



OFFICE of GOVERNMENT INFORMATION SERVICES

October 27, 2015- Sent via U.S. mail

NATIONAL
ARCHIVES
and RECORDS
ADMINISTRATION

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phone: 202-741-5770
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fax: 202-741-5769



[REDACTED]

Re: Case No. 201501215
NG: CM: AB

Dear [REDACTED]:

This responds to your September 14, 2015 request for assistance to the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS). You provided us with additional information regarding your requests on October 6, 2015. In your submissions, you request updates on the status of several Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requests you made to the Federal Bureau of Prisons (BOP).

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.

We contacted BOP regarding your requests. According to the agency, it responded to request [REDACTED]. BOP also informed us that the agency responded to request [REDACTED] on or about [REDACTED]. If you have not received these materials, please contact the agency and ask for another copy of the records by writing to:

Bureau of Prisons, Freedom of Information Act Office
320 First Street, NW
HOLC Building, Room 936
Washington, DC 20534

Regarding requests [REDACTED], BOP informed us that these requests are currently in the processing stage. As you might know, FOIA gives requesters the right to request an estimated date on which an agency expects to respond to a request, 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(7)(B). BOP declined to provide an estimated date of completion for these requests; however, according to BOP's

Mr. Christopher W. Smith

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annual FOIA report, BOP processed simple requests in an average of 29 days and complex requests in 93 days in fiscal year 2014.

In your submission to OGIS, you assert that the agency's response to your request for information regarding the [REDACTED] did not include the [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] If you dispute BOP's response to your request, you have the right to file an administrative appeal. By filing an appeal, you preserve your administrative rights and give the agency a chance to carefully review and reconsider every part of a request and the agency's decision, including the thoroughness of the agency's search for responsive records. In order to appeal BOP's response to your request, please send a letter explaining your dissatisfaction with BOP's response to:

Office of Information Policy (OIP)

U.S. Department of Justice

Suite 11050

1425 New York Avenue, N.W.

Washington, D.C. 20530

Your appeal must be received by OIP within 60 days of the date of the agency's initial response to you.

I hope you find this information useful. At this time, there is no further assistance OGIS can offer and we will close your case. Thank you for bringing this matter to OGIS.

Sincerely,

/S/

JAMES V.M.L. HOLZER

Director

cc: Darnell Stroble, FOIA Public Liaison, Bureau of Prisons