# **EXHIBIT D**

Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs Washington, D.C. 20201

RE: 2020-00135-A-OS

April 16, 2020

Sarah Posner Type Investigations 116 East 16th Street, 8th Floor New York, NY 10003

Dear Ms. Posner:

This is in response to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) appeal dated **April 16, 2020** concerning:

"...I submit this appeal based on a constructive denial pursuant to 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(6) due to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) failure to make a timely determination regarding my Freedom of Information Act ("FOIA") request...(Date Range for Record Search: From 01/20/2017 to 01/28/2019)".

We received your appeal on **April 16, 2020.** The FOIA requires that we respond to your request within 20 working days of its receipt in this office. Please note the following unusual and exceptional circumstances that will impact our response time: (1) we will need to search for and collect records from components and/or field offices external to this office; and (2) because we receive a heavy volume of FOIA requests, we will process your request in line with our established policy of "first in, first out" case processing.

In addition, due to the COVID-19 National Emergency, many staff have been reassigned to tasks aimed at responding to that Emergency and virtually all staff are teleworking, making access to certain records more difficult. As a result, processing of FOIA requests will take longer than would usually be the case. We will utilize a 10 working day extension to process your request, as permitted pursuant to the FOIA. This policy is consistent with court decisions regarding FOIA's time limits.

If you are not satisfied with any aspect of the processing and handling of this appeal, you have the right to seek dispute resolution services from:

HHS FOIA/PA Public Liaison FOI/Privacy Acts Division Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs (ASPA) Office of the Secretary (OS) U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) 200 Independence Avenue, SW, Suite 729H Washington, DC 20201

Telephone: (202) 690-7453

Fax: (202) 690-8320

E-mail: HHS FOIA Public Liaison@hhs.gov

# Case 1:20-cv-02961 Document 1-4 Filed 10/15/20 Page 3 of 17

Office of the Secretary

Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs Washington, D.C. 20201

Page 2 of 2

Appeal Number: 2020-00135-A-OS

and/or:

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

Telephone: 202-741-5770 Toll-Free: 1-877-684-6448 E-mail: ogis@nara.gov Fax: 202-741-5769

Sincerely yours,

Brandon J. Gaylord

Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs Washington, D.C. 20201

RE: 2020-00136-A-OS

April 16, 2020

Sarah Posner Type Investigations 116 East 16th Street, 8th Floor New York, NY 10003

Dear Sarah Posner:

This is in response to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) appeal dated April 16, 2020 concerning:

"...I submit this appeal based on a constructive denial pursuant to 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(6) due to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) failure to make a timely determination regarding my Freedom of Information Act ("FOIA") request. My attorneys also mailed a formal written appeal regarding my eight FOIA requests that arrived on Thursday, April 9, 2020. I submitted the 2019-00543-FOIA-OS request on February 5, 2019...".

We received your appeal on **April 16, 2020.** The FOIA requires that we respond to your request within 20 working days of its receipt in this office. Please note the following unusual and exceptional circumstances that will impact our response time: (1) we will need to search for and collect records from components and/or field offices external to this office; and (2) because we receive a heavy volume of FOIA requests, we will process your request in line with our established policy of "first in, first out" case processing.

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### Case 1:20-cv-02961 Document 1-4 Filed 10/15/20 Page 5 of 17

Office of the Secretary

Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs Washington, D.C. 20201

Page 2 of 2

Appeal Number: 2020-00136-A-OS

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E-mail: HHS FOIA Public Liaison@hhs.gov

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Office of Government Information Services National Archives and Records Administration 8601 Adelphi Road – OGIS

College Park, MD 20740-6001 Telephone: 202-741-5770 Toll-Free: 1-877-684-6448

E-mail: ogis@nara.gov Fax: 202-741-5769

Sincerely yours,

Brandon J. Gaylord

Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs Washington, D.C. 20201

RE: 2020-00137-A-OS

April 16, 2020

Sarah Posner Type Investigations 116 East 16th Street, 8th Floor New York, NY 10003

Dear Sarah Posner:

This is in response to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) appeal dated April 16, 2020 concerning:

"...I submit this appeal based on a constructive denial pursuant to 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(6) due to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) failure to make a timely determination regarding my Freedom of Information Act ("FOIA") request. My attorneys also mailed a formal written appeal regarding my eight FOIA requests that arrived on Thursday, April 9, 2020. I submitted the 2019-00545-FOIA-OS request on February 5, 2019...".

We received your appeal on **April 16, 2020.** The FOIA requires that we respond to your request within 20 working days of its receipt in this office. Please note the following unusual and exceptional circumstances that will impact our response time: (1) we will need to search for and collect records from components and/or field offices external to this office; and (2) because we receive a heavy volume of FOIA requests, we will process your request in line with our established policy of "first in, first out" case processing.

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### Case 1:20-cv-02961 Document 1-4 Filed 10/15/20 Page 7 of 17

Office of the Secretary

Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs Washington, D.C. 20201

Page 2 of 2

Appeal Number: 2020-00137-A-OS

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E-mail: ogis@nara.gov Fax: 202-741-5769

Sincerely yours,

Brandon J. Gaylord

Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs Washington, D.C. 20201

RE: 2020-00138-A-OS

April 16, 2020

Sarah Posner Type Investigations 116 East 16th Street, 8th Floor New York, NY 10003

Dear Ms. Posner:

This is in response to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) appeal dated April 16, 2020 concerning:

"I submit this appeal based on a constructive denial pursuant to 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(6) due to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) failure to make a timely determination regarding my Freedom of Information Act ("FOIA") request. My attorneys also mailed a formal written appeal regarding my eight FOIA requests that arrived on Thursday, April 9, 2020. I submitted the 2019-00553-FOIA-OS request on February 6, 2019...".

