



**DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY  
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS  
2000 NAVY PENTAGON  
WASHINGTON DC 20350-2000**

5720  
Ser DNS-H  
JL/26U105122  
March 31, 2026

Sent via email to: [john@greenewald.com](mailto:john@greenewald.com)

Mr. John Greenewald  
27305 W. Live Oak Rd.  
Suite #1203  
Castaic, CA 91384

Dear Mr. Greenewald:

This is a response to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request dated June 17, 2021. Your request was received on the same day and assigned tracking number DON-NAVY-2021-007793.

In order to locate potentially responsive records, this office contacted the office of the Department of the Navy, Assistant for Administration (DON/AA) Directives and Records Management Division (DRMD). Accordingly, that office searched their paper and electronic files relating to "A copy of all emails, sent to and/or from and/or cc'd and/or bcc'd Brennan P Mckernan (CIV USN DCNO N2N6) and OSD employee Luis Elizondo, who had the email address [luis.d.elizondo.civ@mail.smil.mil](mailto:luis.d.elizondo.civ@mail.smil.mil) and/or [luis.d.elizondo.civ@mail.mil](mailto:luis.d.elizondo.civ@mail.mil)."

Upon completion, the Department of the Navy Assistant for Administration (DON/AA) Directives and Records Management Division (DRMD) advised that 26 pages of responsive records were found. Please be advised after the coordination and review of responsive document, it was determined that 6 pages are exempt in full and the remaining 20 pages are exempt in part from disclosure under FOIA 5 U.S.C. § 552.

- 5 U.S.C. § 552 (b) (6): Information that, if disclosed, would invade another individual's personal privacy.
- 5 U.S.C. § 552 (b) (5), the deliberative process privilege. This privilege has consistently been held to (1) encourage open, frank discussions on matters of policy between subordinates and superiors, (2) protect against premature disclosure of proposed policies before they are adopted, and (3) protect against public confusion that might result from disclosure of reasons and rationales that were not in fact ultimately the ground of the agency's action. If the redacted information were to be released, it would reveal agency's employees' internal predecisional deliberations about application of the FOIA exemptions and redactions in an active FOIA case that was not finalized at the time of the discussions. Because this was not a final action by the agency, and disclosure of such deliberations could have a chilling effect on the agency's ability to have open and frank discussions throughout these important decision-making processes. Therefore, the portions of the document are exempt from disclosure under

FOIA exemption 5 U.S.C. §552 (b) (5). The “foreseeable harm” standard was applied and it was determined that the release of these pre-decisional/draft materials could cause significant injury to the decision-making process, a chilling effect on discussion, hasty or uninformed decision-making, and public confusion.

Under 32 CFR §701.12(a), you have the right to an appeal. Appeals can be filed via email or through the U.S. mail. In both cases, send the appellate authority the following items:

1. An email/letter requesting an appeal with reasons why it should be granted.
2. A copy of your initial request.
3. A copy of this letter.

**An appeal may be submitted through our online portal at [www.securerelease.us](http://www.securerelease.us) and must be received within 90 calendar days** from the date of this letter.

**An appeal sent by email must be received within 90 calendar days** from the date of this letter. In the subject line of the email, type “FOIA Appeal” and your case number DON-NAVY-2021-007793. Send the appeal to [Navy-OJAG-C14-FOIA-PA-ADMINAPPEALS@us.navy.mil](mailto:Navy-OJAG-C14-FOIA-PA-ADMINAPPEALS@us.navy.mil).

**An appeal sent by mail must be postmarked within 90 calendar days** from the date of this letter. Make sure to mark the envelope “FOIA Appeal”. For issues related to the military, mail your appeal to The Judge Advocate General (Code 14). For all non-military related matters, mail your appeal to the Office of General Counsel (OGC). The appropriate addresses have been provided below:

The Judge Advocate General (Code 14)  
1322 Patterson Avenue SE, Suite 3000  
Washington Navy Yard, DC 20374-5066

General Counsel of the Navy  
1000 Navy Pentagon, Room 5A532  
Washington, DC 20350-1000

You have the right to seek dispute resolution services with this determination. You may contact the Navy FOIA Public Liaison Mr. Chris Julka via email [Christopher.a.julka.civ@us.navy.mil](mailto:Christopher.a.julka.civ@us.navy.mil) or by phone (703) 697-0031. You may also contact the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) through their website [ogis.archives.gov](http://ogis.archives.gov), via email [ogis@nara.gov](mailto:ogis@nara.gov), or by phone (202) 741-5770.


