



DEFENSE INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20340-5100



FAC-2C/FOIA

June 04, 2021

John Greenewald
27305 W. Live Oak Rd.
Castaic, CA 91384

This responds to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request, dated July 25, 2016 that you submitted to the Defense Intelligence Agency (DIA) for information requesting a copy of records, electronic or otherwise, of all records, memos and correspondence during Fiscal Years 2015 and 2016 that discuss seeking increased funding for the DIA FOIA program.

I apologize for the delay in responding to your request. DIA continues its efforts to eliminate the large backlog of pending FOIA requests. In order to properly respond, it was necessary to consult with another office within the agency.

A search of DIA's systems of records located (1) document (2 pages) responsive to your request

Upon review, I have determined that some portions of (1) documents (1 page) must be withheld in part from disclosure pursuant to the FOIA. The withheld portions are exempt from release pursuant to Exemption 3 of the FOIA, 5 U.S.C. § 552 (b)(3). Exemption 3 applies to information specifically exempted by a statute establishing particular criteria for withholding. The applicable statutes are 10 U.S.C. § 424 and 50 U.S.C. § 3024(i). Statute 10 U.S.C. § 424 protects the identity of DIA employees, the organizational structure of the agency, and any function of DIA.

If you are not satisfied with my response to your request, you may contact the DIA FOIA Requester Service Center, as well as our FOIA Public Liaison at 301-394-6253.

Additionally, you may contact the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) at the National Archives and Records Administration to inquire about the FOIA mediation services they offer. You may contact OGIS by email at ogis@nara.gov; telephone at 202-741-5770, toll free at 1-877-684-6448 or facsimile at 202-741-5769; or you may mail them at the following address:

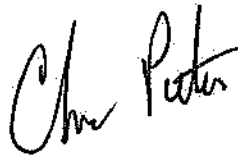
Office of Government Information Services
National Archives and Records Administration
8601 Adelphi Road-OGIS
College Park, MD 20740-6001

You may also exercise your right to file an administrative appeal by writing to the address below and referring to case number FOIA-00095-2017. Your appeal must be postmarked no later than 90 days after the date of this letter.

Defense Intelligence Agency
7400 Pentagon
ATTN: FAC-2C (FOIA)
Washington, D.C. 20301-7400

Sincerely,

(for)

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Steve Tumiski", written over the word "(for)".

Steven W. Tumiski
Chief, Records Management and Information Services

(1) Enclosure

- DIA FOIA Backlog Reduction
Improvement Plan (2017)

This document is made available through the declassification efforts
and research of John Greenewald, Jr., creator of:

The Black Vault



The Black Vault is the largest online Freedom of Information Act (FOIA)
document clearinghouse in the world. The research efforts here are
responsible for the declassification of hundreds of thousands of pages
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**Defense Intelligence Agency
Freedom of Information Act (FOIA)
Backlog Reduction Improvement Plan
July 2017**

(b)(3) 10
U.S.C. 424

1. Introduction: The DoD Office of the Deputy Chief Management Officer memorandum dated May 1, 2017, requested a component improvement plan that corresponds to specific root causes of DIA's FOIA requests and consultations backlog by 10 July 2017. The letter set a milestone of a 5% reduction per year for five fiscal years (FY) for FOIA and consultation backlogs. Currently, the DIA FOIA Team processes three categories of requests: FOIA (information requests from the public), Privacy Act (PA) (requests for information from PA systems of record), and Appeals (challenging the Agency's response). Within FOIA and Privacy Act, there are consultations (referrals from other government agencies that have DIA equity in their documents). This team is also responsible for the handling of litigations concerning these requests which at the present is at its highest peak of actions.

2. Challenge: To meet the DoD 5% backlog reduction mandate. At the start of FY17, the backlog was FOIA/PA - 1,165; Appeals - 89; consultations - 240.

Prior to FY15, DIA had successfully met the DoD 10% mandate for five consecutive years. DIA has not met the backlog requirement due to budget constraints that resulted in a loss of contractor support from August 2014 through June 2016. Also, an increase of FOIA litigation actions required reallocation of manpower to support stringent court deadlines and as well as a focus to process old and complex cases in the backlog.

Since the re-introduction of FOIA contractors (9) in late FY16, total cases closed increased from "521" in June 2016 to "817" in June 2017.

3. Objective: To reach the DoD 5% mandate, DIA must close a net of 116 FOIA/PA and 18 appeal cases plus the total number of new requests received during this fiscal year. For consultations, DIA is on track to meet/exceed the DoD mandate which is currently at 23%.

4. Assumptions: Current manning, both government and contractor will not decrease. Based on previous years, DIA has experienced sudden spikes in FOIA requests and litigation actions based on current events. It is unlikely that the DoD 5% reduction mandate can be achieved in the next three months. A more realistic objective is to meet the mandate starting in FY18 from a fresh baseline.

6. Plan of Action:

a. Improve Subject Matter Expert (SME) Responsiveness to FOIA Taskers. The FOIA office will expand its outreach to principle DIA offices to identify impediments to SME reviews of FOIA taskers and determine methods to expedite SME reviews.

Implemented an upgraded version of FOIAXpress that will allow the FOIA office to better track FOIA tasker suspense dates and keep DIA directorates informed of overdue suspense. Expanded FOIA training will be provided to DIA SMEs, including access to the Department of Justice FOIA training course.

b. Internal FOIA Review Process. The FOIA office will prioritize review of cases awaiting signature to increase the case closure rate.

c. IT Support. The FOIA office will request accelerated lab testing and approval process for future upgrades of FOIAXpress. DIA has implemented the automated data review of email content and should experience a decrease of relevancy check processing time and providing FOIA analysts more time for case production.

d. Manpower. Facility Services Division will move two Army administrative billets to FOIA to increase administrative support.