



June 14, 2019

Gail Ennis
Acting Inspector General
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C Street NW – Mail Stop 4428
Washington, D.C. 20240

By Fax: (202) 219-3856

Cc: Emory A. Rounds, III
Director
U.S. Office of Government Ethics
1201 New York Avenue, NW, Suite 500
Washington, D.C., 20005

By Email: ContactOGE@oge.gov

Cc: Scott de la Vega
Designated Agency Ethics Official
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C Street NW
Mail Stop 7352
Washington, D.C. 20240

By Email: doi_ethics@sol.doi.gov

Re: Request for Investigation into the Department of the Interior’s Freedom of Information Act “Awareness Review” Process

Dear Ms. Ennis,

It has come to our attention that since 2017 the Department of the Interior’s Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) process has been subject to political interference by political appointees and non-career staff imposing barriers that prevented timely responses to requesters in violation of the Act and caused the agency to miss litigation deadlines in FOIA lawsuits. Further, we believe that statements made to Congress by Interior’s Principal Deputy Solicitor Daniel Jorjani and Acting Deputy Chief FOIA Officer Rachel Spector about the agency’s FOIA process reflect

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a lack of candor that undermined Congress’s ability to carry out its oversight of Interior’s FOIA process.

Therefore Earthjustice respectfully requests that you open an investigation into whether political appointees and non-career staff at the Department of the Interior improperly influenced the FOIA response process, resulting in (1) unwarranted delays and/or (2) withholding of information that would have otherwise been routinely released by career employees to the public.

We also respectfully request that you investigate the statements made to Congress by Mr. Daniel Jorjani and Ms. Rachel Spector about the agency’s “awareness review” process and the agency’s internal protocol for responding to FOIA requests to ensure that they complied with their obligation to fully and accurately convey their knowledge and understanding of the facts to Congress.

Background

Since 2017, the Department of the Interior has been habitually late in responding to the public’s requests for government records, citing “backlog” issues.¹ It is now evident that a newly implemented additional level of review and approval by political appointees and non-career staff has been delaying the agency in responding to the public. This delay, self-imposed by the Department of the Interior, violates FOIA’s statutory mandate that agencies make a “determination” to respond to a requester within 20 days. Further, the increased scrutiny of records by political appointees may have resulted in political appointees blocking the release of information that career FOIA officials would otherwise provide to the public under FOIA.

This is not the first time that concerns with political interference in Interior’s FOIA process have arisen. In 2015, the Office of the Inspector General (OIG) investigated allegations of political interference in the Interior FOIA Office at the request of Representative Ron Johnson, Chairman of the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs. At the conclusion of the investigation OIG reported: “We found that political appointees can and do become aware of certain FOIA requests. In most cases, they do not play any role in the response.”²

Recent developments demonstrate that currently political appointees and non-career staff at the Department of the Interior do play a role in both the agency’s review and release of responsive FOIA records. Documents released under FOIA between August 2018 and March 2019 to Earthjustice and its clients, Sierra Club and Friends of the Earth, show that Interior political appointees and non-career staff have turned the so-called “awareness review” process into an

¹ Miranda Green, The Hill, “New Interior FOIA rule could make it harder to get public documents” (December 31, 2018), <https://thehill.com/policy/energy-environment/423328-new-interior-foia-rule-could-make-it-harder-to-get-public-documents>.

² Kendall, Mary, Letter to Chairman Ron Johnson (September 29, 2015), <https://causeofaction.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/12/DOI-OIG-Sept.-2015-HSGAC-Report.pdf> (last visited June 14, 2019) (Response to June 23, 2015 letter requesting that DOI conduct an inquiry into the Department’s FOIA Office).

internal approval process that requires affirmative consent by political level agency officials prior to the release of documents.

The Awareness Review Process

On May 24, 2018, the Department of the Interior released a [memo] formalizing its “awareness review” process. This memo, which was issued by Departmental FOIA Officer Cindy Cafaro and updated on February 28, 2019,³ details three steps to the awareness review process, which is conducted after all responsive documents have been identified. Under the awareness review process, FOIA personnel are to:

- (1) search responsive documents for mentions of current or recent (employed within the last three months) Presidentially Appointed, Senate Confirmed, Non-Career Senior Executive, and/or Schedule C employees;
- (2) notify the appropriate SOL attorney and Bureau contact for awareness reviews and provide them with the full set of responsive records for 72 hour (three work days) review;
- (3) respond to the requestor after the awareness review is complete “in accordance” with the usual response process.

The memo clearly states that the Bureau contact and the SOL attorney can request more than three days if necessary to complete their review, but “[i]f the reviewer does not reply to the FOIA personnel within 3 workdays, *his/her silence will be taken as an affirmation that he/she has concluded his/her review.*”⁴

Officials from the Department of Interior have stated that any review of documents is to be released under FOIA in accordance with the awareness review process as detailed in the February 28, 2019 update.^{5,6}

³ United States Department of the Interior, “Updated Awareness Process for Freedom of Information Act Productions” (February 28, 2019), https://www.doi.gov/sites/doi.gov/files/uploads/awareness_process_memo_2.0.pdf (last visited June 14, 2019).

⁴ *Id.* at 2 (emphasis in original).

⁵ Responses to Written Questions for the Record Submitted by Daniel Jorjani to the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources at 7 (May 15, 2019), https://www.energy.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/files/serve?File_id=5221E1A2-B9A2-4D31-B615-82AA68C9C5B7 (last visited June 11, 2019).

⁶ Exchange Between Senator Leahy and Secretary Bernhardt in front of the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee for Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies (May 22, 2019), <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fb5MFDY2JIU&feature=youtu.be> (last visited June 11, 2019).

Creation of a New “Supplemental Review” Process

Documents released to Earthjustice and its clients, Sierra Club and Friends of the Earth, reveal that Interior has implemented a “supplemental review” by political appointees and non-career staff of materials deemed responsive to FOIA requests that is not provided for in the 2018 and 2019 Awareness Review memoranda. Specifically, a June 11, 2018 email to Leah Fairman from FOIA Public Liaison Clarice Julka states:

In addition to the written policy on awareness review, please do the following:

For any releases of documents involving the following offices: Comms, OCL, Exec Sec, External Affairs, Secretary, Chief of Staff, Deputy Chiefs of Staff and their assistants, please send the records and the response to DCOS, Downey Magallanes, at least 72 hours prior to release and confirm with her prior to release.⁷

An internal memo titled “Day in the Life of the OS FOIA Office” details that response, and explains that the awareness review process begins with “an email . . . to all named senior staff for a 72 hour awareness review and 5-day review requiring for the DSCOS and the Deputy Solicitor for an affirmative response. The Deputy Chief of Staff, Director of Communications, and the Deputy Solicitor are cc’d on each package. The processor then pings those who have not responded. The package will not be sent until all individuals sent the email; *respond in the affirmative.*”⁸

These documents detail an unnecessary, supplemental review process that creates an additional five-day review period on top of the 72 hours previously detailed in the February 28, 2019 memo. It also requires an affirmative response from then Deputy Chief of Staff Downey Magallanes and Deputy Solicitor Jorjani prior to the release of documents, meaning that documents cannot be released until that political appointee’s affirmative consent is received.

