



NATIONAL ARCHIVES *and* RECORDS ADMINISTRATION
8601 ADELPHI ROAD COLLEGE PARK, MD 20740-6001
www.archives.gov

Sent Via Email. No Hard Copy to Follow.

October 3, 2019

Helena Gilbert
Department of Defense
Department of the Navy
1000 Navy Pentagon, 4E623
Washington DC 22350

Dear Ms. Gilbert,

The National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) has been made aware of an allegation of unauthorized disposition by a member of the public regarding email that was sent by this individual to the Department of the Navy (hereafter referred to as Navy). The allegation is that the NAVY is deleting emails sent by this member of the public without reading them and with no response. The member of the public included screenshots of the read receipt from the email system that showed his email was deleted without being read (see attached).

In accordance with 36 CFR 1230.16(b), NARA is requesting that the NAVY provide us with a report within 30 calendar days that is responsive to these allegations. If the NAVY determines that an unauthorized disposition has occurred, then the NAVY must submit a report to NARA, as required by 36 CFR 1230.14, that addresses whether specific records can be recovered, recreated, or duplicated from other sources and the steps the NAVY will take to ensure that all email records are labeled appropriately and captured by the NAVY.

If you have any questions, please contact me at laurence.brewer@nara.gov.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

LAURENCE BREWER
Chief Records Officer
for the U.S. Government

Enclosed



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February 5, 2020

Ms. Tonya Price
Department of Defense
Department of the Navy
1000 Navy Pentagon, 4E623
Washington DC 22350

Dear Ms. Price:

The National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) has received your letter in response to our letter dated October 3, 2019, that documented an allegation of unauthorized disposition by a member of the public regarding email that was being deleted without being read by the Department of the Navy (Navy).

Based on the information you sent us, NARA understands that Navy Cyber Awareness training requires all personnel to delete any emails without reading them that are identified as spam or phishing attempts. Since this email was transmitted from a sender unknown to the recipient, exhibited a title analogous to spam, unsolicited marketing, or a possible security risk, and was sent from an unknown website, Navy personnel classified this email as spam and deleted it according to Navy policy. Therefore, NARA considers this allegation to be unfounded. We appreciate the information you provided on how the members of the public should contact the Navy regarding their requests for information and will pass this information along to the member of the public who sent us the allegation.

Thank you very much for your cooperation. If you have any questions, please contact me at laurence.brewer@nara.gov.

Sincerely,

LAURENCE BREWER
Chief Records Officer
for the U.S. Government