We understand the importance of timely responses to FOIA requests and apologize for any inconvenience this delay may cause. Thank you, again, for your patience.

Please direct questions to the FOIA Service Center regarding the actions taken to process your request by phone (202) 685-0412 or via email [don-foia-pa@us.navy.mil](mailto:don-foia-pa@us.navy.mil).

Sincerely,  
*Carl A. Laurie*  
for  
R. STRONG  
Director  
NAVY FOIA/PA Program Office

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  
released by the U.S. Government & Military.

**Discover the Truth** at: <http://www.theblackvault.com>

**From:** (b) (6)  
**To:** (b) (6)  
**Subject:** RE: availability this week?  
**Date:** Friday, December 2, 2016 10:00:19 AM

---

I am here

-----Original Message-----

**From:** (b) (6)  
**Sent:** Friday, December 02, 2016 9:12 AM  
**To:** (b) (6)  
**Subject:** RE: availability this week?

(b) (6),

Perfect. Sounds good. I'll come by later this morning.

V/r,

(b) (6)

-----Original Message-----

**From:** (b) (6)  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 01, 2016 6:40 PM  
**To:** (b) (6)  
**Subject:** Re: availability this week?

I just returned from OCONUS. How about tomorrow late morning?

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone.

Original Message

**From:** (b) (6)  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 1, 2016 5:23 PM  
**To:** (b) (6)  
**Subject:** availability this week?

(b) (6),

I stopped by your office earlier today. Do you have availability this week to meet?

All the best,

(b) (6)

**From:** (b) (6)  
**To:** (b) (6)  
**Subject:** RE: meeting with (b) (6)  
**Date:** Thursday, January 5, 2017 12:10:31 PM

---

Its all your brother! :)

-----Original Message-----

**From:** (b) (6)  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 05, 2017 11:18 AM  
**To:** (b) (6)  
**Subject:** meeting with (b) (6)

(b) (6),  
Just wanted to let you know that (b) (6) is coming by a little after 1200 today (Thursday). I also grabbed your conference room from 1230-1430; I hope you don't mind! If you need me to move it, I can work with (b) (6).

V/r,  
(b) (6)

**From:** (b) (6)  
**To:** (b) (6)  
**Subject:** Drones over SRS (UNCLASSIFIED)  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 23, 2017 11:28:06 AM

---

CLASSIFICATION: UNCLASSIFIED

<http://chronicle.augusta.com/news/2017-05-22/srs-drone-update-leaves-questions-unanswered>

CLASSIFICATION: UNCLASSIFIED

**From:** (b) (6)  
**To:** (b) (6)  
**Subject:** RE: Call me at (b) (6)  
**Date:** Friday, June 16, 2017 9:32:00 AM

---

Tried ~0930. Will try again in about 30.

-----Original Message-----

**From:** (b) (6)  
**Sent:** Friday, June 16, 2017 7:59 AM  
**To:** (b) (6)  
**Subject:** Call me at (b) (6)

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone.

**From:** (b) (6)  
**To:** (b) (6)  
**Subject:** RE: send me the link when you can (UNCLASSIFIED)  
**Date:** Friday, June 16, 2017 1:03:00 PM

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<https://fightersweep.com/1460/x-files-edition>

-----Original Message-----

**From:** (b) (6)  
**Sent:** Friday, June 16, 2017 12:17 PM  
**To:** (b) (6)  
**Subject:** send me the link when you can (UNCLASSIFIED)

CLASSIFICATION: UNCLASSIFIED

Thanks!

CLASSIFICATION: UNCLASSIFIED

**From:** (b) (6)  
**To:** (b) (6)  
**Subject:** Story (UNCLASSIFIED)  
**Date:** Wednesday, August 9, 2017 1:02:41 PM

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CLASSIFICATION: UNCLASSIFIED

<https://warisboring.com/the-u-s-military-still-wants-psyhic-marines-and-weve-got-the-manual/>

CLASSIFICATION: UNCLASSIFIED

**From:** (b) (6)  
**To:** (b) (6)  
**Subject:** RE: have time for a chat today???? (UNCLASSIFIED)  
**Date:** Tuesday, August 15, 2017 5:51:00 PM

---

Excellent! Will look forward to the update.

V/r,  
(b) (6)

-----Original Message-----

**From:** (b) (6)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 15, 2017 5:46 PM  
**To:** (b) (6)  
**Subject:** Re: have time for a chat today???? (UNCLASSIFIED)

Nope! I forgot, sorry! Will update you upon your return. :). Good forward momentum.

