

EXHIBIT 7

HHS May 17 Administrative Appeal Acknowledgment Ltr.



Tracking No. 2021-00177-A-PHS

May 17, 2021

Nathaniel Serslev
Americans for Public Trust
107 South West Street
Suite 442
Alexandria, VA 22314
Via email: info@americansforpublictrust.org

Dear Mr. Serslev:

This letter acknowledges our receipt of your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) appeal, which was submitted to the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), FOI/Privacy Acts Division. We received your appeal on May 14, 2021. It challenges the CDC's response to your initial request, #21-00613-FOIA. We assigned your appeal the tracking number at the top of this page, based on when it was received in our office. Please refer to this number on any future correspondence.

Pursuant to 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(6)(B)(i) and 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(6)(B)(iii) of the FOIA and 45 C.F.R. § 5.24(f) of the HHS FOIA regulations, your appeal falls under "unusual circumstances" in that our office will need to consult with another office or agency that has substantial interest in the determination of the appeal. The actual processing time will depend on the complexity of the issues presented in the appeal and consultation with other U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) components involved. For more information about how your appeal will be processed, please refer to the HHS FOIA regulations. They are available at the following web addresses:

- <https://www.justice.gov/oip/freedom-information-act-5-usc-552> and
- <https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2016/10/28/2016-25684/freedom-of-information-regulations>.

If you have any questions, please call (202) 260-6933, or email us at foiarequest@psc.hhs.gov.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brandon J. Gaylord".

Brandon J. Gaylord
Director, FOI/Privacy Acts Division