## Exhibit P

From: Meus, Lauren M CIV USCG (USA) < <a href="mailto:Lauren.M.Meus@uscg.mil">Lauren.M.Meus@uscg.mil</a>>

Date: Wednesday, April 27, 2022 at 10:22 AM

To: Melissa Chua <<u>mchua@nylag.org</u>> Subject: 2021-HQAP-00227 (FOIA)

Ms. Chua:

Please find attached the FOIA Appeal Decision issued by the Houston/Galveston office for the above matter.

Thank you,

Lauren M. Meus Hearing Docket Clerk U.S. Coast Guard



Office of the Administrative Law Judge United States Coast Guard

U.S. Courthouse 601 25th Street, Suite 508A Galveston, Texas 77550 Staff Symbol: ALJ-Hou Phone: 409-765-1300 Email: Tommy.B.Cantrell@uscg.mil

**5720** 27 April 2022

Melissa Chua NYLAG 7 Hanover Square 18<sup>th</sup> Floor New York, NY 10004

RE: DHS FOIA Appeal Number 2021-HQAP-00227

Dear Ms. Chua:

This letter concerns your appeal of the Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) Privacy Office's (PRIV) adverse response to your FOIA request 2021-HQFO-00013. In your initial request, you sought materials which you describe in 9 paragraphs, excluding subparts. On or about February 11, 2021, PRIV advised you the Office of Intelligence and Analysis (I&A) was in the process of searching for responsive records. PRIV also advised that it located some potentially responsive records which fall under its purview, and that the documents were queued for processing.

Pursuant to a memorandum of agreement, the United States Coast Guard Office of the Chief Administrative Law Judge is reviewing FOIA appeals for the Department of Homeland Security General Counsel's office. Therefore, the Office of the Chief Administrative Law Judge hereby renders the official appeal decision on behalf of the Department of Homeland Security.

After reviewing the file, and after you confirmed you had not received any documents as of March 25, 2022, it appears PRIV has not provided you with an updated response. Accordingly, I am **REMANDING** this to PRIV to provide you with an updated letter advising you of the status of your request within 30 days of this letter.

Notwithstanding the above decision, as part of the 2007 FOIA amendments, the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) was created to offer mediation services to resolve disputes between FOIA requesters and Federal agencies as a non-exclusive alternative to litigation. Using OGIS services does not affect your right to pursue litigation. If you are requesting access to your own records (which is considered a Privacy Act request), you should know that OGIS does not have the authority to handle requests made under the Privacy Act of 1974. If you wish to contact OGIS, you may email them at ogis@nara.gov or call 1-877-684-6448.

Once I receive a response from PRIV, I will issue another letter disposing of your appeal. If after 30 days I do not receive a response, I or another attorney, will provide you with a letter supplying final agency action so that you may appeal this matter to district court, if you so choose.

Sincerely,

Tommy Cantrell Attorney Advisor

United States Coast Guard

U.S. Department of Homeland Security

Sent: Via email at the address indicated above.