We received your appeal on **April 16, 2020.** The FOIA requires that we respond to your request within 20 working days of its receipt in this office. Please note the following unusual and exceptional circumstances that will impact our response time: (1) we will need to search for and collect records from components and/or field offices external to this office; and (2) because we receive a heavy volume of FOIA requests, we will process your request in line with our established policy of "first in, first out" case processing.

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HHS FOIA/PA Public Liaison
FOI/Privacy Acts Division
Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs (ASPA)
Office of the Secretary (OS)
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)
200 Independence Avenue, SW, Suite 729H
Washington, DC 20201

Telephone: (202) 690-7453

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E-mail: HHS\_FOIA\_Public\_Liaison@hhs.gov

# Case 1:20-cv-02961 Document 1-4 Filed 10/15/20 Page 9 of 17

Office of the Secretary

Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs Washington, D.C. 20201

Page 2 of 2

Appeal Number: 2020-00138-A-OS

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Office of Government Information Services National Archives and Records Administration 8601 Adelphi Road – OGIS

College Park, MD 20740-6001 Telephone: 202-741-5770 Toll-Free: 1-877-684-6448

E-mail: ogis@nara.gov Fax: 202-741-5769

Sincerely yours,

Brandon J. Gaylord

Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs Washington, D.C. 20201

RE: 2020-00140-A-OS

April 16, 2020

Sarah Posner Type Investigations 116 East 16th Street, 8th Floor New York, NY 10003

Dear Posner:

This is in response to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) appeal dated April 16, 2020 concerning:

"I submit this appeal based on a constructive denial pursuant to 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(6) due to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) failure to make a timely determination regarding my Freedom of Information Act ("FOIA") request. My attorneys also mailed a formal written appeal regarding my eight FOIA requests that arrived on Thursday, April 9, 2020. I submitted the 2019-00906-FOIA-OS request on May 29, 2019...".

We received your appeal on **April 16, 2020.** The FOIA requires that we respond to your request within 20 working days of its receipt in this office. Please note the following unusual and exceptional circumstances that will impact our response time: (1) we will need to search for and collect records from components and/or field offices external to this office; and (2) because we receive a heavy volume of FOIA requests, we will process your request in line with our established policy of "first in, first out" case processing.

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# Case 1:20-cv-02961 Document 1-4 Filed 10/15/20 Page 11 of 17

Office of the Secretary

Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs Washington, D.C. 20201

Page 2 of 2

Appeal Number: 2020-00140-A-OS

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College Park, MD 20740-6001 Telephone: 202-741-5770 Toll-Free: 1-877-684-6448 E-mail: ogis@nara.gov

Fax: 202-741-5769

Sincerely yours,

Brandon J. Gaylord

Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs Washington, D.C. 20201

RE: 2020-00141-A-OS

April 16, 2020

Sarah Posner Type Investigations 116 East 16th Street, 8th Floor New York, NY 10003

Dear Sarah Posner:

This is in response to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) appeal dated April 16, 2020 concerning:

"I submit this appeal based on a constructive denial pursuant to 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(6) due to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) failure to make a timely determination regarding my Freedom of Information Act ("FOIA") request. My attorneys also mailed a formal written appeal regarding my eight FOIA requests that arrived on Thursday, April 9, 2020. I submitted the 2019-00936-FOIA-OS request on June 7, 2019..."

We received your appeal on **April 16, 2020.** The FOIA requires that we respond to your request within 20 working days of its receipt in this office. Please note the following unusual and exceptional circumstances that will impact our response time: (1) we will need to search for and collect records from components and/or field offices external to this office; and (2) because we receive a heavy volume of FOIA requests, we will process your request in line with our established policy of "first in, first out" case processing.

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# Case 1:20-cv-02961 Document 1-4 Filed 10/15/20 Page 13 of 17

Office of the Secretary

Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs Washington, D.C. 20201

Page 2 of 2

Appeal Number: 2020-00141-A-OS

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8601 Adelphi Road – OGIS College Park, MD 20740-6001 Telephone: 202-741-5770 Toll-Free: 1-877-684-6448

E-mail: ogis@nara.gov Fax: 202-741-5769

Sincerely yours,

Brandon J. Gaylord

Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs Washington, D.C. 20201

RE: 2020-00142-A-OS

April 16, 2020

Sarah Posner Type Investigations 116 East 16th Street, 8th Floor New York, NY 10003

Dear Sarah Posner:

This is in response to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) appeal dated April 16, 2020 concerning:

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# Case 1:20-cv-02961 Document 1-4 Filed 10/15/20 Page 15 of 17

Office of the Secretary

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Page 2 of 2

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RE: 2020-00143-A-OS

April 16, 2020

Sarah Posner Type Investigations 116 East 16th Street, 8th Floor New York, NY 10003

Dear Sarah Posner:

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# Case 1:20-cv-02961 Document 1-4 Filed 10/15/20 Page 17 of 17

Office of the Secretary

Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs Washington, D.C. 20201

Page 2 of 2

Appeal Number: 2020-00143-A-OS

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