



OFFICE *of* GOVERNMENT INFORMATION SERVICES

December 17, 2015— Sent via Email

[REDACTED]

In Re: Case No. 201600102

NATIONAL  
ARCHIVES  
*and* RECORDS  
ADMINISTRATION

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COLLEGE PARK, MD  
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Dear [REDACTED]:

This responds to your request for assistance from the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS), which we received via email on October 19, 2015. Your request for assistance pertains to a Freedom of Information (FOIA) appeal (No. [REDACTED]) to the Defense Security Service (DSS) submitted by [REDACTED]. Thank you for your interest in OGIS.

As you know, 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 carefully reviewed your submission of information, and we understand that you seek information about the status of [REDACTED], appeal. OGIS staff contacted the DSS FOIA Office, which informed us that the agency estimates that it will respond to [REDACTED] appeal by February 1, 2016. This estimate is DSS's best determination as to when it believes it will complete processing this appeal, based upon what remains to be done and in light of the agency's experience with processing similar appeals. It is not a guarantee that agency will have responded to [REDACTED] by that date.

I hope that this information is useful to you and to [REDACTED]. At this time there is no further action for us to take and we will consider this case closed.

Thank you for bringing this matter to OGIS.

Sincerely,

Angel Simmons  
Facilitator

Cc: DSS FOIA Office

