

Exhibit A

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Eric Katz <erickatz21@gmail.com>

Date: Thu, Nov 7, 2024, 4:16 PM

Subject: FOIA Request for Records Pertaining to Former DEA Employee Eric Katz

To: <DEA.FOIA@usdoj.gov>

Cc: Eric Katz <erickatz21@gmail.com>

All signed copies attached.

Eric Katz
520 Lystra Preserve Drive
Chapel Hill, North Carolina, 27517
Erickatz21@gmail.com
559-240-2999

Drug Enforcement Administration
Freedom of Information Act and Privacy Act Unit
8701 Morrissette Drive
Springfield, VA 22152
DEA.FOIA@usdoj.gov

FOIA Request for Records Pertaining to Former DEA Employee Eric Katz

Dear FOIA Officer,

Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. §552, and the Privacy Act, 5 U.S.C. §552a, I request access to records in the custody of the Drug Enforcement Administration's Office of Professional Responsibility (OPR) and Board of Professional Conduct that contain my last name Katz. This request encompasses any records or documentation, including reports, memoranda, emails, attachments, and other relevant files within the DEA OPR and Board of Professional Conduct, regardless of format or storage medium.

Emphasis on Former Employment and Non-Law Enforcement Nature of Records

Please note that I, Eric Katz, am a former DEA employee who retired in 2020. Any investigative or oversight activities concerning me by the DEA's Office of Professional Responsibility or the Board of Professional Conduct ceased upon my retirement and are therefore administrative rather than ongoing law enforcement matters. Since these records were generated in an internal, administrative context related to professional conduct, they do not fall under exemptions applicable to active law enforcement investigations or activities.

Request Scope and Custodian Clarification

To streamline the search, this request is limited to records managed or maintained solely by the DEA's Office of Professional Responsibility and Board of Professional Conduct, which should be treated as the singular custodians of the requested records. This clarification is intended to avoid a burdensome interpretation that expands the request beyond these specific offices.

Timeframe

Please include records from January 1, 2017, to the present.

Explanation of Purpose

As a former DEA employee, I am seeking records pertaining to my professional history or related proceedings within DEA's oversight and professional conduct frameworks.

If any portion of this request is denied, please provide a detailed explanation, referencing the specific legal basis for each withholding. Additionally, please release any portions of records that can be reasonably segregated.

Thank you for your attention to this request. I look forward to your prompt and thorough response.

Sincerely,

/s/ Eric J. Katz

Eric Katz

Eric Katz
520 Lystra Preserve Drive
Chapel Hill, North Carolina, 27517
Erickatz21@gmail.com
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Dear FOIA Officer,

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Emphasis on Former Employment and Non-Law Enforcement Nature of Records

Please note that I, Eric Katz, am a **former DEA employee who retired in 2020**. Any investigative or oversight activities concerning me by the DEA's Office of Professional Responsibility or the Board of Professional Conduct ceased upon my retirement and are therefore administrative rather than ongoing law enforcement matters. Since these records were generated in an internal, administrative context related to professional conduct, they do not fall under exemptions applicable to active law enforcement investigations or activities.

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Thank you for your attention to this request. I look forward to your prompt and thorough response.

Sincerely,



Eric Katz

U.S Department of Justice

Certification of Identity



FORM APPROVED OMB NO. 1103-0016 EXPIRES 04/30/27

Privacy Act Statement. In accordance with 28 CFR Section 16.41(d) personal data sufficient to identify the individuals submitting requests by mail under the Privacy Act of 1974, 5 U.S.C. Section 552a, is required. The primary purpose for the collection of the information on this form is to ensure that the records of individuals who are the subject of U.S. Department of Justice systems of records are not wrongfully disclosed by the Department. The authority by which information is collected on this form is 5 U.S.C. § 552 and 5 U.S.C. § 552a(a), as well as 28 CFR Section 16.41(d). Any information you provide may also be disclosed pursuant to a "routine use" under the Privacy Act of 1974, 5 U.S.C. § 552a, listed in a DOJ System of Records Notice, which may include: JUSTICE/DOJ-004 Freedom of Information Act, Privacy Act, and Mandatory Declassification Review Records (CMS) for the Department of Justice, available at https://www.justice.gov/opcl/doj-systems-records#DOJ. Your disclosure of information to the Department of Justice on this form is voluntary. If you do not complete all or some information fields in this form, however, the Department of Justice may not be able to effectively respond to your request. False information on this form may subject the requester to criminal penalties under 18 U.S.C. § 1001 and/or 5 U.S.C. § 552a(i)(3).

Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 0.50 hours per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Suggestions for reducing this burden may be submitted to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, Public Use Reports Project (1103-0016), Washington, DC 20503.

Full Name of Requester ¹ Eric J Katz

Citizenship Status ² US Citizen Social Security Number ³ [REDACTED]

Current Address 520 Lystra Preserve Drive Chapel Hill, North Carolina 27517

Date of Birth [REDACTED] Place of Birth [REDACTED]

OPTIONAL: Authorization to Release Information to Another Person

This form is also to be completed by a requester who is authorizing information relating to himself or herself to be released to another person. Further, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. Section 552a(b), I authorize the U.S. Department of Justice to release any and all information relating to me to:

Print or Type Name

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States of America that the foregoing is true and correct, and that I am the person named above, and I understand that any falsification of this statement is punishable under the provisions of 18 U.S.C. Section 1001 by a fine of not more than \$10,000 or by imprisonment of not more than five years or both, and that requesting or obtaining any record(s) under false pretenses is punishable under the provisions of 5 U.S.C. 552a(i)(3) by a fine of not more than \$5,000.

Signature ⁴ [Signature] Date 11/07/2024

¹ Name of individual who is the subject of the record(s) sought.

² Individual submitting a request under the Privacy Act of 1974 must be either "a citizen of the United States or an alien lawfully admitted for permanent residence," pursuant to 5 U.S.C. Section 552a(a)(2). Requests will be processed as Freedom of Information Act requests pursuant to 5 U.S.C. Section 552, rather than Privacy Act requests, for individuals who are not United States citizens or aliens lawfully admitted for permanent residence.

³ Providing your social security number is voluntary. You are asked to provide your social security number only to facilitate the identification of records relating to you. Without your social security number, the Department may be unable to locate any or all records pertaining to you.

⁴ Signature of individual who is the subject of the record sought.

Exhibit B

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Eric Katz <erickatz21@gmail.com>

Date: Tue, Nov 12, 2024, 1:23 PM

Subject: Re: DEA FOIA/PA Case Number: 25-00083-P EXECUTED DOJ 361

To: <DEA.FOIA@dea.gov>

Please find attached form as requested. It should be noted this form was included in the original FOIA request.

Eric Katz

On Tue, Nov 12, 2024, 11:53 AM <DEA.FOIA@dea.gov> wrote:

Dear Eric Katz:

This e-mail responds to your Freedom of Information Act/Privacy Act (FOIA/PA) request dated November 7, 2024, addressed to the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), FOIA/PA Unit, seeking access to information regarding yourself.

You have requested records pertaining to yourself. Therefore, you will need to verify your identity as required by Department regulation 28 C.F.R. § 16.41(d). Specifically, if you would like this office to process your request and search for responsive records, you will need to either (1) return a completed Certification of Identity form to this office, or (2) provide a statement notarized or signed under penalty of perjury pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1746, indicating your full name, place of birth, date of birth, and current address. Please complete the Certification of Identity form available online at <https://www.justice.gov/oip/page/file/1280011/download>.

To this end, no further action will be initiated on this request until we are in receipt of the above documentation. Upon receipt, we will conduct a query of the Investigation Reporting and Filing System (IRFS). IRFS is the system of records that contains all administrative, general and investigative files compiled by DEA for law enforcement purposes. If this office does not receive your response within 30 business days, DEA will assume that you do not wish to pursue this matter and your request will be administratively closed. In the event that we administratively close your request, you may submit a new request to DEA at any time. Please e-mail your response to DEA.FOIA@dea.gov.

