



NATIONAL ARCHIVES and RECORDS ADMINISTRATION
8601 ADELPHI ROAD - OGIS | COLLEGE PARK, MD 20740-6001
www.archives.gov/ogis | ogis@nara.gov | o: 202.741.5770 | f: 202.741.5769 | t: 877.684.6448

November 11, 2020 — sent via U.S. mail

Mr. Ivan Ray Begay
Register No. 48898-008
Big Spring FCI
1900 Simler Ave.
Big Spring, TX 79720

Dear Mr. Begay:

Thank you for contacting the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS), the Federal Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Ombudsman office. Individuals who have filed a FOIA request with any Federal agency may request OGIS's assistance in resolving a dispute at any point in the FOIA process. OGIS does not take sides in a dispute, nor does it advocate on behalf of a requester or agency. The office promotes a fair FOIA process and works with parties to reach a mutually agreeable resolution. OGIS staff also provide ombuds services, which includes providing general information about the FOIA process and handling general complaints and observations regarding FOIA.

We have reviewed your submission and it is unclear what FOIA assistance you seek. To the extent that you are inquiring about OGIS's services, we have enclosed a flyer about our office. If you need help with a previously submitted FOIA request, we ask that you send us a description of your dispute (e.g., inadequate search, disputing exemptions, challenging fees) and the assistance you seek, along with:

- a copy of your FOIA request;
- the agency's response to your request;
- your administrative appeal (if you filed one); and
- the agency's response to your appeal (if you received one).

You may send these documents to OGIS by email, fax, or mail. Our contact information is below in the signature block. We will take no further action until we receive the additional items outlined above.

Sincerely,

The OGIS Staff

OFFICE OF GOVERNMENT INFORMATION SERVICES
National Archives and Records Administration
8601 Adelphi Road (OGIS)
College Park, MD 20740-6001

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OFFICE OF GOVERNMENT INFORMATION SERVICES



WHAT DOES OGIS DO?

OGIS helps to resolve disputes between Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requesters and Federal agencies as a free, non-exclusive alternative to litigation.

ARE THERE LIMITS TO WHAT OGIS CAN DO? YES. OGIS CANNOT:

- Address requests that are already in litigation
- Compel agencies to release documents
- Review or process pending FOIA requests or appeals
- Provide legal assistance
- Provide assistance outside the realm of FOIA, including state or local FOI matters, or underlying disputes with agencies (e.g., administrative proceedings)

HOW CAN I REQUEST OGIS ASSISTANCE?

1. GATHER THE REQUIRED DOCUMENTS AND INFORMATION

- Your name and mailing address
- A clear description of the issue or the assistance you seek from OGIS (e.g., a delay in receiving a response to your FOIA request or a denial of specific information)
- The name of the agency or agencies to which you submitted your request(s) and contact information at each agency
- The tracking/request/case number(s) assigned to your FOIA request(s) and/or appeal(s)
- Copies of all relevant correspondence between you and the Federal agency. Depending on where you are in the FOIA process, this material might include your FOIA request, the agency's response to your request (including a response to a request for expedited processing or a fee waiver), your administrative appeal, and the agency's response to your appeal.

2. SEND US YOUR DOCUMENTS AND INFORMATION BY MAIL, EMAIL OR FAX

Mailing Address: National Archives and Records Administration, 8601 Adelphi Road (OGIS),
College Park, MD 20740-6001

Telephone: 202-741-5770 • Toll Free: 1-877-684-6448 • Fax: 202-741-5761 • E-mail: ogis@nara.gov

Web: [archives.gov/ogis](https://www.archives.gov/ogis) • The FOIA Ombudsman Blog: foia.blogs.archives.gov • Twitter: [@FOIA](https://twitter.com/FOIA)

3. BE PATIENT AND NEXT STEPS

An OGIS facilitator will review your request for assistance and any materials you have submitted and contact you directly. Due to an increase in demand for our services, there may be a delay in our response. We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause, but we assure you that your request will be addressed as soon as possible.

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January 27, 2021—Sent via U. S. mail

Ivan Ray Begay
Register No. 48898-008
FCI Big Spring
1900 Simler Ave
Big Spring, TX 79720

Re: Case No. 21-1038

Dear Mr. Begay:

This responds to your December 28, 2020 request for assistance from the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS). Your request was received in this office January 13, 2021. Please note that due to the COVID-19 outbreak, postal services are suspended to and from our office. As such, receiving and responding by postal mail is delayed. We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause.

OGIS is the Federal Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Ombudsman. We assist the public and Federal agencies by helping them resolve their FOIA disputes, and by addressing their questions and concerns about the FOIA process. OGIS has no investigatory or enforcement power, nor can we compel an agency to release documents. Instead, OGIS provides information to FOIA requesters and Federal agencies to increase understanding and resolve disputes.

In your submission to OGIS, you explain that you filed a FOIA civil complaint, *Ivan Ray Begay v. Executive Office for U. S. Attorneys, Civil Action No. 2:18-cv-2500*. OGIS is a non-exclusive alternative to federal district court litigation. Once litigation has commenced, OGIS can no longer assist with a dispute. As this matter has been litigated in the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia, OGIS will take no action on your submission, 5 U.S.C. § 552(h)(3).

Although this may not be the outcome you anticipated, we hope you find this information useful. Thank you for bringing this matter to OGIS; at this time we consider this matter closed.

Sincerely,
The OGIS Staff

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