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United States Department of the Interior



BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Montana State Office

5001 Southgate Drive

Billings, Montana 59101-4669

www.blm.gov/montana-dakotas

December 12, 2017

In Reply Refer To:

1278 (MT954.DD)

BLM-2018-00107

MT-2018-13

CERTIFIED MAIL 7017 1450 0002 0089 2075
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Mr. Christopher Kortlander
Custer Battlefield Museum
Town Hall, P.O. Box 200
Garryowen, Montana 59031-0200

Dear Mr. Kortlander:

The purpose of this letter is to provide you with an update on the status of your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request submitted to the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Montana State Office and received on October 19, 2017; FOIA control number BLM-2018-00107.

In your request, you seek:

Records regarding the investigation of Mr. Robert W. Weaver.

As yet, we have been unable to make a determination on your request. We have completed an initial review of the records responsive to your request. We will conduct a second review and then coordinate with the Office of the Solicitor. Since we have numerous FOIA requests filed prior to your request, it is our policy to process FOIA requests on a first in/first out basis. Therefore, it may be a couple of months before we have our final response released to you.

We apologize for this delay. Although we hope that you will wait so that we can complete our review process, please note that you may seek dispute resolution services from our FOIA Public Liaison, Ryan Witt, BLM FOIA Officer, at (202) 912-7562 or email at rwitt@blm.gov.

You may also seek dispute resolution services from the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS). If you choose to contact OGIS, you may do so in any of the following ways:

Office of Government Information Services
National Archives and Records Administration
8601 Adelphi Road - OGIS
College Park, MD 20740-6001

E-mail: ogis@nara.gov
Web: <https://ogis.archives.gov>
Telephone: 202-741-5770
Fax: 202-741-5769
Toll-free: 1-877-684-6448

You may also file an appeal with the Department of the Interior's (Department's) FOIA/Privacy Act Appeals Officer regarding this delay. If you choose to appeal this delay, you may do so anytime between now and the date we make our determination on the FOIA request. Appeals arriving or delivered after 5 p.m. Eastern Time, Monday through Friday, will be deemed received on the next workday.

Your appeal must be made in writing. You may submit your appeal and accompanying materials to the FOIA/Privacy Act Appeals Officer by mail, courier service, fax, or email. All communications concerning your appeal should be clearly marked with the words: "FREEDOM OF INFORMATION APPEAL." You must include an explanation of why you believe the BLM's response is in error. You must also include with your appeal copies of all correspondence between you and the BLM concerning your FOIA request, including your original FOIA request and BLM's response. Failure to include with your appeal all correspondence between you and the BLM will result in the Department's rejection of your appeal, unless the FOIA/Privacy Act Appeals Officer determines (in the FOIA/Privacy Act Appeals Officer's sole discretion) that good cause exists to accept the defective appeal.

Please include your name and daytime telephone number (or the name and telephone number of an appropriate contact), email address and fax number (if available) in case the FOIA/Privacy Act Appeals Officer needs additional information or clarification of your appeal.

DOI FOIA/Privacy Act Appeals Office Contact Information

Department of the Interior
Office of the Solicitor
1849 C Street, N.W. MS-6556 MIB
Washington, DC 20240
Attn: FOIA/Privacy Act Appeals Office

Telephone: (202) 208-5339
Fax: (202) 208-6677
Email: FOIA.Appeals@sol.doi.gov

We regret the delay and appreciate your consideration. For more information on FOIA Administrative Appeals, you may review the Department's FOIA regulations at 43 C.F.R. Part 2, Subpart H. In the meantime, if you have questions, please contact Debbie DeBock, State FOIA Coordinator, at (406) 896-5157; Lynnell Cellmer, Records Management Specialist, at (406) 896-5381; or by email at blm_mt_foia@blm.gov.

Sincerely,



Sandra S. Leach
Deputy State Director
Division of Resources, Planning and Fire