

CSIS. In citizenship and immigration cases, the Director must also forward reports to the Solicitor General. The Committee has been advised that approximately 15 recommendations for denial of a security clearance have been made since the Government Security Policy was introduced in 1986.

4.1.2 *Protection and Classification of Government Assets*

The Government Security Policy establishes a system for protecting and classifying government documents, information and other assets. The essential features of the classification scheme are as follows:

- 1) assign accountability to Deputy Heads for the safeguarding of information and other assets under their control;
- 2) classify information when its unauthorized disclosure or other compromise could reasonably be expected to result in injury to the national interest, with reference to specific provisions of the *Access to Information Act* and the *Privacy Act*;
- 3) limit access to classified information and assets to those whose duties require such access and who have a security clearance at the appropriate level;
- 4) designate information when its unauthorized disclosure or other compromise could reasonably be expected to cause injury to interests other than the national interest, with reference to specific provisions of the *Access to Information Act* and the *Privacy Act*;
- 5) limit access to designated information and assets to those whose duties require such access and who have enhanced reliability status;
- 6) ensure that all persons subject to personnel screening are treated in a fair and unbiased manner; and
- 7) safeguard classified or designated information and assets in accordance with security standards and threat and risk assessments.¹

Material considered sensitive for reasons of national security are classified at one of three levels. Persons requiring access to particular levels of classified documents must have the appropriate level of security clearance.