



United States Department of the Interior
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
Washington, DC 20240

IN REPLY REFER TO:
7202.4-OS-2020-00253

March 20, 2020

Via email: 86356-45855743@requests.muckrock.com

Jimmy Tobias
Muckrock News
411A Highland Avenue
Somerville, MA 02144

Dear Mr. Tobias,

The Office of the Secretary FOIA office received your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request, dated January 27, 2020, on January 27, 2020 and assigned it control number **OS-2020-00253**. Please cite this number in any future communications with our office regarding your request.

Any written or electronic communications, including email attachments, sent or received by Katharine MacGregor since September 1, 2019 that contain one or more of the following words or phrases: "union", "labor relations", "labor organizing", "FLRB", "FLRA", "NTEU", and/or "National Treasury Employees Union."

Fee Category

We have classified you as an “News media” requester. As such, we may charge you for some of our search and duplication costs, but we will not charge you for our review costs; you are also entitled to up to 2 hours of search time and 100 pages of photocopies (or an equivalent volume) for free. See [43 C.F.R. § 2.39](#). If, after taking into consideration your fee category entitlements, our processing costs are less than \$50.00, we will not bill you because the cost of collection would be greater than the fee collected. See [43 C.F.R. § 2.37\(g\)](#).

Agreement To Pay

You agreed to pay all fees.

Processing Track

Your request falls into the “Complex” processing track. See [43 C.F.R. § 2.15](#).

You may narrow the scope of your request to obtain quicker processing in your currently-assigned track or move the request into a different track (which may have the effect of reducing the cost of processing your request and having it processed more quickly).” If you have any questions about this, please contact us.

Response Outside the Time Limits

As yet, we have been unable to make a determination on your request. We apologize for this delay. You may narrow the scope of your request to obtain quicker processing in your currently-assigned track or move the request into a different track (which may have the effect of reducing the cost of processing your request and having it processed more quickly).

You also may agree to an alternative time period for processing by communicating with us, our FOIA Requester Center, or the FOIA Public Liaison. Contact information for the Department's FOIA Requester Centers and FOIA Public Liaison is available at <https://www.doi.gov/foia/foiacenters>. 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'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 also include with your appeal copies of all correspondence between you and Office of the Secretary concerning your FOIA request, including your original FOIA request and this response. Failure to include with your appeal all correspondence between you and Office of the Secretary 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

For your information, Congress excluded three discrete categories of law enforcement and national security records from the requirements of FOIA. See [5 U.S.C. 552\(c\)](#). This response is limited to those records that are subject to the requirements of FOIA. This is a standard notification that is given to all our requesters and should not be taken as an indication that excluded records do, or do not, exist.

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](#). If you have any questions, you may contact us by phone at 202- 513-0765, by fax at 202-219-2374, by email at os_foia@ios.doi.gov , or by mail at U.S. Department of the Interior, 1849 C Street, NW, MS-7328, Washington, D.C. 20240.

Please note that using OGIS services does not affect the timing of filing an appeal with the Department's FOIA & Privacy Act Appeals Officer. Contact information for the Department's FOIA Public Liaison, who you may also seek dispute resolution services from, is available at <https://www.doi.gov/foia/foiacenters>.

Sincerely,

Leah Fairmain
Office of the Secretary
FOIA Office