



OFFICE of GOVERNMENT INFORMATION SERVICES

November 20, 2014 — Sent via email

[REDACTED]

Re: Case No.: 201500005
NG: CM

NATIONAL
ARCHIVES
and RECORDS
ADMINISTRATION

8601 ADELPHI ROAD
OGIS
COLLEGE PARK, MD
20740-6001

web: www.ogis.archives.gov
e-mail: ogis@nara.gov
phone: 202-741-5770
toll-free: 1-877-684-6448
fax: 202-741-5769

Dear [REDACTED]:

This responds to your October 1, 2014 request for assistance from the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS), which we received via email. Your request for assistance pertains to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requests to the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) and the U.S. Postal Inspection Service (USPIS).

Congress created OGIS to complement existing FOIA practice and procedure; we strive to work in conjunction with the existing request and appeal process. The goal is for OGIS to allow, whenever practical, the requester to exhaust his or her remedies within the agency, including the appeal process. OGIS has no investigatory or enforcement power, nor can we compel an agency to release documents. OGIS serves as the Federal FOIA Ombudsman and our jurisdiction is limited to assisting with the FOIA process.

You contacted OGIS because you recently learned that during a search of your home, Federal authorities made video recordings and/or took photographs. You expressed concern that these records were not released to you by the FBI or USPIS in response to requests that you made in 2010. You discussed your concerns with OGIS Facilitator Carrie McGuire, and asked that OGIS contact these agencies to learn whether the video and photo records you seek were reviewed in response to your previous requests.

OGIS Deputy Director Nikki Gramian contacted USPIS and the FBI to inquire about the records you seek. In response to your concerns, USPIS re-reviewed the records that were responsive to your previous request and confirmed that those records do not include videos or photographs. In addition to reviewing your FOIA file, USPIS contacted the Division involved in your case and inquired if the Division has any photographs or videos from the search of your property. The Division that handled such matters informed the FOIA specialist that it does not have any photographs or videos from the search of your property.



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We also contact the FBI FOIA Public Liaison and asked the same information we asked USPIS. FBI declined to review your previous request or provide more information about the records it withheld. FBI FOIA Public Liaison informed OGIS Deputy Director that you may submit a new request for the specific information you seek.

In cases such as this where an agency is firm in its position, there is little for OGIS to do beyond providing more information about the agency's actions. I hope that this information about your request is useful to you. Thank you for contacting OGIS; we will now consider this matter closed.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Miriam Nisbet".

Miriam Nisbet, Director
Office of Government Information Services (OGIS)

cc: Dennis Argall, FOIA Public Liaison, FBI
Kimberly Williams, FOIA Analyst, USPIS

We appreciate your feedback. Please visit <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/OGIS> to take a brief anonymous survey on the service you received from OGIS.