Requirement for “Affirmative Response”

Interior staff responsible for processing FOIA requests repeatedly reinforced the requirement for an affirmative response from DCOS Magallanes prior to the release.

On April 12, 2018, FOIA analyst Justin Wilkinson wrote: “Should OS FOIA expect comments from each of you or will Lori’s review confirmation be sufficient to move this request out of the

⁷ Email to Leah Fairman et al. from Clarice Julka. “Additional Awareness Review.” Sent June 11, 2018. Response to FOIA OS-2018-00959, Sixth Release OS-2018-00959-02190.

⁸ “DRAFT Deliberative, Revised Day in the Life of the OS FOIA Office.” Response to FOIA OS-2018-00959, Second Release OS-2018-00959-00888 (emphasis added).

Augmented Awareness Review phase?” Ms. Magallanes replied: “It is not sufficient. You need sign off from Laura and I. Thanks.”⁹

On April 17, 2018, Ms. Magallanes sent an email to Clarice Julka stating: “I’m no longer signing on anything outside of immediate office.” This email indicates that she continued to affirmatively sign off on anything directly related to the Secretary or Chief of Staff.¹⁰ A June 11, 2018 email from Deputy FOIA Officer Ryan McQuighan to Downey Magallanes refers back to that process; in the email, McQuighan stated: “Clarice [Julka] informed us that we have a supplemental awareness policy for any materials involving the Secretary or COS and that affirmative response is required.”¹¹

On June 19, 2018, attorney Nicholas Banco wrote to Ms. Magallanes, Ms. Spector, and Ms. Julka, stating: “I believe this package falls within the updated guidance that requires your affirmation before release due to its having references to the Secretary. BOEM has cleared the release in full of '18-00089cb' and no comments have been received within the 72 hour time frame concerning the contents of '18-00145ca'.”¹²

On August 2, 2017, Mr. Wilkinson wrote to Ms. Magallanes, Ms. Spector, and others, stating: “Per the Awareness Process guidelines, I am sending you the attached documents for your awareness. They are set to be released in response to active litigation (1:18 cv 00815) by [sic] COB on Tuesday, August 7, 2018.” On August 7, 2018, Special Assistant to the Solicitor Hubbel Relat wrote to Mr. Wilkinson, Ms. Magallanes, Ms. Spector, and others stating: “Justin, Please hold up on sending this out until we speak.”¹³

Missed Litigation Deadlines

Documents released under FOIA clearly show that the Department of the Interior itself has been harmed by the awareness review process. On more than one occasion, FOIA processors have

⁹ Email to Justin Wilkinson from Downey Magallanes. “RE: LITIGATION RECORDS (17-cv-01779 (WVP v. DOI)) – Augmented Awareness Review.” Sent April 12, 2018. Response to FOIA OS-2018-00959, Sixth Release OS-2018-00959-01946.

¹⁰ Email to Clarice Julka from Downey Magallanes. “Re: OS FOIA A wareness Review: 18-00799.” Sent April 17, 2018. Response to FOIA OS-2018-00959, First Release OS-2018-00959-000116.

¹¹ Email to Downey Magallanes, Clarice Julka, Rachel Spector, et al. from Ryan McQuighan, “72 Hour Awareness Notice (Monuments).” Sent June 11, 2018. Response to FOIA OS-2018-00959, Fifth Release OS-2018-00959-01434.

¹² Email to Downey Magallanes, Clarice Julka, Rachel Spector from Nicholas Banco. “Re: 1:18cv-00387/OS-2018-00089 and OS-2018-00145 Litigation Awareness Review.” Sent June 19, 2018. Response to FOIA OS-2018-00959, Fifth Release OS-2018-00959-01327.

¹³ Email to Justin Wilkinson, et al. from Hubbel Relat. “Re: ACTIVE LITIGATION – Awareness Review – 1:18-cv-00815-BAH/OS-2018-00750 PEER v. DOI.” Sent August 7, 2018. Response to FOIA OS-2018-00959, Sixth Release OS-2018-00959-02143.

missed litigation deadlines while waiting for approval from political appointees to release records. For example:

Litigation Related to FOIA Requests in Friends of the Earth v. U.S. Department of the Interior. On May 1, 2018, Acting Associate Solicitor Aaron Moody wrote to Ms. Magallanes and Ms. Spector: “Last Thursday, you were provided with a batch of FOIA documents for your awareness review. These documents are proposed for release in order to comply with a court order in *Friends of the Earth v. Department of Interior*. The court had issued an order on March 20th requiring the DOI to process 1,000 documents per month and produce them starting April 15, 2018. Unfortunately, the Department missed the first deadline. The plaintiff has not filed a contempt motion at this point, in part because we told them that we would release this first batch of documents no later than May 2nd (tomorrow). We would very much appreciate it if you could complete your awareness review as soon as possible so that we can release these documents by COB tomorrow.”¹⁴

Litigation Related to FOIA OS-2018-0570 and OS-2018-00843 in American Oversight v. U.S. Department of the Interior. On August 2, 2018, Mr. Banco emailed Ms. Magallanes, Heather Swift, John Brockmeir, Mr. Jorjani, Hubbel Relat, Caroline Boulton, Scott Hommel, Micah Chambers, Todd Wynn, Joseph Balash, Ms. Julka, and Ms. Spector. He stated: “Unfortunately, the Department has missed its initial proposed date for production and DOJ is seeking a release as soon as possible. OS is intending to release the attached materials no later than August 6, 2018. Please expedite your review if at all possible.”¹⁵

Litigation Related to FOIA OS-2017-01174 in Clement v. U.S. Department of the Interior. On April 2, 2018 Mr. McQuighan emailed Laura Rigas, James Cason, Mr. Jorjani, Tony Irish, Robert Howart, Downey Magallanes, and Ms. Julka about FOIA request 17-1174, stating: “I worked with Tony Irish on this request and am sending a revised package. I’m including Dan and Downey for awareness only. Laura and Mr. Cason still need to clear this. Deadline for this FOIA was last Friday, so we need to get affirmative response soon.”¹⁶

¹⁴ Email to Downey Magallanes et al. from Aaron Moody, “FOIA Litigation Response.” Sent May 1, 2018. Response to FOIA OS-2018-00959, Fifth Release OS-2018-00959-01210.

¹⁵ Email to Downey Magallanes et al. from Nicholas Banco. “Fwd: 1:18-cv-01216/ OS-2018-0570 and OS-2018-00843 Litigation Awareness Review.” Sent August 2, 2018. Response to FOIA OS-2018-00959, Fifth Release OS-2018-00959-01215.

¹⁶ Email to Laura Rigas, James Cason, Daniel Jorjani, Downey Magallanes et al. from Ryan McQuighan. “Fwd: Immediate Awareness Requested for Litigation [TIME SENSITIVE].” Sent April 2, 2018. Response to FOIA OS-2018-00959, Fifth Release OS-2018-00959-01281.

