

Exhibit 15

From: FOIA FOIA@HQ.DHS.GOV
Subject: RE: 2022-HQFO-00975
Date: June 22, 2022 at 4:16 PM
To: Adam Turner FOIA@advancing-america.org, FOIA FOIA@HQ.DHS.GOV



Good Afternoon,

Thanks for reaching out to this office. At this time, our general expectation is that, we will be able to send you a final response in the next 3 to 4 months.

Please understand that our office handles a very large volume of requests – in one month we respond to more requests on average than most Departments receive in a year. In addition to handling a large volume of requests, we are also responsible for processing a variety of particularly sensitive types of records. We have a responsibility to ensure that we carefully review all of the records we process to ensure that we provide maximum transparency while withholding any exempt material that could foreseeably cause harm to a protected interest. This is a labor-intensive task that involves working with offices to ensure that any potentially responsive materials are provided to us and then conducting a page-by-page and line-by-line review of all responsive records.

OCIO has provided us with potentially responsive records and your request has been added to our processing queue. It is very difficult to provide an accurate estimated date of completion until our FOIA analyst reviews these records for responsiveness and we have a better sense of the number of pages and the sensitivity of the material. The Privacy Office is also coordinating the Department's response to requests related to COVID-19; many of these requesters asked and qualified for expedited processing, meaning that they are required to be placed at the front of the queue. Again, our general expectation is that we will be able to send you a final response within three to four months. Please know that this estimate may change dramatically based on the volume of work associated with our expedited COVID-19 requests and on the types of records that OCIO has provided us for your request. Regardless of the specificity of your request, we cannot accurately estimate the amount of time it will take to process the record until we understand both the volume and sensitivity of the record.

While we make every effort to be responsive to requesters and hope to be able to respond to you sooner, there may be additional delays.

I hope that this response provides additional insight into why we are not able to give you a more precise estimated date of completion, and why we expect it will take three to four months for us to respond to your request.

While we are sure this is not the response you hoped for, we hope that this information is useful to you. Please let us know if you need any additional assistance.

Regards,

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From: Adam Turner <FOIA@advancing-america.org>
Sent: Sunday, June 19, 2022 8:57 AM
To: FOIA <FOIA@HQ.DHS.GOV>
Subject: 2022-HQFO-00975

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Good afternoon,

I'm interested in receiving an update on 2022-HQFO-00975. Please provide any new information you may have on the search process.

Thank you,
Adam Turner
Center to Advance Security in America