

EXHIBIT A

August 8, 2019

Mosi Secret
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Brooklyn, NY 11247
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Federal Bureau of Investigation
Attn: FOI/PA Request
Record/Information Dissemination Section
170 Marcel Drive
Winchester, VA 22602-4843
Fax: (540) 868-4391/4997

FOIA REQUEST

Fee benefit requested

Fee waiver requested

Expedited processing requested

Dear FOIA Officer:

Pursuant to the federal Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. Â§ 552, I request access to and copies of any and all records related to Darren Seals, whose date of birth is May 15, 1987, and date of death is Sept. 6, 2016. (Proof of death enclosed.)

I would like to receive the information in electronic format.

As a representative of the news media, I am only required to pay for the direct cost of duplication after the first 100 pages. Through this request, I am gathering information on Darren Seals, who was shot and killed in St. Louis, MO, under mysterious circumstances. Darren Seals and his death are of current interest to the public because he was a well known figure in the Ferguson, MO, protests of 2014. It is my understanding based on extensive reporting that Seals had interactions with federal agents during an FBI drug trafficking investigation, that his death was related to his involvement in trafficking, and that he was not killed by law enforcement, as many in his community believe. This information is being sought for dissemination to the general public. I am on assignment with New York Magazine, a national news organization, and was previously a staff reporter with The New York Times and ProPublica.

Please waive any applicable fees. Release of the information is in the public interest because it will contribute significantly to public understanding of government operations and activities. The public deserves to have a better understanding of the true circumstances of Seals' death.

If my request is denied in whole or part, I ask that you justify all deletions by reference to specific exemptions of the act. I will also expect you to release all segregable portions of otherwise exempt material. I, of course, reserve the right to appeal your decision to withhold any information or to deny a waiver of fees.

As I am making this request as a journalist and this information is of timely value, I would appreciate your communicating with me by telephone, rather than by mail, if you have questions regarding this request. My phone number is (917) 805-4102.

Please provide expedited processing of this request which concerns a matter of urgency. As a journalist, I am primarily engaged in disseminating information. The public has an urgent need for information about the FBI's interactions with Darren Seals because of suspicions expressed on social media that law

enforcement was involved in his death. I certify that my statements concerning the need for expedited processing are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

I look forward to your reply within 20 business days, as the statute requires.

Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

Mosi Secret