



Freedom of Information Act Request: Files on US Department of State and US Embassy Oslo communication regarding Båtservice Mandal and Båtservice Iran (U.S. Department of State)

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Tarjei Leer-Salvesen filed this request with the [U.S. Department of State](#) of the [United States of America](#).

Tracking #	F-2019-06319
Multi Request	Freedom of Information Act Request: Files on US Department of State and US Embassy Oslo communication regarding Båtservice Mandal and Båtservice Iran

Submitted	May 9, 2019
Due	June 7, 2019
Est. Completion	March 6, 2022

STATUS

Awaiting Response

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6 Communications

2 Files

Exhibit 1

Filter communications

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From: Tarjei Leer-Salvesen

05/13/2019

Subject: Freedom of Information Act Request: Freedom of Information Act Request: Files on US Department of State a... [Mail](#)

To Whom It May Concern:

Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, I hereby request the following records:

A copy of all emails, memorandums and reports concerning assistance the State Departement and US Embassy Oslo communication regarding Båtservice Mandal (Batservice Mandal) and Båtservice Iran (Batservice Iran) from 2010 up until April 2019.

State Department was concerned that the Norwegian export of civilian vessels to Iran could have a dual purpose and might be used for military purposes by the Iranian regime. The communication and memos in question will be related to this issue.

I request that I be properly classified as a news media requester. I am a journalist writing for the regional daily newspaper in Kristiansand Norway, called Fædrelandsvennen, and I am requesting this information in that editorial capacity.

Sincerely,

Yours sincerely,

Tarjei Leer-Salvesen
 Journalist, Fædrelandsvennen
www.fvn.no
 Telephone +47 92429935
 Email: tarjei.leer-salvesen@fvn.no

The requested documents will be made available to the general public, and this request is not being made for commercial purposes.

In the event that there are fees, I would be grateful if you would inform me of the total charges in advance of fulfilling my request. I would prefer the request filled electronically, by e-mail attachment if available or CD-ROM if not.

Thank you in advance for your anticipated cooperation in this matter. I look forward to receiving your response to this request within 20 business days, as the statute requires.

Sincerely,

Tarjei Leer-Salvesen

From: Muckrock Staff

06/07/2019

Subject: RE: Freedom of Information Act Request: Freedom of Information Act Request: Files on US Department of Sta... [Mail](#)

To Whom It May Concern:

I wanted to follow up on the following Freedom of Information Act request, copied below, and originally submitted on May 9, 2019. Please let me know when I can expect to receive a response.

Thanks for your help, and let me know if further clarification is needed.

From: Muckrock Staff

07/08/2019

Subject: RE: Freedom of Information Act Request: Freedom of Information Act Request: Files on US Department of Sta... [Mail](#)

To Whom It May Concern:

I wanted to follow up on the following Freedom of Information Act request, copied below, and originally submitted on May 9, 2019. Please let me know when I can expect to receive a response.

Thanks for your help, and let me know if further clarification is needed.

From: U.S. Department of State

07/31/2019

Subject: None [Mail](#)

An acknowledgement letter, stating the request is being processed.



Acknowledgement Letter

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From: U.S. Department of State

07/31/2019

Subject: FOIA case control number F-2019-06319 [Email](#)

Dear Mr. Leer-Salvesen,

This is in reference to your letter regarding the status of a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request you recently submitted. Please note that FOIA case control number F-2019-06319 has been assigned to your case. We have attached a copy of the formal acknowledgement letter from the Office of Information Programs and Services Requester Communications Branch that was mailed to you on July 26, 2019. Please refer to FOIA case control number F-2019-06319 when enquiring about the status of your request.

We hope this information is helpful. If you have any questions, please contact the FOIA Requester Service Center (FRSC) at (202) 261-8484, or fax us at (202) 261-8579 or send an e-mail to foiastatus@state.gov.

Sincerely,

U.S. Department of State

FOIA Requester Service Center

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F-2019-06319

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From: U.S. Department of State

10/03/2019

Subject: Request for EDC - FOIA Case No. F-2019-06319 [Email](#)

Dear Tarjei Leer - Salvesen,

You previously contacted the Department of State's FOIA Requester Service Center and requested an estimated date of completion (EDC) for your request, Case Control Number F-2019-06319.

It has been determined that the EDC for this request is 03/26/2022. EDCs are estimates and are subject to change. Please be advised that the Department takes its FOIA responsibilities seriously and is processing your request as quickly as possible. If your request can be completed prior to the EDC, a response will be sent to you sooner.

If you have any concerns or questions regarding a FOIA-related matter, please contact the FOIA Requester Service Center (FRSC) at 202-261-8484 or send an e-mail to foiastatus@state.gov<mailto:foiastatus@state.gov>.