Apparent Lack of Candor in Statements Made to Congress

Both Interior Principal Deputy Solicitor Daniel Jorjani and Interior Acting Deputy Chief FOIA Officer Rachel Spector have testified under oath in Congress about the awareness review process.^{17,18}

Principal Deputy Solicitor of the Interior Department Daniel Jorjani

On May 15, 2019, Mr. Jorjani submitted answers in response to written questions from the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources following the May 2, 2019 hearing on his nomination to be Solicitor at the Department of the Interior. In his response to a question from Senator Ron Wyden, Mr. Jorjani stated that “as a policy matter, I typically did not review records prior to their release under the FOIA. Further, any review [of documents to be released under FOIA] that is conducted is done so in accordance with the Department’s Awareness Review Process for Freedom of Information Act Productions issued in May 24, 2018, and updated on February 28, 2019.”¹⁹ Mr. Jorjani provided that answer in response to five different questions from Senator Wyden about the FOIA process as part of his response to the Senate. He failed to mention the additional supplemental review process or his participation in its implementation.

Documents reviewed by Earthjustice and its clients appear to contradict Mr. Jorjani’s answer. These documents show that Mr. Jorjani himself was routinely included in the supplemental awareness review for seven different components at Interior,²⁰ indicating that he was well aware of the details of the awareness review and supplemental awareness review processes. Mr. Jorjani also appears to have followed the details of the email traffic around the supplemental awareness review process, at one point emailing Ms. Magallanes to alert her that an Assistant United States Attorney (AUSA) was copied on the email traffic around the review process.²¹

¹⁷ Swearing in of Daniel Jorjani by Senator Lisa Murkowski, min. 31:04 (May 2, 2019), <https://www.energy.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/2019/5/full-committee-nominations-hearing> (last visited June 13, 2019).

¹⁸ Swearing in of Rachel Spector by Congressman Elijah Cummings, hr. 1:26:25 (March 13, 2019), <https://oversight.house.gov/legislation/hearings/foia-examining-transparency-under-the-trump-administration> (last visited June 13, 2019).

¹⁹ *Supra* note 5.

²⁰ Email to Ryan McQuighan et al. from Juliette Lillie. “Re: Additional Awareness Review.” Sent June 11, 2018. Response to FOIA OS-2018-00959, Sixth Release OS-2018-00959-02192 (email chain showing Mr. Jorjani’s involvement in reviews).

²¹ Email to Downey Magallanes from Daniel Jorjani. “Fwd: 17-434 FOIA Notice [Time Sensitive].” Sent April 5, 2018. Response to FOIA OS-2018-00959, Fifth Release OS-2018-00959-01217.

Acting Deputy Chief FOIA Officer Rachel Spector

During testimony before the House Oversight Committee on March 13, 2019, Ms. Spector told Congresswoman Wasserman Schulz, “The [awareness review] policy provides for three work days in which senior officials may--are--are made aware of releases that are upcoming... the policy does not provide for senior officials preventing the release of the information.”²²

But as detailed above, the documents obtained by Earthjustice and its clients again appear to contradict this answer. Those documents reveal multiple instances of political appointees and non-career staff insisting on an opportunity to give an affirmative response prior to the release of documents otherwise cleared for release under FOIA.

Analysis

Based on the information detailed above and included in documents released to Earthjustice and its clients, we believe that the Department of the Interior has been violating the Freedom of Information Act by implementing policies and practices that induce significant delays and political interference in the processing of FOIA requests across many Interior components.

The awareness review process implemented by staff at the Department clearly goes beyond the process detailed in the February 28, 2019 memo. These policies and practices are unnecessary for Interior to meet the Act’s requirements and in fact, have caused the agency to repeatedly violate the Act. Specifically, these policies and practices include a “supplemental review” that implements an approval process that violates FOIA’s requirement that federal agencies “promptly” make records available upon request, determine whether to comply with the records request within the time limit allotted under the Act, and “immediately notify” the requester of that determination as required by 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(3)(A), (a)(6)(A).

We also believe that the statements made by Mr. Jorjani and Ms. Spector when questioned by members of Congress about the awareness review process demonstrate a troubling lack of candor about the supplemental awareness review policy, which may have undermined efforts by Congress to carry out its oversight responsibilities.

Conclusion

The Freedom of Information Act imposes on agencies a statutory requirement to respond to FOIA requests within 20 business days, subject to certain exceptions. Those exceptions do not include delay caused by political-level interference in the review and release process. Not only does that delay violate the FOIA, it also hurts the public by denying access to timely information about governmental activities. In addition, it is incumbent upon the leadership in the Department of the Interior to be forthcoming with all relevant information when responding to members of

²² Exchange Between Congresswoman Wasserman-Schultz and Acting Deputy Chief FOIA Officer Rachel Spector in front of the House Oversight Committee (March 13, 2019), <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zXgLK9BzxDw&feature=youtu.be> (last visited June 11, 2019).

Congress who are carrying out oversight into the agency's compliance with FOIA and other laws.

To that end, we respectfully request that you immediately open an investigation into these allegations.

Sincerely,

/s/ Yuting Yvonne Chi

Yuting Yvonne Chi
Attorney

Attachments:

Email to Leah Fairman et al. from Clarice Julka. "Additional Awareness Review." Sent June 11, 2018. Response to FOIA OS-2018-00959, Sixth Release OS-2018-00959-02190

"DRAFT Deliberative, Revised Day in the Life of the OS FOIA Office." Response to FOIA OS-2018-00959, Second Release OS-2018-00959-00888

Email to Justin Wilkinson from Downey Magallanes. "RE: LITIGATION RECORDS (17-cv-01779 (WVP v. DOI)) – Augmented Awareness Review." Sent April 12, 2018. Response to FOIA OS-2018-00959, Sixth Release OS-2018-00959-01946

Email to Clarice Julka from Downey Magallanes. "Re: OS FOIA Awareness Review: 18-00799." Sent April 17, 2018. Response to FOIA OS-2018-00959, First Release OS-2018-00959-000116

Email to Downey Magallanes, Clarice Julka, Rachel Spector, et al. from Ryan McQuighan, "72 Hour Awareness Notice (Monuments)." Sent June 11, 2018. Response to FOIA OS-2018-00959, Fifth Release OS-2018-00959-01434

Email to Downey Magallanes, Clarice Julka, Rachel Spector from Nicholas Banco. "Re: 1:18cv-00387/OS-2018-00089 and OS-2018-00145 Litigation Awareness Review." Sent June 19, 2018. Response to FOIA OS-2018-00959, Fifth Release OS-2018-00959-01327

Email to Justin Wilkinson, et al. from Hubbel Relat. "Re: ACTIVE LITIGATION – Awareness Review – 1:18-cv-00815-BAH/OS-2018-00750 PEER v. DOI." Sent August 7, 2018. Response to FOIA OS-2018-00959, Sixth Release OS-2018-00959-02143

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Email to Ryan McQuighan et al. from Juliette Lillie. "Re: Additional Awareness Review." Sent June 11, 2018. Response to FOIA OS-2018-00959, Sixth Release OS-2018-00959-02192

