



February 22, 2017

Ms. Tammy Hudson  
Departmental Records Officer  
Department of Homeland Security  
7th and D Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20528

Dear Ms. Hudson:

The National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) is contacting you regarding the potential alienation of Federal email records created or received by Secretary Jeh Johnson, Deputy Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas, Chief of Staff Christian Marrone, and General Counsel Steven Bunnell, dating from December 23, 2013 - January 20, 2017.

Based on the allegations made by Judicial Watch in a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) lawsuit, *Judicial Watch v. Department of Homeland Security*, Civil Action 1:16-cv-00967 (D. D.C.), and the subsequent representations by the Government to the Court at status conferences on January 5, 2017 and February 17, 2017, NARA is concerned that Federal records may not have been captured in the Department of Homeland Security's official recordkeeping systems.

Pursuant to your Department's responsibilities under 44 U.S.C. Chapter 31 and NARA's authorities in 44 U.S.C. Chapter 29, we request that the Department of Homeland Security investigate this matter and provide NARA with a report on whether and how these records were managed and the current status of these records. This report is required and described in 36 CFR 1230.14 and is due within 30 days of the date of this letter.

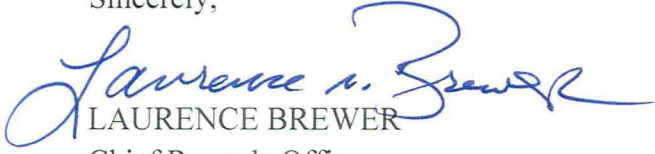
If Federal records have been alienated from the Department or removed without authorization, please describe all measures the Department has taken, or expects to take, to retrieve these records. Please also include a description of all safeguards established to prevent the unauthorized removal or destruction of records from happening in the future. Please also provide NARA all guidance and directives disseminated within the Department that address the management of email records, including those records created using personal email accounts.

NATIONAL ARCHIVES *and*  
RECORDS ADMINISTRATION

8601 ADELPHI ROAD  
COLLEGE PARK, MD 20740-6001  
[www.archives.gov](http://www.archives.gov)

If you are unable to provide a report within 30 days, please provide us with an interim report indicating what actions you have taken and when you expect to submit a final report. Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Laurence N. Brewer". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "L" and a long, sweeping tail.

LAURENCE BREWER  
Chief Records Officer  
for the U.S. Government