



Jeremy Singer-Vine <jsvine@gmail.com>

2022-FEFO-00865 FEMA FOIA 2022-FEFO-00865 Acknowledgement

fema-foia@fema.dhs.gov <fema-foia@fema.dhs.gov>

Tue, Sep 27, 2022 at 9:28 AM

To: jsvine@gmail.com

Cc: juan.vegasandoval@fema.dhs.gov

September 27, 2022

SENT VIA E-MAIL TO: jsvine@gmail.com

Re: **FOIA Request Number 2022-FEFO-00865
Acknowledgment**

Dear Jeremy Singer-Vine:

This correspondence acknowledges receipt of your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request to the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), dated September 23, 2022 and received in this office on September 23, 2022. You are seeking Records from the Housing Operations Management Enterprise System (HOMES) and associated documentation. Specifically, request copies of the following records: 1) All non-PII database records in the Housing Operations Management Enterprise System (HOMES). Your request has been assigned the following tracking number **2022-FEFO-00865**. Due to current working conditions in response to the COVID-19 outbreak, please expect a delay in our response. Please be assured that we continue our commitment to provide timely FOIA responses and are processing your FOIA request as soon as possible.

In regards to your request for a fee waiver, the DHS FOIA Regulations at 6 CFR §5.11(k)(2) set forth six factors DHS is required to evaluate in determining 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 requestor 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 requestor is sufficiently large in comparison with the public interest in disclosure, that disclosure is primarily in the commercial interest of the requestor.

Upon review 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 regulations applicable to non-commercial requestors, provide two hours of search time and process the first 100 pages at no charge to you. If upon further determination that, 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 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.

Please be advised that we have queried the FEMA organizations which may have responsive records. However, we will be in touch with you soon for more details about the types of documents you are seeking.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss this matter, please contact the assigned FOIA specialist directly at, juan.vegasandoval@fema.dhs.gov and reference the request number 2022-FEFO-00865 . Again, If you require additional support, you may also contact FEMA’s Public Liaison at

FEMA-FOIA@fema.dhs.gov. If you need to contact FEMA's FOIA Public Liaison, then please reference the FOIA request number and address your email to "Attn: FEMA's Public Liaison" and summarize your concerns.

You may also contact FEMA at (202) 646-3323, or you may contact FEMA's Public Liaison in the same manner. Please reference FOIA request number 2022-FEFO-00865.

For a faster response please communicate by email.

Thank you for your interest in FEMA.

Sincerely,

Disclosure Branch
Information Management Division
Office of the Chief Administrative Officer
Federal Emergency Management Agency
U.S. Department of Homeland Security