

Exhibit 12



Homeland
Security

June 17, 2022

SENT VIA E-MAIL TO: aturner@advancing-america.org

Re: Freedom of Information Act Request 2022-IAFO-00156

Adam Turner
CASA
1802 Vernon Street, NW
Suite 2095
Washington, DC 20009

Dear Requestor Turner,

This is the acknowledgement of your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request dated February 11, 2022, to the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Privacy Office (PRIV) transferred to the Office for Civil Rights and Civil Liberties (CRCL) on March 4, 2022. Your request was subsequently transferred to the DHS Office of Intelligence and Analysis (I&A) on June 14, 2022. You requested:

“1) Records related to MDM: All records created in the development, approval, and application of the term MDM (mis- dis- and mal-information). We are looking for records sent to, by Katherine Culliton-Gonzalez.

2) Records related to the phrase “false or misleading narratives”: All records created in the development, approval, application, and use of the phrase “false or misleading narratives and conspiracy theories” as it relates to foreign and domestic threats.

3) External Communications: All records exchanged between the above list of DHS officials and those in the Executive Office of the President, Office of the Vice President, Office of Management and Budget, Federal Communications Commission, or Department of Justice that include the following phrases or any combination of them: a. Mis-information b. Dis-information c. Mal-information d. False narrative e. Misleading narrative f. Conspiracy theories g. Fake news h. Perceived ideological opponents

4) Communications with non-governmental entities: All records exchanged between the above list of DHS officials and individuals working for or representing Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, Apple, Amazon, or Google that include the following phrases or any combination of them:

- a. Mis-information
- b. Dis-information
- c. Mal-information
- d. False narrative
- e. Misleading narrative
- f. Conspiracy theories
- g. Fake news
- h. Perceived ideological opponents”

Due to the increasing number of FOIA requests received by this office, we may encounter some delay in processing your request. Consistent with 6 C.F.R. Part 5 § 5.5(a) of the DHS FOIA regulations, the Department processes FOIA requests according to their order of receipt. Although DHS’ goal is to respond within 20 business days of receipt of your request, FOIA does permit a 10-day extension of this time period in certain circumstances under 6 C.F.R. Part 5 § 5.5(c). As your request seeks documents that will require a thorough and wide-ranging search, DHS will invoke a 10-day extension for your request pursuant to 6 C.F.R. Part 5 § 5.5(c). If you would like to narrow the scope of your request, please contact our office. We will make every effort to comply with your request in a timely manner. If you would like to narrow the scope of your request, please contact our office. We will make every effort to comply with your request in a timely manner.

We are presently processing your request. If any responsive records are located, they will be reviewed for determination of whether any can be released. Please be assured that one of the analysts in our office will respond to your request as expeditiously as possible. We appreciate your patience as we proceed with your request.

Your request has been assigned reference number **2022-IAFO-00156**. Please refer to this identifier in any future correspondence. The status of your FOIA request is now available online and can be accessed at: <https://www.dhs.gov/foia-status>, by using this FOIA request number. Status information is updated daily. Alternatively, you can download the DHS eFOIA Mobile App, the free app is available for all Apple and Android devices. With the DHS eFOIA Mobile App, you can submit FOIA requests or check the status of requests, access all of the content on the FOIA website, and receive updates anywhere, anytime.

If you have any questions, or would like to discuss this matter, please feel free to contact this office at I&AFOIA@HQ.DHS.GOV.

Sincerely,
Meekia W.
Meekia W.
Assistant FOIA Officer