



OFFICE of GOVERNMENT INFORMATION SERVICES

December 14, 2015—Sent via email

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Re: Case No.: 201600106
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 19, 2015 request for assistance from the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS), which we received via email. Your request for assistance pertains to a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request to the U.S. Department of State made by [REDACTED].

As you are aware, 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.

I understand that [REDACTED] submitted a request to the State Department for records about [REDACTED] on [REDACTED], and that while the agency acknowledged the request (which was assigned tracking No. [REDACTED]) and granted [REDACTED] request for a waiver of fees, he has not received a response to his request. On [REDACTED] [REDACTED] appealed the State Department's lack of response to his request. You ask for OGIS's assistance with this matter.

In response to your submission, we contacted State Department FOIA staff. The agency expects to respond to [REDACTED] request shortly.

I hope that this information about your client's request is useful to you. Thank you for contacting OGIS; we will now consider this matter closed.

Sincerely,

/s/

JAMES V.M.L. HOLZER
Director

cc: U.S. Department of State FOIA

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.

