

# **Exhibit 2**



**U.S. Department of Justice**  
Office of Information Policy  
*Sixth Floor*  
*441 G Street, NW*  
*Washington, DC 20530-0001*

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Telephone: (202) 514-3642

August 1, 2022

Mike Howell  
The Heritage Foundation  
214 Massachusetts Avenue, NE  
Washington, DC 20002  
[oversightproject@heritage.org](mailto:oversightproject@heritage.org)

Re: FOIA-2022-01570  
DRH:GMG

Dear Mike Howell:

This is to acknowledge receipt of your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request dated and received in this Office on July 22, 2022, in which you requested records concerning an incident involving agents of the U.S. Customs and Border Protection encountering migrants crossing the U.S. border on September 19, 2021.

You have requested expedited processing of your request pursuant to the Department's standard involving "[a] matter of widespread and exceptional media interest in which there exist possible questions about the government's integrity which affect public confidence." See 28 C.F.R. § 16.5(e)(1)(iv) (2018). Pursuant to Department policy, we directed your request to the Director of Public Affairs, who makes the decision whether to grant or deny expedited processing under this standard. See *id.* § 16.5(e)(2). The Director has determined that your request for expedited processing should be granted. Accordingly, your request has been assigned to an analyst in this Office and our processing of it has been initiated.

Although your request has been granted expedited processing, we are required to advise you that the records you seek require a search in and/or consultation with another Office, and so your request falls within "unusual circumstances." See 5 U.S.C. 552 § (a)(6)(B)(i)-(iii) (2018). Accordingly, we have not yet completed a search to determine whether there are records within the scope of your request. The time needed to process your request will necessarily depend on the complexity of our records search and on the volume and complexity of any records located. Any decision with regard to the application of fees will be made only after we determine whether fees will be implicated for this request. Your request has been assigned to the expedited track and will be processed as soon as practicable.

If you have any questions or wish to discuss reformulation or an alternative time frame for the processing of your request, you may contact the analyst handing your request, Georgianna Gilbeaux, by telephone at the above number or you may write to them at the above address. You may also contact our FOIA Public Liaison, Valeree Villanueva, for any further assistance and to discuss any aspect of your request at: Office of Information Policy, United States Department of Justice, Sixth Floor, 441 G Street, NW, Washington, DC 20530-0001; telephone at 202-514-3642, or by e-mail at: [doj.oip.foia@usdoj.gov](mailto:doj.oip.foia@usdoj.gov).

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Additionally, you may contact the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) at the National Archives and Records Administration 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, Room 2510, 8601 Adelphi Road, College Park, Maryland 20740-6001; e-mail at [ogis@nara.gov](mailto:ogis@nara.gov); telephone at 202-741-5770; toll free at 1-877-684-6448; or facsimile at 202-741-5769.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Douglas R. Hibbard", with a small "DR" monogram at the end.

Douglas R. Hibbard  
Chief, Initial Request Staff