

Exhibit 111

Dear Assistant General Counsel for Employment, Litigation, and Information,

Please consider this a formal appeal pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act regarding DOC-NOAA-2022-001129, that seeks in part:

"Any and all records exchanged between the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and the Office of the National Director of Intelligence (ODNI) regarding unidentified aerial phenomena (UAP), unidentified flying objects (UFOs), unidentified submerged objects (USOs), unidentified objects, unidentified craft, the Advanced Aerospace Threat Identification Program (AATIP), Advanced Aerial Threat Identification Program (AATIP), the Unidentified Aerial Phenomena Task Force (UAPTF), the Airborne Object Identification and Management Executive Council (AOIMEXEC), the Airborne Object Identification and Management Synchronization Group (AOIMSG)

"This request includes any and all emails, email attachments, physical correspondence, memorandums, photographs, video, official reports, bulletins, meeting minutes, maps, audio recordings, and any and all other responsive records and segregable materials. Please interpret the scope of this request as broadly and in the most liberal way possible. Please conduct searches of all electronic and paper/manual indices, filing systems, and locations for any and all records relating or referring to the subject of my request. **Please also include with NOAA's final response any and all processing notes associated with this request; if processing notes are not included in NOAA's final response, this requester will either appeal or file an additional FOIA seeking them.**

"The time frame for this request should include any and all responsive documents from December 1, 2020 up to and including the date on which this request is officially processed."

I am challenging the adequacy of the NOAA's search on the following grounds:

1. According to Page 2 of the unclassified version of the ODNI's June 25, 2021 *Preliminary Assessment: Unidentified Aerial Phenomena* (attached), the NOAA is listed among other agencies as providing "input" to the UAPTF and the ODNI National Intelligence Manager for Aviation during the drafting of the report. It then stands to reason that the NOAA would have responsive records involving communications with ODNI regarding the UAPTF, UAP, etc.
2. Crucially, the NOAA made no mention in its final response of locations where searches were performed for potentially responsive records. As such, the agency seemingly did not perform searches in all locations or offices that may contain responsive records; if an

agency does not search locations that may hold responsive records, the thoroughness of a records search can be called into question. (Defenders of Wildlife v. U.S. Dep't of Interior, 314 F. Supp.2d 1, 13-14, D.D.C. 2004; Nat'l REs. Def. Council v. U.S. Dep't of Def., 388 F. Supp. 2d. 1086, 1100-1101, C.D. Cal. 2005.) I respectfully ask that the NOAA conduct a new, complete, and thorough search for responsive records in all locations where they may be found. Please conduct searches of all electronic and paper/manual indices, filing systems, main file records, cross-reference records, and all other relevant locations.

3. The NOAA did not provide any processing notes as originally requested. Please also include with NOAA's response to this appeal any and all associated processing notes. If processing notes are not included, I will file an additional FOIA request seeking them.
4. Finally, an agency "has a duty to construe a FOIA request liberally," and because of this requesters "need not utilize the precise jargon employed by agency officials" in FOIA requests. (Nation Magazine v. U.S. Customs Serv., 71 F.3d 885, 890, D.C. Cir. 1995). As such, I respectfully ask that the NOAA interpret this request and appeal as broadly as possible.

Before litigating this matter, I am open to mediation through the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS), if necessary.

I greatly appreciate a response to this administrative appeal within 20 business days, as the statute requires. Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any questions concerning this appeal. Thank you very much for your time and attention in this matter.

Sincerely,
Dustin M. Slaughter
267-581-2706