Email to Downey Magallanes from Daniel Jorjani. "Fwd: 17-434 FOIA Notice [Time Sensitive]." Sent April 5, 2018. Response to FOIA OS-2018-00959, Fifth Release OS-2018-00959-01217

To: Leah Fairman[leah_fairman@ios.doi.gov]; nicholas_banco[nicholas_banco@ios.doi.gov]; Justin Wilkinson[justin_wilkinson@ios.doi.gov]; Ryan McQuighan[ryan_mcquighan@ios.doi.gov]; Jason Hadnot[jason_hadnot@ios.doi.gov]; Emily Karp[emily_karp@ios.doi.gov]; Cynthia Sweeney[cynthia_sweeney@ios.doi.gov]
Cc: Lillie, Juliette[juliette_lillie@ios.doi.gov]; Cindy Cafaro[cindy_cafaro@ios.doi.gov]; Robert Howarth[robert_howarth@ios.doi.gov]
From: Julka, Clarice
Sent: 2018-06-11T14:02:48-04:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: Additional Awareness Review.
Received: 2018-06-11T14:03:15-04:00

Latest guidance:

In addition to the written policy on awareness review, please do the following: .

For any releases of documents involving the following offices: Comms, OCL, Exec Sec, External Affairs, Secretary, Chief of Staff, Deputy Chiefs of Staff and their assistants, please send the records and the response to DCOS, Downey Magallanes, at least 72 hours prior to release and confirm with her prior to release..

If a bureau/office within DOI contacts us with records that meet the above standard, please ask them to contact Downey Magallanes directly. .

Clarice Julka
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Day in the Life of the OS FOIA Office

The OS FOIA Office (Office) has 7 FTEs (OS FOIA Officer, 5 processors, and 1 admin staff) to process all incoming FOIA's to the Office of the Secretary. For the past year, the office has also had 1 contractor assisting with intake procedures—though position vacant for two months.

(b) (5)

Intake

All incoming FOIA requests are received via email, fax, or mail and are processed as follows:

- 1) Each FOIA is **uploaded** into the Electronic FOIA Tracking System (EFTS) and data fields are completed;
- 2) Each FOIA is *perfected* (i.e., the scope of the request is clear and fee issues resolved – (b) (5)
- 3) A **determination** is made on what would entail a reasonable search for records (b) (5)
- 4) A physical file is **created** for each incoming FOIA as well as an electronic folder in the F-Drive to retain ALL records associated with the FOIA request—a *cradle to grave system*;
- 5) If the FOIA cannot be immediately *perfected*, the Office will **contact** the requester to clarify the request. This can sometimes take days. (b) (5)
- 6) Once the Office has determined the issues above, it **completes** the following tasks (b) (5)

1) **prepares** and sends an acknowledgement letter to the requester, which includes among other things, the EFTS-issued FOIA tracking number and the *processing track*; (b) (5)

Typically, the searches conducted by the Office are placed in the *simple or normal* track. Additionally, *normal* tracks may involve records that usually do not require any complex redactions or significant review process, such as calendars or visitor logs. The other tracks for processing, *complex and exceptional/voluminous*, are assigned for FOIAs that require extensive custodial searches or very complex review and processing (i.e., highly sensitive records, equities, etc). These FOIAs could take months or even years to close. In addition to the traditional process of requesting records from custodians, the Office has recently had limited opportunity to utilize the email Enterprise Records and Document Management System (eERDMS) to collect email records from certain custodians. Each FOIA is now reviewed for its potential for an eERDMS search. (b) (5)

2) **determines** if it will conduct a search for records (i.e, via the Document Tracking System (DTS) or previously released records), or send out via email a request(s) for records.

Requested searches for custodians in the Office of the Secretary range from a single individual to as many as 30 custodians per each FOIA request. Response time for records has gone from several days to several weeks or months to no response at all.

3) **assigns** a processor for processing the FOIA; and (b) (5)
4) **responds** to calls or emails (b) (5) from custodians who have questions or concerns about a specific FOIA request.

This stage in the process has increased sharply due to the nature of the incoming FOIAs. These calls or emails may then impact the ultimate final scope and/or fees of the FOIA if custodians raise particular issues. On some Mondays, the Office is greeted with as many as 50 new requests to process from the weekend. This intake processing is largely done by 1 FTE and 1 contractor, if available, and overseen by the OS FOIA Officer.

Due to the unprecedented volume, the intake process that was completed in 24-48 hours on a chronological basis is now taking a week or more. (b) (5)
With the increased volume of incoming FOIAs, admin and processing staff have not been able to conduct regular follow-ups with custodians for records, which has contributed to the increased volume in non-response litigation. (b) (5)

Average Total Time for Intake Action/per person:

Processing

Once the Office has received records from one or more of the custodies – either all at once or in a rolling production, the processor performs the following:

- 1) **review** the records for both responsiveness and apply appropriate exemptions;
 - This may entail conducting research via the internet, talking directly to the custodians about the nature of the records, consult with other bureau FOIA officers familiar with the subject matter or the actual records, conduct equity reviews, or private entities who have knowledge of the records. This stage is where the majority of time is spent by the processor. (b) (5)
 - Once the review process is complete, the processor **prepares** the package for the OS FOIA Officer review. If exemptions have been applied to the production or the matter is sensitive, the package is sent to the Division of General Law, Office of the Solicitor, for review. (b) (5) After review and consultation with the Office of the Solicitor, the processor may need to make changes to the package.

- Once the package is returned from the solicitor’s office, the processor **reviews** it for any DOI political staff named on any pages in the package. Once he/she determines the names, an email is sent to all named senior staff for a 72 hour awareness review and **5-day** review requiring for the DSCOS and Deputy Solicitor for an affirmative response. The Deputy Chief of Staff, Director of Communications, and the Deputy Solicitor are cc’d on each package. The processor then pings those who have not responded. The package will not be sent until all individuals sent the email; respond in the affirmative. **(b) (5)**

Depending on staff levels, the Office may attempt to do rolling productions. However, at the present time, it has been difficult to keep track of when records are received, especially when the searches are partially fulfilled. Thus, the Office has typically waited until it is clear that all searches have been completed and records produced.

Once the awareness review is complete, the processor finalizes the package and releases it to the requestor (via email or traditional USPS). If the records respond to 3 or more requests, or the Office is likely to receive 3 or more request asking for the same records, the processor then posts the released records to the OS FOIA library. **(b) (5)**

Average Total Time to Process:

In FY 2018, processing productivity for OS FOIA Processors (pages/processed) is as follows:

Ryan									
			125		292	411	370	218	13,549 Total
Litigation	640	6	902	7	9	5	1		/2,258 Ave.
									1,972 Total
Non-Lit	319	279	755	559	60	0	0		/394 Ave.
Nick									
									19,077
Litigation	250	185	127	781	372	191	224		Total/3,179
	0	5	3	0	4	5	9		Ave.
Non-Lit	0	0	0	380	0	0	0		380/380
Leah (b) (6)									
									14,103
Litigation	161	373	230	580					Total/2,350
	7	5	7	7	167	470	488		Ave.
									9,265
Non-Lit	978	607	876	152	4	8	2		Total/1,544
									Ave.
Justin									
				261	324	420	216		12,237 Total
Litigation	0	0	0	7	6	9	5		/3,059 Ave.

