

# **Exhibit 13**



**Homeland  
Security**

*Privacy Office, Mail Stop 0655*

February 28, 2022

**SENT VIA E-MAIL TO: [aturner@advancing-america.org](mailto:aturner@advancing-america.org)**

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

**Re: 2022-HQFO-00594**

Dear Adam Turner:

This letter acknowledges receipt of your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request to the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), dated February 11, 2022, and to your request for a waiver of all assessable FOIA fees. Our office received your request on February 11, 2022. Specifically, you requested This letter constitutes a request under the federal Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), 5 U.S.C. § 552. A recent DHS Security Bulletin was issued on February 7, 2022 that raised several concerns among lawmakers and outside organizations that federal law enforcement powers were being exercised to target lawful political or other speech of Americans expressing views contrary to those currently controlling the levers of government. This requests records related to or referenced in that communication.

Specifically, we are seeking:

- 1) Internal Records Related to HSGP: Application materials and subsequent communications with agency officials for any non-profit organization that applied for and was approved to receive a federal grant from the Homeland Security Grant Program (HSGP) since January 21, 2021. We are looking for records sent to, by, or including the following individuals:
  - a. Alejandro Mayorkas
  - b. John Tien
  - c. Eric Hysen
  - d. Alice Lugo
  - e. Marsha Espinosa
  - f. Katherine Culliton-Gonzalez
  - g. Dmitri Kusnezov
  - h. Robert Silvers
  - i. John D. Cohen
  - j. Eva A. Millona

k. Jen Easterly

2) HSGP Partnerships: Any records that contain a list of non-profit organizations, social media and technology companies, cultural organizations, or other community organizations that have applied or received federal funds in any form since January 21, 2021 as part of the HSGP. For this item, we request a search of officials both from the list above as well as relevant officials working within the HSGP Office.

Please note: due to the subject matter of item two (2) of your request, I am transferring this item to the FOIA Officer for the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), for processing under the FOIA and direct response to you. You may contact FEMA's office directly at:

FOIA Officer  
500 C Street, S.W., Room 840  
Washington, D.C. 20472  
Phone: 202-646-3323 | Fax: 202-646-3347  
E-mail: [fema-foia@fema.dhs.gov](mailto:fema-foia@fema.dhs.gov)

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.

You have requested a fee waiver. The DHS FOIA regulations at 6 C.F.R. Part 5 § 5.11(k) set forth six factors DHS must evaluate to determine whether the applicable legal standard for a fee waiver has been met: (1) Whether the subject of the requested records concerns "the operations or activities of the government," (2) Whether the disclosure is "likely to contribute" to an understanding of government operations or activities, (3) Whether disclosure of the requested information will contribute to the understanding of the public at large, as opposed to the individual understanding of the requester or a narrow segment of interested persons, (4) Whether the contribution to public understanding of government operations or activities will be "significant," (5) Whether the requester has a commercial interest that would be furthered by the requested disclosure, and (6) Whether the magnitude of any identified commercial interest to the requester is sufficiently large in comparison with the public interest in disclosure, that disclosure is primarily in the commercial interest of the requester.

Upon review of the subject matter of your request, and an evaluation of the six factors identified above, DHS has determined that it will conditionally grant your request for a fee waiver. The fee waiver determination will be based upon a sampling of the responsive documents received from the various DHS program offices as a result of the searches conducted in response to your FOIA request. DHS will, pursuant to DHS FOIA regulations applicable to non-commercial requesters, provide two hours of search time and process the first 100 pages at no charge to you. If upon

review of these documents, DHS determines that the disclosure of the information contained in those documents does not meet the factors permitting DHS to waive the fees, then DHS will at that time either deny your request for a fee waiver entirely, or will allow for a percentage reduction in the amount of the fees corresponding to the amount of relevant material found that meets the factors allowing for a fee waiver. In either case, DHS will promptly notify you of its final decision regarding your request for a fee waiver and provide you with the responsive records as required by applicable law.

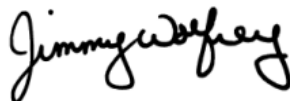
In the event that your fee waiver is denied, and you determine that you still want the records, provisions of the FOIA allow us to recover part of the cost of complying with your request. We shall charge you for records in accordance with the DHS FOIA regulations as they apply to non-commercial requesters. As a non-commercial requester you will be charged for any search time and duplication beyond the free two hours and 100 pages mentioned in the previous paragraph. You will be charged 10 cents per page for duplication and search time at the per quarter-hour rate (\$4.00 for clerical personnel, \$7.00 for professional personnel, \$10.25 for managerial personnel) of the searcher. In the event that your fee waiver is denied, we will construe the submission of your request as an agreement to pay up to \$25.00. This office will contact you before accruing any additional fees.

We have queried the appropriate component(s) of DHS for responsive records. If any responsive records are located, they will be reviewed for determination of releasability. 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-HQFO-00594**. 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://foiarequest.dhs.gov/app/CheckStatus.aspx>, by using this FOIA request number.

If you have any questions, or would like to discuss this matter, please feel free to contact this office at 1-866-431-0486 or 202-343-1743 or at [foia@hq.dhs.gov](mailto:foia@hq.dhs.gov).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jimmy Wolfrey". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Jimmy Wolfrey  
Senior Director, FOIA Operations and Management  
(Acting)