#7 (IETF RFC 2315) digital signature format
- PKI signatures allow the OFR to ensure that published content cannot be challenged on the basis of authenticity



Benefits to Agencies



- Increase efficiency and timeliness
- Saves money (courier, postage, ink, paper, printer maintenance)
- Better for the environment
- Eliminates need for disks, paper, disk certification letters



Agency “Pathway” to PKI



- Requires a PKI Certificate:
 - PIV card
 - Certificate purchased from our GPO partner
 - See GPO Circular Letter Nos. 634, 744, 792
 - Other 3rd party solution (that supports PKCS#7)
- Signing Software to apply certificate to documents
 - GSA provides a PKCS#7 Document Signing Tool, developed by the ICAM Lab available on www.idmanagement.gov



Submitting Documents

- Agency Liaisons submit signed documents on our Web Portal:

The screenshot shows the 'Document Submission Portal' interface. At the top left is the Federal Register logo with the text 'FEDERAL REGISTER' and 'The Daily Journal of the United States Government'. To the right, it says 'Document Submission Portal'. Below this is a navigation bar with links: 'Submit Documents', 'Search Documents', 'My Profile', 'Policy', 'Learn', 'Related Sites', and 'Log Out'. On the right side of the page, the user's name 'Woo, Aaron' and title 'Federal Register Office' are displayed. The main form area includes a checkbox for 'Requires Special Handling:' and a text input field for 'Signed Document:' with a 'Choose File...' button. At the bottom of the form are three buttons: 'ADD', 'RESET', and 'SUBMIT'.

- Signature information is captured in our document management system

The screenshot shows a 'Messages and Comments' section. It features a 'View' button, a 'PDF' download icon, and a 'Refresh' button. Below these are checkboxes for 'System Messages', 'Comments', 'Emails', and 'Notifications'. A message preview is shown at the bottom: 'Received on: 03/02/2015 11:01:20; From: perryn@sec.gov; Signed By: Jill Peterson'. A speech bubble and envelope icon are visible in the top right corner of the section.



Document Submissions

2010-2013 (will try to get updates)



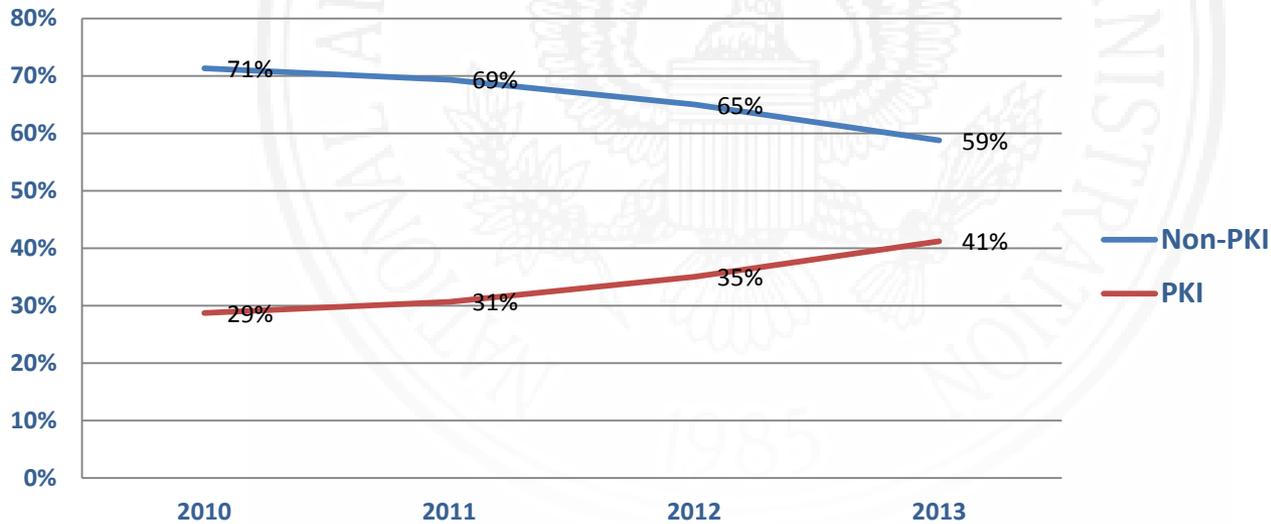
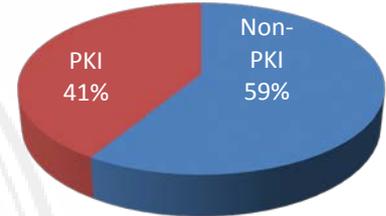
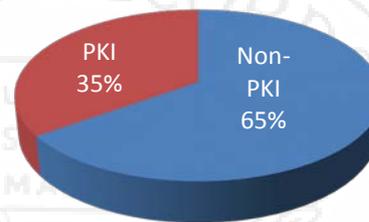
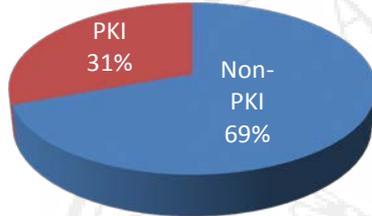
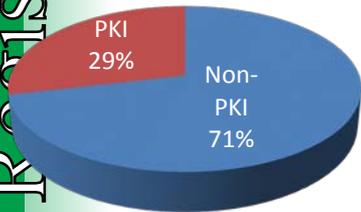
Office of the Federal Register

2010

2011

2012

2013





Questions?



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