DRAFT Deliberative

	Non-Lit	382 9	283 4	418 6	256 3	124 0	287	0	14,939 Total /2,489 Ave.
Jason									
	Litigation						0	0	0/0
	Non-Lit						126 5	252 6	1,265/1,265
Clarice (mostly secondary review)									
	Litigation	400	300	400	400	400	400	300	2,300 Total /383 Ave.
	Non-Lit	500	400	400	400	400	400	500	2,500 Total /416 Ave.

DRAFT

To: Lohr, Gabriel[gabriel.lohr@sol.doi.gov]
Cc: Magallanes, Downey[downey_magallanes@ios.doi.gov]; Wilkinson, Justin[justin_wilkinson@ios.doi.gov]; Mashburn, Lori[lori_mashburn@ios.doi.gov]; Daniel Jorjani[daniel.jorjani@sol.doi.gov]; Heather Swift[Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov]
From: Laura Rigas
Sent: 2018-04-13T12:37:50-04:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: Re: LITIGATION RECORDS (17-cv-01779 (WVP v. DOI)) - Augmented Awareness Review
Received: 2018-04-13T12:37:58-04:00

Thanks, Gabe. I'm ok if Downey is. Looping in Heather in case there's more back and forth before I return on Tue.

Laura Keehner Rigas
Communications Director
U.S. Department of the Interior
(202) 897-7022 cell
@Interior

On Apr 13, 2018, at 11:47 AM, Lohr, Gabriel <gabriel.lohr@sol.doi.gov> wrote:

Laura,



Let me know if you have further questions or would like further explanation.

Gabe

Gabriel D. Lohr
Attorney-Advisor, Branch of General Legal Services
Division of General Law, Office of the Solicitor
U.S. Department of the Interior
(202) 513-0512
(202) 208-6475 (Fax)

On Fri, Apr 13, 2018 at 10:34 AM, Laura Rigas <laura_rigas@ios.doi.gov> wrote:

A smaller black rectangular redaction box containing the text "(b) (5)" in red font, indicating a redaction under FOIA exemption (b)(5).

Laura Keehner Rigas

Communications Director
U.S. Department of the Interior
(202) 897-7022 cell
@Interior

On Apr 12, 2018, at 5:05 PM, Magallanes, Downey <downey_magallanes@ios.doi.gov>
wrote:

It is not sufficient. You need sign off from Laura and I. Thanks.

On Thu, Apr 12, 2018 at 1:54 PM, Wilkinson, Justin
<justin_wilkinson@ios.doi.gov> wrote:

Lori,

I very much appreciate your comments and time. I concur with all
of your comments and have applied them to the records.

(b) (5)

Can you confirm that this completes your review?

Downey, Laura, and Dan,

Should OS FOIA expect comments from each of you or will Lori's review
confirmation be sufficient to move this request out of the
Augmented Awareness Review phase?

Thanks,
Justin

On Thu, Apr 12, 2018 at 9:01 AM, Lohr, Gabriel <gabriel.lohr@sol.doi.gov>
wrote:

Lori,

Thanks you for your comments.

Justin,

Please touch base with me this morning so we can address Lori's concerns
together and provide a single response to her questions.

If there are any other concerns or questions, please call or email.

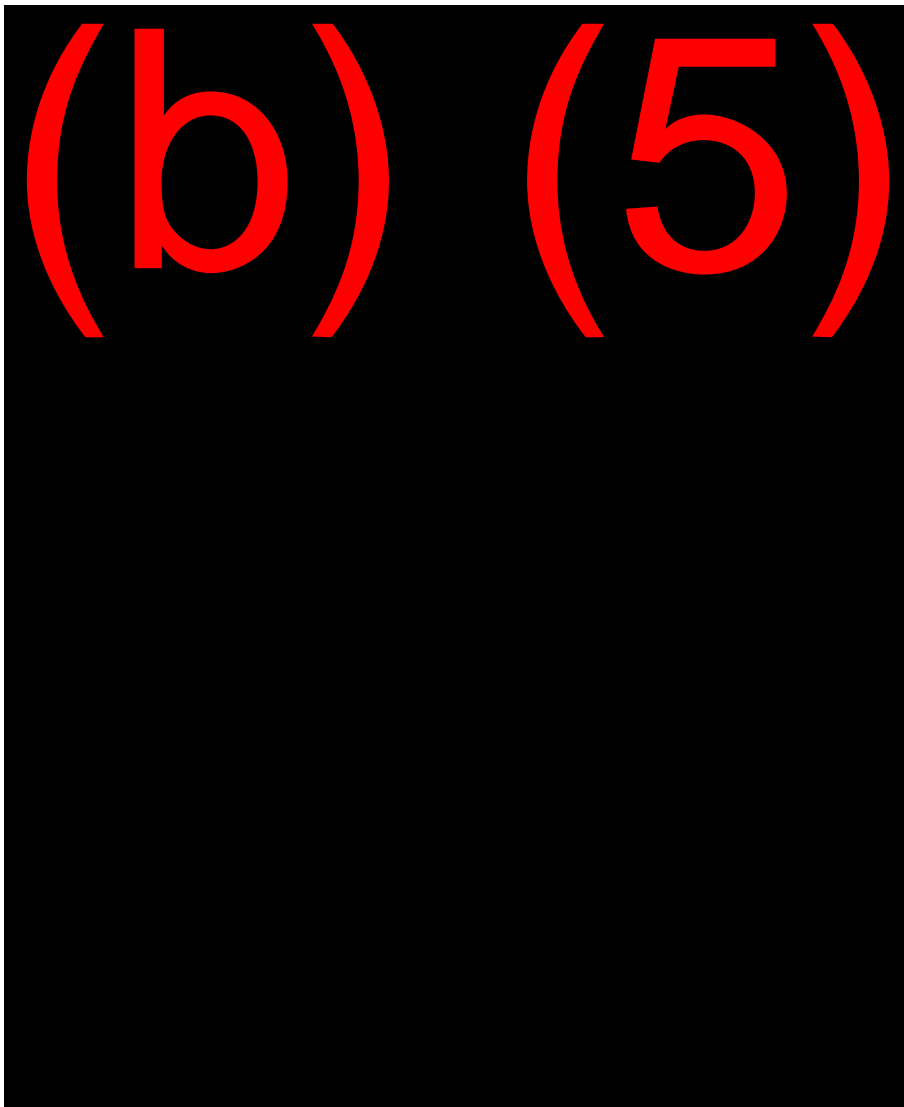
Thanks,

Gabe

Gabriel D. Lohr
Attorney-Advisor, Branch of General Legal Services
Division of General Law, Office of the Solicitor
U.S. Department of the Interior
(202) 513-0512
(202) 208-6475 (Fax)

On Wed, Apr 11, 2018 at 7:03 PM, Mashburn, Lori <lori_mashburn@ios.doi.gov>
wrote:

Thank you Justin for providing an opportunity to review. I have a few questions/concerns about some of the documents included. Please see below.



