



U.S. Department of Justice

Office of Legal Counsel

Washington, D.C. 20530

May 24, 2019

Patrick G. Eddington
Policy Analyst in Civil Liberties and Homeland Security
Cato Institute
peddington@cato.org

Re: FOIA Tracking No. FY19-142

Dear Mr. Eddington:

This letter acknowledges receipt of your May 15, 2019 Freedom of Information Act ("FOIA") request to the Office of Legal Counsel ("OLC"), in which you sought, "any documents regarding the Uniting And Strengthening America By Fulfilling Rights And Ensuring Effective Discipline Over Monitoring (USA FREEDOM) Act Of 2015, P.L. 114-23 generated by [OLC]," "from June 3, 2015 to [May 15, 2019]." Your request has been assigned tracking number **FY19-142**.

I have determined that your request for expedited processing under 28 C.F.R. § 16.5(e)(1)(ii) should be denied. You have not established that there is a "particular urgency to inform the public about the government activity involved in the request . . . beyond the public's right to know about government activity generally." 28 C.F.R. § 16.5(e)(3). You have not identified sufficient reasons that the need to inform the public about the subject of your request is particularly urgent or compelling relative to the many other FOIA requests that OLC receives and processes in the regular course. In my judgment, the standard for expedited treatment has not been met; accordingly, your request for expedited processing has been denied. Based on our preliminary review of your request, and pursuant to 28 C.F.R. § 16.5(b), your request has been tentatively assigned to the "complex" processing track. If you would like to narrow your request so that it can be transferred to the "simple" track and processed more quickly, please contact Melissa Golden at the address and phone number provided below.

We have not yet made a decision on your request for a fee waiver. We will do so after we determine whether fees will be assessed for this request.

Because of the considerable number of FOIA requests received by OLC prior to your request, we likely will be unable to comply with the twenty-day statutory deadline for responding to your request. I regret the necessity of this delay, but I assure you that your request will be processed as soon as practicable. In the meantime, if you have any questions or wish to discuss your request, you may contact Melissa Golden, OLC's FOIA Public Liaison, at usdoj-officeoflegalcounsel@usdoj.gov, (202) 514-2053, or at Office of Legal Counsel, United States Department of Justice, 950 Pennsylvania Ave., N.W., Room 5511, Washington, DC 20530.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Paul P. Colborn".

Paul P. Colborn
Special Counsel

Exhibit B