Exhibit 19

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From: foia@hq.dhs.gov @

Subject: Department of Homeland Security FOIA 2022-NPFO-00122 Acknowledgment

Date: June 2, 2022 at 12:57 PM **To:** aturner@advancing-america.org

Good Afternoon,

Attached is our acknowledgment of your DHS FOIA request. If you need to contact this office again concerning your request, please provide the DHS reference number. This will enable us to quickly retrieve the information you are seeking and reduce our response time. This office can be reached at 866-431-0486.

Regards,

DHS Privacy Office
Disclosure & FOIA Program
STOP 0655
Department of Homeland Security
245 Murray Drive, SW
Washington, DC 20528-0655
Telephone: 12866-431-0486 or 202-343-1743

Fax: 202-343-4011 Visit our <u>FOIA website</u>



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U.S. Department of Homeland Security
Cybersecurity & Infrastructure Security Agency
Office of the Director
Washington, DC 20528



June 2, 2022

SENT VIA EMAIL TO: aturner@advancing-america.org

Adam Turner CASA 712 H Street NE, Ste 1414 Washington, DC 20002

RE: CISA Case Number 2022-NPFO-00122

Dear Mr. Turner:

This acknowledges receipt of your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request to U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS), Cybersecurity & Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA), dated May 10, 2022, and to your request for a waiver of all assessable FOIA fees. Specifically, we are seeking:

- 1) Disinformation Governance Board Operating Protocols: Any and all records pertaining to the development, operation, and authority of the Disinformation Governance Board since its inception. This includes, but is not limited to, any documents that explain or outline protocols that prevent the Board or any of its employees or contractors, from either directly or indirectly censoring U.S. citizens.
- 2) Procedures when U.S. citizens are monitored: Any and all records created by Department officials that discuss or establish protocols for instances when U.S. citizens may have their activities caught in the monitoring activities of the Board. This should include, but is not limited to, any specifically designated recourse for aggrieved parties, potential personnel actions facing officials involved in the monitoring (direct, indirect, inadvertent, or intentional), notification procedures for when unauthorized monitoring may have occurred, and training materials for those involved in the day-to-day implementation of the Board's activities and recommendations.

Your request was received in this office on May 10, 2022.

Due to the increasing number of FOIA requests received by this office, we may encounter some delay in processing your request. Per Section 5.5(a) of the DHS FOIA regulations, 6 C.F.R. Part 5, CISA processes FOIA requests according to their order of receipt. Although CISA's goal is to respond within 20 business days of receipt of your request, the FOIA does permit a 10- day extension of this time period. As your request seeks numerous documents that will necessitate a thorough and wide-ranging search, CISA will invoke a 10-day extension for your request, as allowed by 6 C.F.R. Part 5 § 5.5(c). If you care 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 CFR § 5.11(k) set forth six factors CISA 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, CISA 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 CISA program offices as a result of the searches conducted in response to your FOIA request. CISA will, pursuant to DHS regulations applicable to non-commercial requesters, process the first 100 pages. If upon review of these documents, CISA determines that the disclosure of the information contained in those documents does not meet the factors permitting CISA to waive the fees, then CISA 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, CISA 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 program offices within CISA for responsive records. If any responsive records are located, they will be reviewed for determination of releasability. Please be assured that one of the processors in our office will respond to your request as expeditiously as possible. We appreciate your patience as we proceed with your request.

If you have any questions or wish to discuss reformulation or an alternative time frame for the processing of your request, please contact FOIA office. You may send an e-mail to FOIA@HQ.DHS.GOV, call free 703-235-2211, or you may contact our FOIA Public Liaison in

the same manner. Additionally, you have a right to seek dispute resolution services from the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) which mediates disputes between FOIA requesters and Federal agencies as a non-exclusive alternative to 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. You may contact OGIS as follows: Office of Government Information Services, National Archives and Records Administration, 8601 Adelphi Road-OGIS, College Park, Maryland 20740-6001, e-mail at ogis@nara.gov; telephone at 202-741-5770; toll free at 1-877-684-6448; or facsimile at 202-741-5769.

Your request has been assigned reference number **2022-NPFO-00122**. Please refer to this identifier in any future correspondence. To check the status of a CISA FOIA request, please visit https://foiarequest.dhs.gov/app/CheckStatus.aspx. Please note that to check the status of a request, you must enter the 2022-NPFO-00122 tracking number.

Sincerely,

Jimmy Wolfrey

Senior Director, FOIA Operations and Management (Acting)