

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS Washington DC 20420

February 27, 2018

In Reply Refer To: 001B FOIA Request: 17-10900-F

Jasper Craven

MuckRock

40429-80215991@requests.muckrock.com

Dear Mr. Craven:

This is in response to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request submitted to Department of Veterans Affairs on July 24, 2017. Your request was assigned the tracking number at the top of this page and referred to the Office of the Executive Secretary, Veterans Affairs (OSVA). Your request seeks copies of the VA Secretary's calendar, which the OSVA FOIA Office is processing.

Your request also seeks copies of visitor logs to the VA federal building at 810 Vermont Ave. NW, Washington, DC. That portion of your request was referred to the VA Office of Operations, Security, and Preparedness and processed under a separate FOIA tracking number, 17-11085-F.

The OSVA FOIA Officer performed a reasonable search for records responsive to your request for the VA Secretary's calendars. The timeframe for our search was Feb. 14, 2017 (the date Secretary Shulkin became VA Secretary) to Nov. 16, 2017, the date we initiated our search. We identified 276 pages of records responsive to your request, which are being released to you in six (6) attachments, sequentially numbered at the bottom of each page. Should you have any questions about this response, please contact the OSVA FOIA Officer at OSVAFOIA@va.gov.

Portions of the responsive records have been withheld under FOIA Exemption 5, protecting the agency's deliberative process; FOIA Exemption 6, protecting an individual's personal privacy; FOIA Exemption 7(C), protecting personal privacy pertaining to law enforcement personnel; and FOIA Exemption 7(E), protecting techniques and procedures used by law enforcement personnel.

FOIA Mediation

As part of the 2007 FOIA amendments, the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) was created to offer mediation services to resolve disputes between FOIA requesters and Federal agencies as a non-exclusive alternative to litigation. Using OGIS services does not affect your right to pursue litigation. Under the provisions of the FOIA Improvement Act of 2016, the following contact information is provided to assist FOIA requesters in resolving disputes:

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VA Central Office FOIA Public Liaison:

Name: John Buck

Email Address: vacofoiaservice@va.gov

Phone: 1-877-750-3642

Office of Government Information Services (OGIS)

Email Address: ogis@nara.gov

Fax: 202-741-5769 Mailing address: National Archives and Records Administration 8601 Adelphi Road College Park, MD 20740-6001

FOIA Fees

In accordance with 38 C.F.R. § 1.561, we categorize you as an "all other" requester. Due to the delay in processing your request caused by OSVA's backlog, OSVA will not be assessing fees associated with this request.

FOIA Appeal

This concludes OSVA's response to request 17-10900-F. Please be advised that should you desire to do so, you may appeal the determination made in this response to:

> Office of General Counsel (024) Department of Veterans Affairs 810 Vermont Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20420

If you should choose to file an appeal, please include a copy of this letter with your written appeal and clearly indicate the basis for your disagreement with the determination set forth in this response. Please be advised that in accordance with VA's implementing FOIA regulations at 38 C.F.R. § 1.559, your appeal must be postmarked no later than ninety (90) days of the date of this letter.

Sincerely,

Fina Matuszczak Lisa Matuszczak, CIPP/G OSVA FOIA Officer

Enclosures