

EXHIBIT

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From: foia@noaa.gov
To: [Ryan Mulvey](#)
Subject: FOIA Request DOC-NOAA-2017-001101 Submitted
Date: Thursday, April 27, 2017 12:42:11 PM

This message is to confirm your request submission to the FOIAonline application: [View Request](#). Request information is as follows:

- Tracking Number: DOC-NOAA-2017-001101
- Requester Name: Ryan P. Mulvey
- Date Submitted: 04/27/2017
- Request Status: Submitted
- Description: Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. § 552 (“FOIA”), CoA Institute hereby requests access to any final guidance concerning the retention of instant messaging sessions created or received through the “Google Chat” or “Google Hangouts” feature of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration’s (“NOAA”) Unified Messaging System (i.e., NOAA’s Google-hosted agency e-mail platform). According to a March 2012 handbook, “[p]er the decision of NOAA General Counsel,” communications through Google Chat (or Google Hangouts) “will be considered ‘off the record’ and will not be recorded in anyway.”² Records concerning the Office of General Counsel’s (“OGC”) “decision,” in this respect, are responsive to CoA Institute’s request, as are other records reflecting agency-wide guidance on the retention of chat/instant or text messages created or received through NOAA’s Google-hosted e-mail platform.