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone.

Original Message  
**From:** (b) (6)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 15, 2017 5:44 PM  
**To:** (b) (6)  
**Subject:** RE: have time for a chat today???? (UNCLASSIFIED)

(b) (6)  
I'm out on local leave this week and next, but can flex as required. Let me know if you need me to come in... you can reach me on personal email.

V/r,  
(b) (6)

-----Original Message-----

**From:** (b) (6)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 15, 2017 11:02 AM  
**To:** (b) (6)  
**Subject:** have time for a chat today???? (UNCLASSIFIED)

CLASSIFICATION: UNCLASSIFIED

CLASSIFICATION: UNCLASSIFIED

**From:** (b) (6)  
**To:** (b) (6)  
**Subject:** contact info  
**Date:** Friday, September 1, 2017 3:08:00 PM

---

(b) (6),  
My personal cell is (b) (6).

V/r,  
(b) (6)

**From:** (b) (6)  
**To:** (b) (6)  
**Subject:** Call me pls at (b) (6)  
**Date:** Wednesday, September 20, 2017 8:25:31 AM

---

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone.

**From:** (b) (6) <[REDACTED]@INTEL.US>  
**To:** (b) (6) <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** FW: 5C355 Conference Room (UNCLASSIFIED)  
**Date:** Thursday, September 14, 2017 12:40:53 PM

---

CLASSIFICATION: UNCLASSIFIED

Conference room reservation approved.

-----Original Message-----

**From:** (b) (6) <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 14, 2017 11:58 AM  
**To:** (b) (6) <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** RE: 5C355 Conference Room (UNCLASSIFIED)

CLASSIFICATION: UNCLASSIFIED

Meeting has been approved.

VR

(b) (6) <[REDACTED]>  
[REDACTED]

-----Original Message-----

**From:** (b) (6) <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 14, 2017 11:02 AM  
**To:** (b) (6) <[REDACTED]> mil>  
**Subject:** 5C355 Conference Room (UNCLASSIFIED)

CLASSIFICATION: UNCLASSIFIED

All,

May I please book the 5C355 conference room today from 1500 to 1700. Per the schedule it is currently available.

Thanks!

V/r,  
(b) (6) <[REDACTED]>  
[REDACTED]

JWICS: (b) (6) [REDACTED]

CLASSIFICATION: UNCLASSIFIED  
CLASSIFICATION: UNCLASSIFIED  
CLASSIFICATION: UNCLASSIFIED

**From:** (b) (6)  
**Subject:** Status? REF: meeting with (b) (6) (UNCLASSIFIED)  
**Date:** Wednesday, September 20, 2017 9:42:31 AM

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CLASSIFICATION: UNCLASSIFIED

Any news?

CLASSIFICATION: UNCLASSIFIED

**From:** (b) (6)  
**To:** (b) (6)  
**Subject:** QUEUE (UNCLASSIFIED)  
**Date:** Friday, September 22, 2017 3:55:31 PM  
**Attachments:** [Q 2017024A.DOCX](#)

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CLASSIFICATION: UNCLASSIFIED

CLASSIFICATION: UNCLASSIFIED

(b) (6)

(b) (6)

(b) (6)

(b) (6)

(b) (6)

**From:** (b) (6)  
**To:** [Tipton, Neill T SES OSD OUSD INTEL & SEC \(USA\)](#)  
**Cc:** (b) (6)  
**Subject:** DRAFT DepSECDEF letter (UNCLASSIFIED)  
**Date:** Monday, September 25, 2017 11:22:45 AM  
**Attachments:** [AATIP-DDI TCSP.DOC](#)

---

CLASSIFICATION: UNCLASSIFIED

Greetings Neil,

Per SECDEF's Front Office guidance to you and me, I took the liberty of drafting a memo at the Unclassified level that helps you better assume the new responsibilities for AATIP. At your convenience, please review (it's very short on purpose) and let me know if you want me to put more meet on it.

(b) (6), same with you please...No pride in authorship, just want to make sure we answer the mail for the front office.

Standing by...

V/R

(b) (6)

CLASSIFICATION: UNCLASSIFIED

(b) (6), (b) (5)

**From:** (b) (6)  
**To:** (b) (6)  
**Subject:** Re: was he?  
**Date:** Thursday, September 28, 2017 9:04:49 AM

---

Not the same dude unfortunately, but nonetheless, he feels you should engage because of his reported knowledge on the subject matter if you have an in. I concur.