(b) (5)

I would be happy to chat with you about these tomorrow.

Thanks,
Lori

Lori K. Mashburn
White House Liaison & Senior Advisor to the Secretary
Department of the Interior
202.208.1694

On Tue, Apr 10, 2018 at 1:53 PM, Wilkinson, Justin
<justin_wilkinson@ios.doi.gov> wrote:

Good afternoon,
For your review, please find the attached 487 pages of responsive material that are involved in the above-captioned litigation. Lori Mashburn is the records custodian of this material.

Please provide confirmation that you have received and reviewed these records. They are scheduled to be produced this Friday, April 13, 2018. We will be unable to meet that deadline unless we have received a confirmation from each recipient of this message.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions.

Thanks,
Justin

--

Justin P. Wilkinson
Department of the Interior
Office of the Secretary, FOIA Office
[1849 C Street, NW](https://www.doi.gov), MS 7328
Washington, D.C. 20240
Justin_Wilkinson@ios.doi.gov
(202) 513 0765 phone

(202) 565 1109 direct line
(202) 219 2374 fax

--

Downey Magallanes
Deputy Chief of Staff for Policy
U.S. Department of the Interior
downey_magallanes@ios.doi.gov
202 706 9199



McQuighan, Ryan <ryan_mcquighan@ios.doi.gov>

Fwd: OS FOIA A wareness Review: 18-00799

Julka, Clarice <clarice_julka@ios.doi.gov>

Tue, Apr 17, 2018 at 10:07 AM

To: Ryan McQuighan <ryan_mcquighan@ios.doi.gov>, Justin Wilkinson <justin_wilkinson@ios.doi.gov>, Nicholas Banco <nbanco@ios.doi.gov>, Leah Fairman <leah_fairman@ios.doi.gov>

See below. When I get more clarification, I will pass it on.

Clarice Julka
Department of the Interior
Office of the Secretary, FOIA Office
1849 C Street, NW, MS-7328
Washington, D.C. 20240
Clarice_Julka@ios.doi.gov
(202) 513-0765 - phone
(202) 208-6045 - direct line
(202) 219-2374 - fax

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Downey Magallanes <downey_magallanes@ios.doi.gov>
Date: Tue, Apr 17, 2018 at 10:04 AM
Subject: Re: OS FOIA Awareness Review: 18-00799
To: "Julka, Clarice" <clarice_julka@ios.doi.gov>

I'm no longer signing on anything outside of immediate office. Told Julie and Dan. Thanks

Sent from my iPhone

On Apr 16, 2018, at 4:04 PM, Julka, Clarice <clarice_julka@ios.doi.gov> wrote:

Pursuant to the awareness requirement, I have attached ONRR records which we intend to release in full.

v/r

Clarice

Clarice Julka
Department of the Interior
Office of the Secretary, FOIA Office
1849 C Street, NW, MS-7328
Washington, D.C. 20240
Clarice_Julka@ios.doi.gov
(202) 513-0765 - phone
(202) 208-6045 - direct line
(202) 219-2374 - fax

<18-00799a.docx>

<18-00799ca.xlsx>

To: McQuighan, Ryan[ryan_mcquighan@ios.doi.gov]
Cc: Clarice Julka[clarice_julka@ios.doi.gov]; Joshua Hanson[joshua.hanson@sol.doi.gov]; Ryan Sklar[ryan.sklar@sol.doi.gov]
From: Magallanes, Downey
Sent: 2018-06-11T14:49:23-04:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: Re: 72 Hour Awareness Notice (Monuments)
Received: 2018-06-11T14:49:31-04:00

Are there documents that have been pulled based on other political review?

On Mon, Jun 11, 2018 at 1:21 PM, McQuighan, Ryan <ryan_mcquighan@ios.doi.gov> wrote:

Good afternoon,

Clarice informed us that we have a supplemental awareness policy for any materials involving the Secretary or COS and that affirmative response is required. The records I sent last week have a litigation deadline of 6/15, so based on the new guidance, we do need a response from you in the next day or so. Any questions should be directed to Josh or Ryan in SOL.

Thanks,
Ryan

Ryan McQuighan
Department of the Interior
Office of the Secretary, FOIA Office
1849 C Street, NW, MS-7328
Washington, D.C. 20240
Ryan_McQuighan@ios.doi.gov
202.208.2047 - direct line
202.513.0765 - phone
202.219.2374 - fax

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **McQuighan, Ryan** <ryan_mcquighan@ios.doi.gov>
Date: Thu, Jun 7, 2018 at 3:18 PM
Subject: 72 Hour Awareness Notice (Monuments)
To: Downey Magallanes <downey_magallanes@ios.doi.gov>, Timothy Williams <timothy_williams@ios.doi.gov>, Amanda Kaster <amanda_kaster@ios.doi.gov>, Micah Chambers <micah_chambers@ios.doi.gov>, Douglas Domenech <douglas_domenech@ios.doi.gov>, Kathleen Benedetto <kbenedetto@blm.gov>, James Cason <james_cason@ios.doi.gov>, Scott Hommel <scott_hommel@ios.doi.gov>
Cc: Ryan Sklar <ryan.sklar@sol.doi.gov>, Joshua Hanson <joshua.hanson@sol.doi.gov>, Daniel Jorjani <daniel.jorjani@sol.doi.gov>, John Bockmier <john_bockmier@ios.doi.gov>

Good afternoon,

Pursuant to the May 24, 2018 memo on awareness review, I am sending this email for 72 hour awareness notice. I am providing the attached 1685 pages of records concerning the National Monuments Review process. These are involved in active litigation and need to be produced by June 15,

To: Downey Magallanes[downey_magallanes@ios.doi.gov]; Clarice Julka[clarice_julka@ios.doi.gov]; Rachel Spector[rachel.spector@sol.doi.gov]
From: Banco, Nicholas
Sent: 2018-06-19T12:50:01-04:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: Re: 1:18-cv-00387/ OS-2018-00089 and OS-2018-00145 Litigation Awareness Review
Received: 2018-06-19T12:50:47-04:00

Hi Downey,

I believe this package falls within the updated guidance that requires your affirmation before release due to its having references to the Secretary. BOEM has cleared the release in full of '18-00089cb' and no comments have been received within the 72 hour time frame concerning the contents of '18-00145ca'. Because this release would close out a lawsuit and its two underlying requests, expediency may be warranted to avoid additional attorney fees.

Thanks,

Nick

On Thu, Jun 14, 2018 at 3:39 PM, Banco, Nicholas <nicholas_banco@ios.doi.gov> wrote:

Hi everyone,

OS is preparing a final release of documents for a lawsuit involving two Freedom of Information Act requests. I have attached copies of the underlying requests, proposed cover letter, and copies of the proposed release.

Document '18 00089cb' has undergone consultation with BOEM and BOEM has authorized its release in full.

