



NATIONAL ARCHIVES *and* RECORDS ADMINISTRATION  
8601 ADELPHI ROAD COLLEGE PARK, MD 20740-6001  
[www.archives.gov](http://www.archives.gov)

***Sent Via Email. No Hard Copy to Follow.***

February 28, 2020

Mr. David Alspach  
Department of the Interior  
Departmental Records Officer  
MS 7145A  
1849 C Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20240  
[david\\_alspach@ios.doi.gov](mailto:david_alspach@ios.doi.gov)

Dear Mr. Alspach,

The National Archives Records Administration (NARA) has received an allegation of unauthorized disposition of records from the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA). This allegation states that BIA has destroyed records related to “an unrequested tribal affiliation change made by the Agency,” and is related to FOIA Case No. 18-CV-0367, which sought “all correspondence and related records from the Pacific Regional Office and the Southern California Agency of the BIA, regarding the incorrect degree of Indian blood certification issued to...”

The requester was sent some records related to the FOIA request, but not as many records as they had expected and filed an appeal through the court regarding the request. The response received during the appeal process indicated that “Since the FOIA request sought records from 1997-1999, it is possible that some records Mr. Reyes expected to see had been destroyed as they were considered temporary and subject to disposal.”

To address this allegation, please respond with the NARA-approved disposition authorities that cover tribal affiliation records and the Certificate Degree of Indian Blood (CDIB).

Sincerely,

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