May 21, 2018

Ms. Gayle Rucker  
Department of the Treasury  
Financial Crimes Enforcement Network  
2070 Chain Bridge Road  
Vienna, VA 22182  
edna.rucker@fincen.gov

Dear Ms. Rucker:

The National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) has become aware of a potential unauthorized disposition of the Department of Treasury’s Financial Crimes Enforcement Network (FINCEN) records. According to multiple news sources, a law-enforcement official was unable to find two suspicious activity reports (SARs) pertaining to Michael Cohen’s financial activity in the Treasury’s government database, maintained by FINCEN, and covered by Records Control Schedule N1-559-10-001.

As required in 36 CFR 1230.14, Federal agencies must promptly report to NARA any unauthorized removal or destruction of records. In accordance with 36 CFR 1230.16(b), NARA requests that FINCEN respond within 30 calendar days to the allegations that Federal records are missing. If appropriate, the response should also detail specific actions the FINCEN will take to address any failure to capture and preserve Federal records, and the steps that FINCEN will take to mitigate future risk. Please indicate in your response if any records lost can be re-created or duplicated from other sources.

We understand the Department of Treasury Inspector General (IG) is conducting an investigation, and the full nature of the potential unauthorized disposition or removal of records may not be resolved within 30 calendar days. With this in mind, we request an interim report responsive to our inquiry within the 30 calendar days with subsequent updates as appropriate. In addition, we request a copy of the final IG report.

Thank you for your cooperation. If you have any questions, please contact me at (301) 837-1539 or by email to Laurence.Brewer@nara.gov.

Sincerely,

Laurence Brewer  
Chief Records Officer  
for the U.S. Government
CC:
Mr. Trevor Norris
Acting Assistant Secretary for Management
and Senior Agency Official for Records Management
Department of the Treasury
Trevor.Norris@treasury.gov
June 26, 2018

Ms. Gayle Rucker  
Department of the Treasury  
Financial Crimes Enforcement Network  
2070 Chain Bridge Road  
Vienna, VA 22182  
edna.rucker@fincen.gov

Dear Ms. Rucker:

Thank you for your letter dated June 20, 2018, responding to our inquiry regarding the potential unauthorized disposition of the Department of the Treasury’s Financial Crimes Enforcement Network (FinCEN) records—specifically Suspicious Activity Reports (SARs). You indicate that Treasury is not aware of any unauthorized disposition involving FinCen’s electronic database. You provide that while access to a SAR may be limited, the SAR remains in the FinCEN database and users wanting access are instructed to contact FinCEN if they need access to the document.

We accept your response and we consider this case closed.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

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

CC:  
Mr. Trevor Norris  
Acting Assistant Secretary for Management  
and Senior Agency Official for Records Management  
Department of the Treasury  
Trevor.Norris@treasury.gov