OS is intending to furnish the attached versions of the responsive materials to Plaintiff no later than COB June 18, 2018. Please provide any comments before then.

Rachel Spector of SOL has concurred with OS' findings. Please do not hesitate to contact us with any concerns.

Thanks,

Nick

--

Nicholas Banco
Department of the Interior
Office of the Secretary, FOIA Office
1849 C Street, NW, MS-7023
Washington, D.C. 20240
Nicholas_Banco@ios.doi.gov
(202) 513-0806 - phone

--

Nicholas Banco

To: Wilkinson, Justin[justin_wilkinson@ios.doi.gov]
Cc: Downey Magallanes[downey_magallanes@ios.doi.gov]; John Bockmier[john_bockmier@ios.doi.gov]; Swift, Heather[heather_swift@ios.doi.gov]; Andrea Travnicek[andrea_travnicek@ios.doi.gov]; Russell Newell[russell_newell@ios.doi.gov]; Katharine MacGregor[katharine_macgregor@ios.doi.gov]; Julka, Clarice[clarice_julka@ios.doi.gov]; Rachel Spector[rachel.spector@sol.doi.gov]; OS FOIA OS[osfoia@ios.doi.gov]; Daniel Jorjani[daniel.jorjani@sol.doi.gov]
From: Relat, Hubbel
Sent: 2018-08-07T09:53:51-04:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: Re: ACTIVE LITIGATION - Awareness Review - 1:18-cv-00815-BAH/OS-2018-00750 PEER v. DOI
Received: 2018-08-07T09:54:03-04:00

Justin,
Please hold up on sending this out until we speak. Thanks.

Hubbel

On Thu, Aug 2, 2018 at 3:01 PM, Wilkinson, Justin <justin_wilkinson@ios.doi.gov> wrote:

Hello all,
Per the Awareness Process Guidelines, I am sending you the attached documents for your awareness. They are set to be released in response to active litigation (1:18 cv 00815) by COB on Tuesday, August 7, 2018. Also attached is the original FOIA request.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Justin

--

Justin P. Wilkinson
Department of the Interior
Office of the Secretary, FOIA Office
1849 C Street, NW, MS 7328
Washington, D.C. 20240
Justin_Wilkinson@ios.doi.gov
(202) 513 0765 phone
(202) 565 1109 direct line
(202) 219 2374 fax

--

Hubbel Relat
Special Assistant to the Solicitor
U.S. Department of the Interior
202-208-5578
hubbel.relat@sol.doi.gov

To: Downey Magallanes[downey_magallanes@ios.doi.gov]
Cc: Cally Younger[cally.younger@sol.doi.gov]; Joshua Hanson[joshua.hanson@sol.doi.gov]; Ryan Sklar[ryan.sklar@sol.doi.gov]
From: Moody, Aaron
Sent: 2018-05-01T13:22:55-04:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: FOIA litigation response
Received: 2018-05-01T13:23:06-04:00

Hi Downey-

Last Thursday, you were provided with a batch of FOIA documents for your awareness review. These documents are proposed for release in order to comply with a court order in *Friends of the Earth v. Department of Interior*. The court had issued an order on March 20th, requiring the DOI to process 1,000 documents per month and produce them starting on April 15, 2018. Unfortunately, the Department missed the first deadline. The plaintiff has not filed a contempt motion at this point, in part because we told them that we would release this first batch of documents no later than May 2nd (tomorrow). We would very much appreciate it if you could complete your awareness review as soon as possible so that we can release these documents by COB tomorrow.

thank you, and let us know if you have any questions.

-Aaron

Aaron G. Moody
Acting Associate Solicitor - Division of Land Resources

Office of the Solicitor
U.S. Department of the Interior
202-208-3495 (o)
202-309-6928 (c)

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To: Downey Magallanes[downey_magallanes@ios.doi.gov]
From: Wynn, Todd
Sent: 2018-08-03T09:02:43-04:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: Fwd: 1:18-cv-01216/ OS-2018-0570 and OS-2018-00843 Litigation Awareness Review
Received: 2018-08-03T09:02:51-04:00
[18-00570ca \(Redacted\).pdf](#)
[18-00570cc.docx](#)
[18-00843ca \(Redacted\).pdf](#)
[00570ca.pdf](#)
[00843ca.pdf](#)
[18-00843qa.pdf](#)
[18-00570qa.pdf](#)

I have a question on this one. Can you call me when you have a moment or we can discuss at the 1130 meeting?

Todd

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Banco, Nicholas <nicholas_banco@ios.doi.gov>
Date: Thu, Aug 2, 2018 at 4:52 PM
Subject: 1:18-cv-01216/ OS-2018-0570 and OS-2018-00843 Litigation Awareness Review
To: Downey Magallanes <downey_magallanes@ios.doi.gov>, Heather Swift <heather_swift@ios.doi.gov>, John Bockmier <john_bockmier@ios.doi.gov>, Daniel Jorjani <daniel.jorjani@sol.doi.gov>, Hubbel Relat <hubbel.relat@sol.doi.gov>, Caroline Boulton <caroline_boulton@ios.doi.gov>, Scott Hommel <scott_hommel@ios.doi.gov>, Micah Chambers <micah_chambers@ios.doi.gov>, Todd Wynn <todd_wynn@ios.doi.gov>, Joseph Balash <joseph_balash@ios.doi.gov>, Clarice Julka <clarice_julka@ios.doi.gov>, Rachel Spector <rachel.spector@sol.doi.gov>

Hi everyone,

OS is preparing a partial release of documents for a lawsuit incorporating two separate FOIAs on communications regarding gas leasing. I've attached copies of the underlying requests, proposed cover letter, and redacted/bracketed versions of the 43 pages intended for release.

Unfortunately, the Department has missed its initial proposed date for production and DOJ is seeking a release as soon as possible. OS is intending to release the attached materials no later than August 6, 2018.

Please expedite your review if at all possible.

Rachel Spector of SOL has concurred with OS' proposed withholdings. Please do not hesitate to contact us with any concerns as soon as practicable.

Thanks,

Nick

--

To: Laura Rigas[laura_rigas@ios.doi.gov]; James Cason[james_cason@ios.doi.gov]; Daniel Jorjani[daniel.jorjani@sol.doi.gov]; Irish, Tony[tony.irish@sol.doi.gov]; Robert Howarth[robert_howarth@ios.doi.gov]; Downey Magallanes[downey_magallanes@ios.doi.gov]; Clarice Julka[clarice_julka@ios.doi.gov]
From: McQuighan, Ryan
Sent: 2018-04-02T12:40:19-04:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: Fwd: Immediate Awareness Requested for Litigation [TIME SENSITIVE]
Received: 2018-04-02T12:48:31-04:00
[01174db \(First eerdms\) - bates - nr removed.pdf](#)

Good afternoon,

I worked with Tony Irish on this request and am sending a revised package. I'm including Dan and Downey for awareness only. Laura and Mr. Cason still need to clear this. Deadline for this FOIA was last Friday, so we need to get affirmative response soon.

