



October 6, 2022

Via FOIA Portal

Beatriz Collazo
Departmental Records Officer
Department of Agriculture
Office of the General Counsel
1400 Independence Ave, S.W.
Washington, DC 20250-1150

Daphne McBryde
Department of Agriculture
Farm Service Agency
1400 Independence Ave, S.W. Room 5746
Washington, DC 20520

**Freedom of Information Act Request: Communications with “@far-
maid.org,” “@rafiusa.org” or “flaginc.org” since Aug. 16, 2022**

Dear FOIA Officer:

America First Legal Foundation is a national, nonprofit organization working to promote the rule of law in the United States, prevent executive overreach, and ensure due process and equal protection for all Americans, all to promote public knowledge and understanding of the law and individual rights guaranteed under the Constitution and laws of the United States. To that end, we file Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requests on issues of pressing public concern, then disseminate the information we obtain, making documents broadly available to the public, scholars, and the media. Using our editorial skills to turn raw materials into distinct work, we communicate with a national audience through traditional and social media platforms. AFL’s email list contains over 34,300 unique addresses, our Facebook page has 75,750 followers, our Twitter page has 20,500 followers, the Twitter page of our Founder and President has over 222,000 followers, and we have another 31,300 followers on GETTR.

Pursuant to the FOIA, 5 U.S.C. § 552, AFL hereby requests the following records from the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the Farm Service Agency.

I. Requested Records

All communications with any email address ending in “@farmaid.org,” “@rafiusa.org” or “flaginc.org” since Aug. 16, 2022.

II. Processing Requirements

The Department of Agriculture and the Farm Service Agency must comply with the processing guidance in the Attorney General’s Memorandum on Freedom of Information Act Guidelines.¹

III. Fee Waiver

Per 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(4)(A)(iii) and 7 CFR § 1.12(o), AFL requests a waiver of all search and duplication fees associated with this request. We believe AFL’s non-commercial commitment to public education and transparency justifies this fee waiver. We are, of course, available to provide additional information in writing or offline in support of this request.

IV. Production

If possible, please provide responsive records in an electronic format by email. Alternatively, please provide responsive records in native format or in PDF format on a USB drive. Please send any responsive records being transmitted by mail to America First Legal Foundation, 611 Pennsylvania Ave SE #231, Washington, DC 20003. To accelerate the release of responsive records, AFL welcomes production on an agreed rolling basis.

V. Conclusion

If you have any questions about how to construe this request for records or believe further discussions regarding search and processing would facilitate a more efficient production of records of interest to AFL, please do not hesitate to contact me at FOIA@aflegal.org. Finally, if AFL’s request for a fee waiver is not granted in full, please contact us immediately upon making that determination.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ Jacob Meckler
Jacob Meckler
America First Legal Foundation

¹ U.S. Dep’t Just. (Mar. 15, 2022), <https://www.justice.gov/ag/page/file/1483516/download>.