You may also contact the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) at the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) to inquire about the FOIA mediation services they offer. The contact information for OGIS is as follows: Office of Government Information Services, National Archives and Records Administration, 8601 Adelphi Road-OGIS, College Park, Maryland 20740-6001, email address: ogis@nara.gov<mailto:ogis@nara.gov>; telephone: (202) 741-5770; toll free number: 1-877-684-6448; facsimile: (202) 741-5769.

We appreciate your continued patience.

Sincerely,

U.S. Department of State
FOIA Requester Service Center

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United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520

MAY 26 2019

F-2019-06319

MuckRock News
DEPT MR 72922
411A Highland Ave.
Somerville, MA 02144

Dear Mr. Leer-Salvesen:

This letter is to acknowledge receipt of your request dated May 13, 2019, pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), 5 U.S.C. § 552 to the Department of State, in which you requested "A copy of all emails, memorandums and reports concerning assistance the State Department and US Embassy Oslo communication regarding Batservice Mandal...and Batservice Iran...from 2010 up until April 2019."

The Office of Information Programs and Services (IPS) received your FOIA request on May 21, 2019. Your FOIA request was assigned the tracking number at the top of this letter. Please include the tracking number in all future communications concerning this FOIA request. We have classified you as a representative of the news media.

The records you seek require the need to search in offices that are separate from the office processing your request. Accordingly, your request falls within "unusual circumstances" as defined in the FOIA. See 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(6)(B)(i)-(iii). Because of these unusual circumstances, we need to extend the time limit to respond to your request beyond the ten additional days provided by the statute.

The time needed to complete our work on your request will necessarily depend on a variety of factors including the number of locations that must be searched, the complexity of the search, the volume and complexity of any material located, and consultations with other U.S. Government agencies whose information is included in the material located. The time needed will also depend on the number of other requests ahead of it in the relevant processing track.

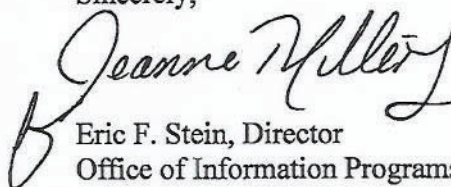
This Office assigns incoming requests to one of three tracks: simple, complex, or expedited. Each request is then handled on a first-in, first-out basis in relation to other requests in the same track. Your request has been assigned to the complex track and will be handled as quickly as possible.

In an effort to speed the processing of your request, you may wish to narrow the scope of your request. Among the ways you can do so is by narrowing the date range of requested records, reducing the number of topics requested, excluding certain types of records (such as e-mails and/or paper records) from the request, identifying the particular office/bureau from which you are seeking records, and limiting the number of potentially responsive records you seek. You can also agree to an alternative time frame for processing, should records be located, or you may wish to await the completion of our records search to discuss either of these options.

I regret the necessity of this delay, but I assure you that your request will be processed as soon as possible. If you wish to discuss narrowing of your request or an alternative time frame for the processing of your request, or if you have any questions regarding the status of your request, you may contact our FOIA Requester Service Center or our FOIA Public Liaison via email at FOIAstatus@state.gov or telephone at (202) 261-8484.

Lastly, you may contact the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) at the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) to inquire about the FOIA mediation services they offer. The contact information for OGIS is as follows: Office of Government Information Services, National Archives and Records Administration, 8601 Adelphi Road-OGIS, College Park, Maryland 20740-6001, email address: ogis@nara.gov; telephone: (202) 741-5770; toll free number: 1-877-684-6448; facsimile: (202) 741-5769.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Eric F. Stein". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the typed name and title.

Eric F. Stein, Director
Office of Information Programs and Services

Tarjei Leer-Salvesen

Fra: Tarjei Leer-Salvesen
Sendt: torsdag 10. februar 2022 15:44
Til: foiastatus@state.gov
Emne: Subject: Request for EDC - FOIA Case No. F-2019-06319

Dear Sir/Ms,

I wrote to Department of State on the 13th of May, 2019, with a FOIA request regarding files on US Department of State and US Embassy Oslo communication regarding Båtservice Mandal and Båtservice Iran. My request was given ref. EDC - FOIA Case No. F-2019-06319.

As I am from Norway, my experience with the US FOIA system is limited. But was a significant amount of time has passed, I wanted to reach out and require about the current status of my request.
When can I expect an answer? And is there any more information you need from my side?

Kind regards,

Tarjei Leer-Salvesen
Journalist, Fædrelandsvennen, Norway
Email: tarjei.leer-salvesen@fvn.no
Tel: +47 92429935