Thanks,

Ryan

Ryan McQuighan

Department of the Interior

Office of the Secretary, FOIA Office

1849 C Street, NW, MS-7328

Washington, D.C. 20240

Ryan_McQuighan@ios.doi.gov

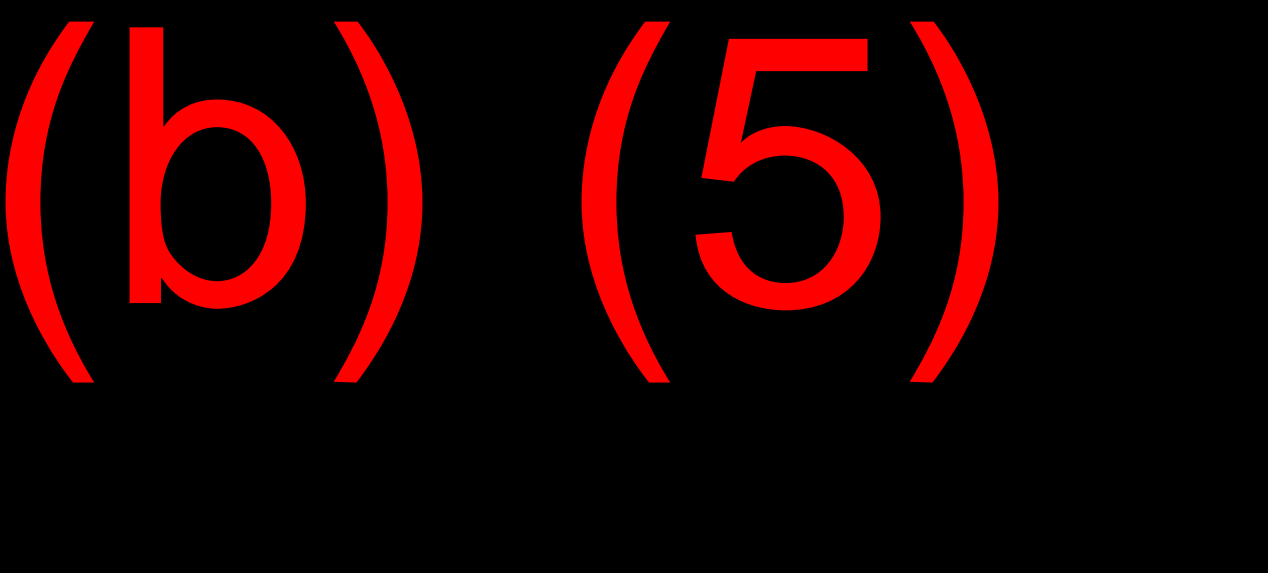
202.208.2047 - direct line

202.513.0765 - phone

202.219.2374 - fax

On Fri, Mar 30, 2018 at 4:06 PM, Irish, Tony <tony.irish@sol.doi.gov> wrote:

Ryan,



To: McQuighan, Ryan[ryan_mcquighan@ios.doi.gov]
Cc: Julka, Clarice[clarice_julka@ios.doi.gov]; Leah Fairman[leah_fairman@ios.doi.gov]; nicholas_banco[nicholas_banco@ios.doi.gov]; Justin Wilkinson[justin_wilkinson@ios.doi.gov]; Jason Hadnot[jason_hadnot@ios.doi.gov]; Emily Karp[emily_karp@ios.doi.gov]; Cynthia Sweeney[cynthia_sweeney@ios.doi.gov]; Cindy Cafaro[cindy_cafaro@ios.doi.gov]; Robert Howarth[robert_howarth@ios.doi.gov]
From: Juliette Lillie
Sent: 2018-06-11T14:21:24-04:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: Re: Additional Awareness Review.
Received: 2018-06-11T14:21:26-04:00

Please copy Dan on what is being sent to Downey.

Juliette A. Lillie
Director, Office of the Executive Secretariat and
Regulatory Affairs
U.S. Department of the Interior
202-208-3181

On Jun 11, 2018, at 2:12 PM, McQuighan, Ryan <ryan_mcquighan@ios.doi.gov> wrote:

Include Dan and John on these or just Downey?

Ryan McQuighan
Department of the Interior
Office of the Secretary, FOIA Office
1849 C Street, NW, MS-7328
Washington, D.C. 20240
Ryan_McQuighan@ios.doi.gov
202.208.2047 - direct line

202.513.0765 - phone

202.219.2374 - fax

On Mon, Jun 11, 2018 at 2:02 PM, Julka, Clarice <clarice_julka@ios.doi.gov> wrote:

Latest guidance:

In addition to the written policy on awareness review, please do the following: .

For any releases of documents involving the following offices: Comms, OCL, Exec Sec, External Affairs, Secretary, Chief of Staff, Deputy Chiefs of Staff and their assistants, please send the records and the response to DCOS, Downey Magallanes, at least 72 hours prior to release and confirm with her prior to release..

If a bureau/office within DOI contacts us with records that meet the above standard, please ask them to contact Downey Magallanes directly. .

To: Daniel Jorjani[daniel.jorjani@sol.doi.gov]
From: Magallanes, Downey
Sent: 2018-04-05T09:55:41-04:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: Fwd: 17-434 FOIA Notice [Time Sensitive]
Received: 2018-04-05T09:55:51-04:00

FYI the AUSA is directly cc'd on this email.

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **McQuighan, Ryan** <ryan_mcquighan@ios.doi.gov>
Date: Thu, Apr 5, 2018 at 8:14 AM
Subject: Re: 17-434 FOIA Notice [Time Sensitive]
To: Katharine MacGregor <katharine_macgregor@ios.doi.gov>
Cc: Kathleen Benedetto <kbenedetto@blm.gov>, Robert Howarth <robert_howarth@ios.doi.gov>, Downey Magallanes <downey_magallanes@ios.doi.gov>, Daniel Jorjani <daniel.jorjani@sol.doi.gov>, Laura Rigas <laura_rigas@ios.doi.gov>, Josaphat Plater-Zyberk <josaphat.plater-zyberk@sol.doi.gov>, Jason.Lee3@usdoj.gov

We weren't aware of him. I'll forward to him now.
Jason is asking if we're good to release these today, so please let us know asap.

Ryan McQuighan
Department of the Interior
Office of the Secretary, FOIA Office
1849 C Street, NW, MS-7328
Washington, D.C. 20240
Ryan_McQuighan@ios.doi.gov
202.208.2047 - direct line
202.513.0765 - phone
202.219.2374 - fax

On Thu, Apr 5, 2018 at 12:17 AM, Katharine MacGregor <katharine_macgregor@ios.doi.gov> wrote:

Why is Brian Steed not copied on BLM-related FOIAs?

Sent from my iPad

> On Apr 4, 2018, at 6:13 AM, Mcquighan, Ryan <ryan_mcquighan@ios.doi.gov> wrote:
>
> Attached is a FOIA notice. I am sending since Rob is out of the office.
>
> These records are involved in active litigation and will need to be
> produced by Friday, April 6. There are no political custodians involved,
> but records touch on BLM matters. Per the augmented awareness review please
> contact Jack Plater-Zyberk in SOL or our AUSA Jason Lee with any