



Office of the Chief
Records Officer for the
U.S. Government

Sent Via Email. No Hard Copy to Follow.

January 28, 2025

Greg Carroll
Department of Justice
Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives
Records Officer
99 New York Ave., NE
Washington DC 20226

Dear Mr. Carroll:

The National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) recently received a report from the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) regarding the potential unauthorized disposition of records maintained in the electronic system DFuze, which was once used to track explosives incidents.

The report indicates that DFuze was deemed to have significant security issues and because of the very high annual maintenance costs it was taken offline, decommissioned, and replaced, and the records in question should have been accessioned into the National Archives upon decommissioning of the system but were not.

NARA acknowledges that the ATF has no way of reconstituting the records from proprietary software, and that the ATF considers that obtaining outside services to reload the software and extract the records maintained in the system would be prohibitively expensive.

In accordance with 36 CFR 1230.16(b), NARA is requesting the ATF provide the following additional information within 30 calendar days:

- A complete description of the records with volume and dates, if known, and all associated NARA-approved disposition authority numbers.
- The office maintaining these records.
- Any actions taken to recover or reconstruct the records not identified in your original submission.

- A statement describing what safeguards will be established to prevent future unauthorized disposition of federal records.

Additionally, to fully understand context, NARA requests that the ATF provide the disposition authority number of the successor records for the explosives incidents that are being maintained in the electronic system that replaced DFuze.

Your attention to this matter is greatly appreciated. If you have any questions or wish to discuss this further, please contact the Records Management Oversight and Reporting Program by email at UnauthorizedDisposition@nara.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "William Fischer". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

WILLIAM FISCHER
Chief Records Officer
for the U.S. Government (Acting)