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone.

Original Message

**From:** (b) (6)  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 28, 2017 5:59 AM  
**To:** (b) (6)  
**Subject:** was he?

(b) (6)

Hope this finds you well. Do we know if he is the right guy?

All the best,

(b) (6)

**From:** (b) (6)  
**To:** (b) (6)  
**Subject:** Call me at (b) (6)  
**Date:** Friday, September 29, 2017 2:53:31 PM

---

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone.

**From:** (b) (6)  
**To:** (b) (6)  
**Subject:** RE: Question  
**Date:** Monday, October 2, 2017 9:09:00 AM

---

Sorry for not getting back with you earlier on this. Moving the meeting is not/not a problem for me... I'm good with whatever time works for (b) (6)

V/r,  
(b) (6)

-----Original Message-----

**From:** (b) (6)  
**Sent:** Friday, September 29, 2017 3:34 PM  
**To:** (b) (6)  
**Subject:** Question

Can we move meeting with Neil to 1400 instead of 1100? (b) (6) can't get a flight that early...  
Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone.

**From:** (b) (6)  
**To:** (b) (6)  
**Subject:** RE: Question  
**Date:** Monday, October 2, 2017 9:09:00 AM

---

Just got this message this morning. I was up the river at a couple meetings on Friday afternoon.

-----Original Message-----

**From:** (b) (6)  
**Sent:** Friday, September 29, 2017 3:34 PM  
**To:** (b) (6)  
**Subject:** Question

Can we move meeting with Neil to 1400 instead of 1100? (b) (6) can't get a flight that early...  
Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone.

**From:** (b) (6)  
**To:** (b) (6)  
**Subject:** Re: Question  
**Date:** Monday, October 2, 2017 10:31:21 AM

---

Nope...on some serious NyQuil

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone.

Original Message

**From:** (b) (6)  
**Sent:** Monday, October 2, 2017 10:00 AM  
**To:** (b) (6)  
**Subject:** RE: Question

Are you in today?

-----Original Message-----

**From:** (b) (6)  
**Sent:** Monday, October 02, 2017 9:59 AM  
**To:** (b) (6)  
**Subject:** Re: Question

Looks like we will have to cancel. Schedule conflict. Let's get together tomorrow. :)

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone.

Original Message

**From:** (b) (6)  
**Sent:** Monday, October 2, 2017 9:09 AM  
**To:** (b) (6)  
**Subject:** RE: Question

Sorry for not getting back with you earlier on this. Moving the meeting is not/not a problem for me... I'm good with whatever time works for (b) (6).

V/r,

(b) (6)

-----Original Message-----

**From:** (b) (6)  
**Sent:** Friday, September 29, 2017 3:34 PM  
**To:** (b) (6)  
**Subject:** Question

Can we move meeting with Neil to 1400 instead of 1100? (b) (6) can't get a flight that early...  
Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone.

**From:** (b) (6)  
**To:** [Tipton, Neill T SES OSD OUSD INTEL & SEC \(USA\)](#)  
**Cc:** (b) (6)  
**Subject:** Re: DRAFT DepSECDEF letter (UNCLASSIFIED)  
**Date:** Tuesday, October 3, 2017 8:30:15 AM

---

Perfecto!

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone.

Original Message

From: Tipton, Neill T SES OSD OUSD INTEL (US)

Sent: Tuesday, October 3, 2017 8:19 AM

To: (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6)

Subject: RE: DRAFT DepSECDEF letter (UNCLASSIFIED)

CLASSIFICATION: UNCLASSIFIED

Getting spun back up. Will read and get thoughts back today or tomorrow (at Ft Meade half the day today).

-----Original Message-----

From: (b) (6)

Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 11:23 AM

To: Tipton, Neill T SES OSD OUSD INTEL (US) (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6)

Subject: DRAFT DepSECDEF letter (UNCLASSIFIED)

CLASSIFICATION: UNCLASSIFIED

Greetings Neil,

Per SECDEF's Front Office guidance to you and me, I took the liberty of drafting a memo at the Unclassified level that helps you better assume the new responsibilities for AATIP. At your convenience, please review (it's very short on purpose) and let me know if you want me to put more meet on it.

(b) (6), same with you please...No pride in authorship, just want to make sure we answer the mail for the front office.

Standing by...

V/R

(b) (6)

CLASSIFICATION: UNCLASSIFIED

CLASSIFICATION: UNCLASSIFIED