



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

March 25, 2024

Via email

Dhruv Mehrotra  
MuckRock News  
DEPT MR 160240  
263 Huntington Ave  
Boston, MA 02115  
[160240-85479443@requests.muckrock.com](mailto:160240-85479443@requests.muckrock.com)

**RE: FOIA Request No. 24-00064-F-IG**

Dear Dhruv Mehrotra,

This is the final response to your March 19, 2024, Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request to the United States Department of Education (ED), Office of Inspector General (ED OIG) for “Records detailing closed OIG investigations or other internal investigations during FY20, 21, 22, and 23. Please include a case number, narrative, supporting documents, and other relevant information”. On March 20, 2024, you amended the request to “simply be a list of cases for FY20, 21, 22, and 23 including some narrative information about the nature of the case”.

The OIG identified and enclosed 7 pages responsive to your request. Information has been redacted pursuant to Exemption (b)(6) and (b)(7)(C) of the FOIA. The information withheld under Exemption (b)(6) and (b)(7)(C) of the FOIA protects personal privacy interests. The information withheld under Exemption (b)(6) and (b)(7)(C) includes individual names, addresses, telephone numbers, and other personally identifying information. Information being withheld includes an individual’s signature.

Congress excluded three discrete categories of law enforcement and national security records from the requirements of the FOIA. *See* 5 U.S.C. § 552(c) (2006 & Supp. IV 2010). This response is limited to those records that are subject to the requirements of the FOIA. This is a standard notification that is given to all our requesters and should not be taken as an indication that excluded records do, or do not, exist.

Consistent with the FOIA, the OIG confirms that, if it is providing responsive records, it has considered the foreseeable harm standard when reviewing those records and applying any FOIA exemptions. *See* 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(8)(A).

If you are not satisfied with my action on this request, you may file an administrative appeal by writing within 90 calendar days of the date of this letter to the:

Inspector General

400 MARYLAND AVENUE, S.W., WASHINGTON, DC 20202-1510

*Promoting the efficiency, effectiveness, and integrity of the Department's programs and operations.*

U.S. Department of Education  
400 Maryland Avenue, S.W.  
ATTN: FOIA Appeals  
Washington, DC 20202-1500

A copy of your initial request, a copy of this letter and your statement of circumstances, reasons, and arguments should accompany your appeal letter. You may also submit an appeal by email to [OIGFOIA@ed.gov](mailto:OIGFOIA@ed.gov). Due to mail delays, email submission is preferred. Please include “FOIA Appeal” and your request number in the subject line. If you submitted your initial request through the Department’s online FOIA portal, you may also submit your appeal through the same portal [here](#).

You also have the right to seek assistance and/or dispute resolution services from our OIG FOIA Public Liaison or from the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS). The OIG FOIA Public Liaison is responsible, among other duties, for assisting in the resolution of FOIA disputes. OGIS, which is outside the Department of Education, offers mediation services to resolve disputes between FOIA requesters and Federal agencies as a non-exclusive alternative to appeals or litigation.

You may contact the OIG FOIA Public Liaison or OGIS as follows:

Mail	Lorian Beasley OIG FOIA Public Liaison Office of the Inspector General U.S. Department of Education 400 Maryland Ave., SW Washington, District Columbia 20202-1500	Office of Government Information Services National Archives and Records Administration 8601 Adelphi Road Room 2510 College Park, MD 20740-6001
E-mail	<a href="mailto:Lorian.beasley@ed.gov">Lorian.beasley@ed.gov</a>	<a href="mailto:OGIS@nara.gov">OGIS@nara.gov</a>
Phone	202-826-4720	301-837-1996; toll free at 1-877-684-6448
Fax	202-245-7039	N/A

Seeking assistance from the OIG FOIA Public Liaison or OGIS does not affect your right, or the deadline, to pursue an appeal.

Sincerely,

Antigone Potamianos  
Counsel to the Inspector General

cc: FOIA Service Center