

EXHIBIT E



March 26, 2021

COVID-19 IMT Weekly Reports

Dear Sir or Madam:

Under the federal Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. § 552 (the “FOIA”), I request as a reporter for National Public Radio, Inc. (NPR) that the Department of Health and Human Services make available to me for inspection and copying the following documents (which include electronic records) from November 1, 2020 until December 31, 2020:

COVID-19 Incident Management Team (IMT) Weekly Reports. I believe that these reports are generated by the Biomedical Advanced Research and Development Authority (BARDA) and shared among its leadership.

As you know, the FOIA provides that if portions of a document are exempt from release, the remainder must be segregated and disclosed. I understand that the agency may redact properly classified information, but the agency must leave reasonably segregable unclassified information unredacted (such as authors, recipients, dates, and subject matter headings). Therefore, please send me all non-exempt portions of the records I have requested and justify any deletions by reference to specific exemptions of the FOIA. I reserve the right to appeal your decision to withhold any materials.

Since some of the documents listed above may be more readily available than others, please provide the documents that are available as soon as possible without waiting to provide access to all the documents.

I ask that this request be granted expedited processing because I am a full-time member of the news media and this is a matter of urgent public concern. *See* 45 C.F.R. § 5.27(b)(2). More than 542,000 people have already died from COVID-19, and the federal government has spent billions of taxpayer dollars toward diagnostics, therapeutics and vaccines. With millions of lives at risk, it is vital for the public to understand HHS’s efforts to develop diagnostics, therapies and vaccines. I certify that these statements are true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

The FOIA provides for waiver or reduction of fees if disclosure could be considered as “primarily benefiting the general public.” I am a journalist employed by NPR and intend to use the information I am requesting as a basis for a planned news story, which makes me a “representative of the news media.” Therefore, I ask that you waive all duplication fees. If you deny this request, however, and the fees will exceed \$250, please notify me of the charges before you fulfill my request so that I may decide whether to pay the fees or appeal your denial of my request for a waiver.

I submit this request in my capacity as a journalist, and this information is time-sensitive. Accordingly, I would appreciate your communicating with me by telephone or email at 215-932-7287 or Slupkin@npr.org, rather than by mail, if you have any questions regarding this request. You can also communicate with Micah Ratner or Jeffrey Guo in NPR’s Legal Department at MRatner@npr.org or JGuo@npr.org.


I look forward to receiving your reply within ten (10) calendar days, as required by federal law.

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Thank you for your anticipated cooperation with this FOIA request.

Sincerely,
Sydney Lupkin

 **Sydney Lupkin** | Pharmaceuticals Correspondent | slupkin@npr.org | 215.932.7287 | [@slupkin](https://twitter.com/slupkin)