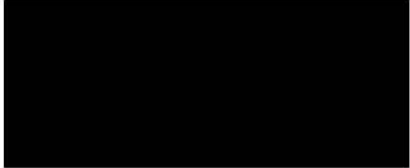




OFFICE of GOVERNMENT INFORMATION SERVICES

July 10, 2013 - Sent via Email



Re: Case No. 201300555
MN: NG: CM

NATIONAL
ARCHIVES
and RECORDS
ADMINISTRATION

8601 ADELPHI ROAD
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

This responds to your request to the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS), which we received on May 28, 2013. You requested assistance regarding a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request that you submitted to the Department of the Interior Office of the Inspector General (DOI OIG).

OGIS was created under the OPEN Government Act of 2007 to resolve FOIA disputes with the goal of avoiding litigation. Since opening our doors in September 2009, OGIS has received more than 1,200 cases and has successfully resolved most of them by facilitating discussions between FOIA requesters and Federal agencies. We offer mediation services as a nonbinding alternative to litigation. Participation in OGIS's mediation services is voluntary and the office has no binding authority. OGIS does not process FOIA requests or review FOIA appeals. OGIS cannot compel an agency to release records.

After opening a case, OGIS gathers information from the requester and the agency to learn more about the nature of the dispute. This process helps us gather necessary background information, assess whether the issues are appropriate for mediation, and determine the willingness of the parties to engage in our services. As part of our information gathering, we carefully reviewed your submission of information. We also spoke to you and to the agency to learn more about your case.

We understand that you submitted a FOIA request to DOI OIG's online system on February 18, 2013. You received an automatically generated acknowledgment in response to your request, but since that time you have heard nothing from the agency.

We contacted DOI OIG and learned that the agency was experiencing significant problems with its online submission system at the time that you filed your request. Although the system generated an acknowledgment email, DOI OIG did not receive your request. The agency recommended that you resubmit your



July 9, 2013

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request. Please include the date that you filed your original request (February 18, 2013) with that request. You should receive official acknowledgment with a case number from the agency within 7 days of your submission. If you do not, you may wish to follow up directly with DOI OIG by emailing foia@doioig.gov.

I hope that this information about your request is useful to you. Thank you for bringing this matter to OGIS; at this time there is no further action for us to take and we will consider this matter closed.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Miriam Nisbet in cursive script.

Miriam Nisbet, Director
Office of Government Information Services

Cc: Crystal Garcia, Department of the Interior Office of the Inspector General

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.