



OFFICE *of* GOVERNMENT INFORMATION SERVICES

April 3, 2015 — Sent via email

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Re: Case No.: 201500299  
NG: KG

Dear [REDACTED]

NATIONAL  
ARCHIVES  
and RECORDS  
ADMINISTRATION

This responds to your January 12, 2015 request for assistance from the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS), pertaining to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request to the Department of Homeland Security (DHS).

8601 ADELPHI ROAD  
OGIS  
COLLEGE PARK, MD  
20740-6001

Congress created OGIS as the Federal FOIA Ombudsman to complement existing FOIA practice and procedure; we strive to work in conjunction with the agency's 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.

web: [www.ogis.archives.gov](http://www.ogis.archives.gov)  
e-mail: [ogis@nara.gov](mailto:ogis@nara.gov)  
phone: 202-741-5770  
toll-free: 1-877-684-6448  
fax: 202-741-5769

You contacted OGIS about a FOIA request you filed with DHS on [REDACTED] 2014. DHS referred the request to the United States Coast Guard (USCG) for processing. USCG released the first part of your request and referred 29 pages of responsive records back to the DHS Privacy Office. After several attempts to obtain an estimated date of completion from the Privacy Office, you contacted OGIS for assistance. On February 5, 2015 you alerted DHS via email of your intentions to appeal based on the agency's delay. On February 10, 2015, [REDACTED] [REDACTED] Counsel [REDACTED] sent DHS an appeal letter for these records. To date, you have not received a response from the agency concerning [REDACTED] appeal.

We reached out to the DHS Privacy Office and discussed your request with Mr. James Wolfrey. During our conversation with Mr. Wolfrey, we learned that the Privacy Office was trying to determine whether the document was created by one of DHS components or if it was something that the [REDACTED] had submitted as part of its contract solicitation process with USCG. Mr. Wolfrey stated that it appears the [REDACTED] was not a document created by the agency, and therefore, the Privacy Office is trying to learn who created the record in order to initiate a consultation process. Mr. Wolfrey also said he is assigning this matter to a new FOIA specialist, [REDACTED], who can be reached at [REDACTED] for future inquiries. Mr. Wolfrey explained that [REDACTED] will start working on this matter and will either respond to your request by April 30, 2015, or provide you a status update by that date.

I hope this information is helpful to you. Thank you for bringing this matter to OGIS. At this time, there is no further assistance OGIS can offer in this case; hence we will close your case.

Sincerely,  
/s/

Nikki Gramian, Acting Director  
Office of Government Information Services (OGIS)