If you are not satisfied with DEA's determination in response to this request, you may administratively appeal by writing to the Director, Office of Information Policy (OIP), United States Department of Justice, 441 G Street, NW, 6th Floor, Washington, D.C. 20530, or you may submit an appeal through OIP's FOIA STAR portal by creating an account following the instructions on OIP's website: <https://www.justice.gov/oip/submit-and-track-request-or-appeal>. Your appeal must be postmarked or electronically transmitted within 90 days of the date of my response to your request. If you submit your appeal by mail, both the letter and the envelope should be clearly marked "Freedom of Information Act Appeal." If possible, please provide a copy of your original request and this response letter with your appeal.

If you have any questions regarding this e-mail, you may contact our FOIA Requester Service Center at (571) 776-2300. Thank you for your patience as we work to complete the processing of your request.

Sincerely,

FOIA/PA Unit
FOIA & Information Law Section
Office of Chief Counsel
Drug Enforcement Administration

PRIVACY ACT NOTICE: This e-mail (including any attachments herein) may contain personal and privileged information that requires protection in compliance with the Privacy Act of 1974 (5 U.S.C. § 552a). Any use of this information by anyone other than the intended recipient is prohibited. If you have received this communication in error, please immediately delete all copies of this information and notify me by e-mail. The use, dissemination, distribution, or reproduction of this communication by unintended recipients is not authorized and may be unlawful.

U.S Department of Justice

Certification of Identity



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Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 0.50 hours per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Suggestions for reducing this burden may be submitted to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, Public Use Reports Project (1103-0016), Washington, DC 20503.

Full Name of Requester ¹ Eric J Katz

Citizenship Status ² US Citizen Social Security Number ³ [REDACTED]

Current Address 520 Lystra Preserve Drive Chapel Hill, North Carolina 27517

Date of Birth [REDACTED] Place of Birth [REDACTED]

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I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States of America that the foregoing is true and correct, and that I am the person named above, and I understand that any falsification of this statement is punishable under the provisions of 18 U.S.C. Section 1001 by a fine of not more than \$10,000 or by imprisonment of not more than five years or both, and that requesting or obtaining any record(s) under false pretenses is punishable under the provisions of 5 U.S.C. 552a(i)(3) by a fine of not more than \$5,000.

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⁴ Signature of individual who is the subject of the record sought.

Exhibit C

----- Forwarded message -----

From: <DEA.FOIA@dea.gov>

Date: Fri, Dec 6, 2024, 2:24 PM

Subject: DEA FOIA/PA Case Number: 25-00083-P

To: <Erickatz21@gmail.com>

Dear Eric Katz:

This e-mail responds to your Freedom of Information Act/Privacy Act (FOIA/PA) request dated November 7, 2024, received by the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), FOIA/PA Unit, seeking access to DEA records. Your request has been opened and assigned the following case number: 25-00083-P. Please include this case number when communicating with this office.

The records you seek require searches in another office or offices, and so your request falls within "unusual circumstances." See 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(6)(B)(i)-(iii). Because of these unusual circumstances, we are extending the time limit to respond to your request beyond the ten additional days provided by the statute. We have not yet completed a search to determine whether there are records within the scope of your request. The time needed to process your request will necessarily depend on the complexity of our records search and on the volume and complexity of any records located. For your information, this office assigns incoming requests to one of three tracks: simple, complex, or expedited. Each request is then handled on a first-in, first-out basis in relation to other requests in the same track. Simple requests usually receive a response in approximately one month, whereas complex requests take longer than a month to complete.

If you have any questions, you may contact our FOIA Requester Service Center at (571) 776-2300, or e-mail your correspondence to DEA.FOIA@dea.gov.

In addition, you may contact our FOIA Public Liaison at (571) 776-2300 for any further assistance and to discuss any aspect of your request. Additionally, you may contact the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) at the National Archives and Records Administration to inquire about the FOIA mediation services they offer. 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](https://www.nara.gov); e-mail at ogis@nara.gov; telephone at (202) 741-5770; toll free at 1-877-684-6448; or facsimile at (202) 741-5769.

Sincerely,

FOIA/PA Unit
FOIA & Information Law Section
Office of Chief Counsel
Drug Enforcement Administration

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