



United States Department of State

*Washington, D.C. 20520*

August 8, 2023

Ref: DOS No: R-2020-00164  
OIG No. 2019-IGFO-00200

Andrew Free  
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Dear Mr. Free:

This letter responds to your July 10, 2019, request submitted to the Department of Homeland Security, Office of Inspector General (DHS/OIG) pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), 5 U.S.C. § 552. On May 27, 2020, the U.S. Department of State's Office of Information Programs and Services ("the Department") received 136 pages for review and direct response to you. Where applicable, the Department and DHS/OIG have considered the foreseeable harm standard when reviewing these pages and applying FOIA exemptions. As such, it has been determined that some material is exempt from release pursuant to the following FOIA exemptions:

- 5 U.S.C. § 552 (b)(3), 8 U.S.C. § 1202 (f), which pertains to the Immigration and Nationality Act, more specifically, the issuance or refusal of visas or permits to enter the United States;
- 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(6), which concerns material that, if released, would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of an individual's personal privacy;

- 5 U.S.C. § 552 (b)(7)(A), which protects records or information compiled for law enforcement purposes, the release of which would reasonably be expected to interfere with enforcement proceedings;
- 5 U.S.C. § 552 (b)(7)(C), which protects records or information compiled for law enforcement purposes, the release of which could reasonably be expected to constitute an unwarranted invasion of the person privacy of a third party/parties and in some instance by revealing an investigative interest in them.

This action closes your request in this office. For further assistance or to discuss any aspect of your request, you may contact our FOIA Requester Service Center or our FOIA Public Liaison at [FOIAStatus@state.gov](mailto:FOIAStatus@state.gov) or by telephone at (202) 261-8484. Please include the DOS case number in all communications concerning this FOIA request.

If you are not satisfied with the Department's determination in response to your FOIA request, you may administratively appeal by writing to: Appeals Officer, Office of Information Programs and Services (IPS), U.S. Department of State, A/GIS/IPS/, HST Room B266, 2201 C Street, NW, Washington, D.C. 20520, by email to [FOIAAppeals@state.gov](mailto:FOIAAppeals@state.gov), or by fax to (202) 485-1718. Appeals must be postmarked within 90 calendar days and include a copy of this letter, clearly stating why you disagree with the determination set forth in this response.

Additionally, if you are not satisfied with this determination in response to your request, you may contact the Office of Government Information Services at the National Archives and Records Administration to inquire about the FOIA Mediation Services they offer. The contact information is as follows: Office of Government Information Services, National Archives and Records Administration, 8601 Adelphi Road-OGIS, College Park, Maryland 20740-6001, email address: [ogis@nara.gov](mailto:ogis@nara.gov); telephone: (202) 741-5770; toll free number: 1-877-684-6448; fax: (202) 741-5769.

Sincerely,

Andy Rosenbaum  
Branch Chief  
Office of Information Programs and Services

Enclosures: As stated