

# EXHIBIT

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES  
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services  
7500 Security Boulevard, Mail Stop N2-20-16  
Baltimore, Maryland 21244-1850



**Office of Strategic Operations and Regulatory Affairs/Freedom of Information Group**

Refer to: Control Number **092320167031** and PIN **7597**

10/17/2016

Lamar Echols  
Cause of Action Institute  
1875 Eye Street, NW, Suite 800  
Washington, DC 20006

Dear Mr. Echols:

I am acknowledging receipt of your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request dated 9/22/2016. Because we receive a very heavy volume of FOIA requests, we have had to establish a policy of "first in, first out" case processing. This policy is consistent with court decisions regarding FOIA's time limits. Please be assured that a search has been initiated for records falling within the scope of your request. If any such records are located, they will be reviewed as soon as possible, and you will be notified of our decision regarding release or non release of those documents.

You have asked for a waiver or reduction of the fees that we would customarily charge for furnishing agency records. I have reviewed your request for a fee waiver and have determined that disclosure to you of the information meets two basic requirements necessary for the granting of the fee waiver, i.e., (1) disclosure of information "is in the public interest because it is likely to contribute significantly to the public understanding of the operation or activities of the government" and (2) disclosure of the information "is not primarily in the commercial interest of the requester".

Therefore, I *grant* your request for fee waiver.

Questions concerning the status of your request should be directed to Lauron Huntley of my staff at 410-786-0379.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Paul Levitan". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Paul Levitan  
Director, Division of FOIA Analysis - B  
Freedom of Information Group