



U.S. Department of Justice

Office of Legal Counsel

Washington, D.C. 20530

April 26, 2017

Ian Bassin
Executive Director
The Protect Democracy Project
FOIA@protectdemocracy.org

Re: FOIA Tracking No. FY17-187

Dear Mr. Bassin:

This letter acknowledges receipt of your April 7, 2017 Freedom of Information Act (“FOIA”) request to the Office of Legal Counsel (“OLC”), in which you sought “records . . . reflecting, discussing, or otherwise relating to the April 6, 2017 military strike on Syria and/or the President’s legal authority to launch such a strike[,] . . . [from] April 4, 2017 through the present.” We received your request on April 7, 2017, and it has been assigned tracking number **FY17-187**.

Your request for expedited processing has been granted and your request has been assigned to the “expedited” processing track. Because of the considerable number of FOIA requests received by OLC before your request, including other previously expedited requests, our staff has not yet been able to complete a search to determine whether there are documents within the scope of your request. Please note that it also is likely that we will be unable to respond to your request within the twenty-day statutory deadline. I regret the necessity of this delay, but I assure you that your request will be given priority and processed as soon as practicable.

We have not yet made a decision on your request for a fee waiver. We will do so after we determine whether fees will be assessed for this request.

In the meantime, if you have any questions or wish to discuss your request, you may contact Melissa Golden, our Lead Paralegal and FOIA Specialist and FOIA Liaison, at (202) 514-2053, or at Office of Legal Counsel, United States Department of Justice, 950 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W., Room 5511, Washington, DC 20530.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Paul P. Colborn".

Paul P. Colborn
Special Counsel