

# **EXHIBIT C**



**U.S. Department of Justice**  
Office of Information Policy  
Suite 11050  
1425 New York Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20530-0001

Telephone: (202) 514-3642

October 10, 2017

Ms. Allison Murphy  
Protect Democracy Project  
2020 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW #163  
Washington, DC 20006  
[Allison.Murphy@protectdemocracy.org](mailto:Allison.Murphy@protectdemocracy.org)

Re: DOJ-2017-006454 (AG)  
DOJ-2017-006507 (DAG)  
DOJ-2017-006508 (OLA)  
DOJ-2017-006509 (PAO)  
VRB:VAV:ERH

Dear Ms. Murphy:

This concerns your request for expedited processing of your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request dated and received in this Office on September 1, 2017, in which you requested records pertaining to 1) the President's legal authority to launch military strikes against North Korea; 2) communications with Congress regarding authorization to launch military strikes against North Korea; or 3) tweets by the President regarding North Korea. This response is made on behalf of Offices of the Attorney General, Deputy Attorney General, Legislative Affairs, and Public Affairs.

By letter dated September 12, 2017, this Office acknowledged receipt of your request and advised you that your request for expedited processing pursuant to the Department's standard involving "[a] matter of widespread and exceptional media interest in which there exist possible questions about the government's integrity which affect public confidence," See 28 C.F.R. § 16.5(e)(1)(iv) (2016), was still pending with the Director of Public Affairs for determination. See id. § 16.5(e)(2). Please be advised that the Director has determined that your request for expedited processing should be denied. As previously advised, your request has been assigned to an analyst in this Office, and records searches have been initiated in the Offices of the Attorney General, Deputy Attorney General, Legislative Affairs, and Public Affairs.

If you have any questions or wish to discuss reformulation or an alternative time frame for the processing of your request, you may contact the analyst handling your request, Eric Hotchkiss, by telephone at the above number or you may write to him at the above address. You may contact our FOIA Public Liaison, Laurie Day, for any further assistance and to discuss any aspect of your request at: Office of Information Policy, United States Department of Justice, Suite 11050, 1425 New York Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20530-0001; telephone at 202-514-3642; or facsimile at 202-514-1009.

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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; e-mail at [ogis@nara.gov](mailto:ogis@nara.gov); telephone at 202-741-5770; toll free at 1-877-684-6448; or facsimile at 202-741-5769.

If you are not satisfied with my response to this request for expedited processing, you may administratively appeal by writing to the Director, Office of Information Policy, United States Department of Justice, Suite 11050, 1425 New York Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20530-0001, or you may submit an appeal through OIP's FOIAonline portal at <https://foiaonline.regulations.gov/foia/action/public/home>. Your appeal must be postmarked or electronically submitted within ninety 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."

Sincerely,



Vanessa R. Brinkmann  
Senior Counsel