



**U.S. Department of Justice
Federal Bureau of Prisons**

*Central Office
320 First St., NW
Washington, DC 20534*

September 12, 2019

MuckRock News
DEPT MR 47220
ATTN: Mr. Russ Kick
411A Highland Ave
Sommerville, MA 02144-2516

Request Number: 2018-03153

Dear Mr. Kick:

This is in response to the above referenced Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request, in which you requested The Federal Bureau of Prisons' (BOP) FOIA request log for 2017.

On July 23, 2018, I wrote, in pertinent part:

“Are you only seeking requests related to individuals or are you seeking all requests other than first party requests? Please note our database does categorize requests as first party or third party. Thus, we would be unable to create a log omitting ‘all requests in which an individual is seeking his/her own records or a lawyer is seeking records on an individual client.’ Please provide clarification as to what records you seek.”

Since BOP never received a response to the request for clarification, and based on the limitations discussed in the July 23, 2018 correspondence, BOP processed a complete log of requests received in 2017. I want to address a few items, which should help clarify some questions or concerns you may have after reading this response letter and reviewing the enclosed records.

1. BOP is unable to provide records that require redaction in an Excel or CSV format. Our database saves processed records as pdfs. We attempted to convert the pdf to a searchable spreadsheet outside of the database, but were unable to.
2. BOP does not track whether requests are first party requests, and we are unable to discern whether a request is a first party request without individually reviewing each request.
3. BOP lacks the capability to determine how many requesters are inmates. The majority of items redacted in the “Organization” column are federal register numbers assigned to inmates. However, not all items are register numbers, and not all inmates’ register numbers were entered into the database. As a result, a redaction of information in the organization column does not necessarily mean the requester is an inmate, and the absence of a redaction does not necessarily mean the requester is someone other than an inmate.

4. The log was created in February 2019, and due to the voluminous nature of the records, processing them took a substantial amount of time. As a result, many of the requests listed as open on the log are now closed

In response to your request, 3,686 pages are attached in four different pdf files. Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. § 552, each page contains information redacted under exemption b6 (information which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of the personal privacy of third parties).

2019-02366. After you have a chance to review this letter and the responsive records, please contact the undersigned or this office at either ogc_efoia@bop.gov or 202.616.7750 to discuss your subsequent request, 2019-02366, which requests a FOIA log for 2018. BOP is interested if you want to narrow your request to commercial, educational, and media requests, which will eliminate most first party requests and/or make any other changes to your request based on the records provided in this request.

If you have questions about this response please feel free to contact me, this office, or the Federal Bureau of Prisons' (BOP) FOIA Public Liaison, Mr. C. Darnell Stroble at 202-616-7750, 320 First Street NW, Suite 936, Washington DC 20534, or ogc_efoia@bop.gov.

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; 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, you may administratively appeal by writing to the Director, Office of Information Policy (OIP), United States Department of Justice, Sixth Floor, 441 G Street, NW, Washington, DC 20001, or you may submit an appeal through OIP's FOIAonline portal by creating an account at: <https://www.foiaonline.gov/foiaonline/action/public/home>. Your appeal must be postmarked or electronically transmitted within 90 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,



Eugene Baime
Supervisory FOIA Attorney