



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
HEADQUARTERS
NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE
27130 TELEGRAPH ROAD
QUANTICO VA 22134-2253

5720 2021-006964
SER00LJF/21U1508
August 27, 2021

Ms. Emily Crose
MuckRock News Dept. MR 112822
411A Highland Ave.
Somerville, MA 02144

Dear Ms. Crose,

This responds to your May 24, 2021, Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request seeking “documentation related to the 2000 theft of ‘OS/COMET’ software from the Naval Research Laboratory in Washington, D.C.” The Naval Research Laboratory referred your request to this office for processing and we received it on July 1, 2021. Reference is made to correspondence sent through FOIAOnline on August 4, 2021, advising that we were still conducting a search for records.

We conducted a search of the Consolidated Law Enforcement Operations Center (CLEOC) database. CLEOC identifies investigative files under the purview of this service. A search of CLEOC using the information provided has not identified any records responsive to your request.

We also conducted a search of the NCIS Knowledge Network (K-Net) database. K-Net identifies investigative reports created and transmitted by NCIS. A search of K-Net using the information provided has not identified any records responsive to your request.

Additionally, we conducted a search of our electronic database, Records Imaging Management System (RIMS). This database maintains all closed NCIS criminal investigations. A search of RIMS using the information provided has not identified any records responsive to your request.

In a further effort to locate responsive records, our office contacted the NCIS field office that conducted the investigation. Personnel at that office confirmed an investigation into the incident was conducted, however, they were not able to locate the records.

You may appeal the adequacy of our search within 90 days from the date of this letter. If you have created an account in FOIAonline (<https://foiaonline.gov>), you may submit an appeal directly within the web-based system. To do this, you would log into your account, retrieve your original request, and then click on the "Create New" tab in the left-hand column and select “Appeal.” Fill in the basis for your appeal and select “Submit.”

Alternatively, you may appeal by writing to the Judge Advocate General of the Navy (Code 14), 1322 Patterson Avenue SE, Suite 3000, Washington Navy Yard, DC 20374-5066. Your letter should state the reasons for your appeal, and include a copy of this letter along with a copy of your original request and must be postmarked (vice received) in the above office within the

90-day appeal limit. The letter of appeal and the envelope must both bear the notation: "FOIA Appeal."

If you choose not to appeal, you have the right to seek dispute resolution services. You may contact the Department of the Navy's FOIA public liaison, Mr. Chris Julka, at christopher.a.julka@navy.mil or (703) 697-0031 or the Office of Government Information Services (<https://ogis.archives.gov/>).

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact us at ncis_foia@ncis.navy.mil or (571) 305-9092.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "K. Richman". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

K. RICHMAN
Senior Associate Counsel
Head, Government Information Sharing Unit