



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

Telephone: (202) 514-3642

Matt Kittle
95 White Bridge Road
Nashville, TN 37205
mkittle@thestarnewsnetwork.com

May 5, 2023
Re: Appeal No. A-2023-01147
Request No. 1590230-000
MWH:JKD

VIA: Online Portal

Dear Matt Kittle:

You appealed from the action of the Federal Bureau of Investigation on your Freedom of Information Act request for access to a copy of Audrey Hales Manifesto. I note that your appeal concerns the FBI's full denial of your request and denial of your request for expedited processing. You also requested expedited treatment of your appeal.

After carefully considering your appeal, I am affirming the FBI's action on your request. The FOIA provides for disclosure of many agency records. At the same time, Congress included in the FOIA nine exemptions from disclosure that provide protection for important interests such as personal privacy, privileged communications, and certain law enforcement activities. The FBI properly withheld this information in full because it is protected from disclosure under the FOIA pursuant to 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(7)(A) and it is reasonably foreseeable that disclosure of this information would harm the interests protected by this provision. This provision concerns records or information compiled for law enforcement purposes the release of which could reasonably be expected to interfere with enforcement proceedings.

Additionally, the FBI responded to your request by letter dated April 25, 2023. Because the FBI responded to your request, your appeal from the FBI's failure to grant expedited processing of your request is moot.

I also note that you requested expedited treatment of your appeal. Because I am closing your underlying appeal within ten calendar days, your request for expedited treatment of this appeal is moot.

Please be advised that this Office's decision was made only after a full review of this matter. Your appeal was assigned to an attorney with this Office who thoroughly reviewed and analyzed your appeal, your underlying request, and the action of the FBI in response to your request.

If you are dissatisfied with my action on your appeal, the FOIA permits you to file a lawsuit in federal district court in accordance with 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(4)(B).

For your information, the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) offers 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. 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; email at ogis@nara.gov; telephone at 202-741-5770; toll free at 1-877-684-6448; or facsimile at 202-741-5769. If you have any questions regarding the action this Office has taken on your appeal, you may contact this Office and speak with the undersigned agency official by calling (202) 514-3642.

Sincerely,

Matthew W. Hurd
X _____
Matthew W. Hurd
Chief, Administrative Appeals Staff