



**DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE/JOINT STAFF
FREEDOM OF INFORMATION
1155 DEFENSE PENTAGON
WASHINGTON, DC 20301-1155**

Ref: 24-F-0154
September 18, 2025

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

Dear Mr. Greenewald:

This is a final response to your October 25, 2023 Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request, a copy of which is enclosed for your convenience. The Office of the Secretary of Defense/Joint Staff (OSD/JS) FOIA Requester Service Center received your request on October 26, 2023, and assigned it FOIA case number 24-F-0154. We ask that you use this number when referring to your request.

The Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Intelligence & Security, All-domain Anomaly Resolution Office, conducted a search of their records systems and located 23 pages determined to be responsive to your request. Mr. David P. Bennett, Director, Office of Information Counsel, Department of Defense, Office of General Counsel, in his capacity as an Initial Denial Authority, has determined that three pages are withheld in their entirety pursuant to 5 U.S.C. § 552 (b)(5), inter- and intra- agency memoranda which are deliberative in nature; this exemption is appropriate for internal documents which are part of the decision-making process, and contain subjective evaluations, opinions and recommendations.

Additionally, Mr. David P. Bennett, Director, Office of Information Counsel, Department of Defense, Office of General Counsel and Mr. Paul M. Plescow, Senior Intelligence Officer, All-domain Anomaly Resolution Office, in their capacities as Initial Denial Authorities, have determined that portions of the remaining 20 responsive pages are exempt from release pursuant to 5 U.S.C. § 552:

(b)(5), inter- and intra- agency memoranda which are deliberative in nature; this exemption is appropriate for internal documents which are part of the decision-making process, and contain subjective evaluations, opinions and recommendations; and

(b)(6), information which, if disclosed, would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of the personal privacy of individuals.

Please note that we have considered the foreseeable harm standard when reviewing records and applying exemptions under the FOIA in the processing of this request. In this instance, fees for processing your request were below the threshold for requiring payment. Please note that fees may be assessed on future requests.

If you have any questions or concerns about the foregoing or about the processing of your request, please do not hesitate to contact the Action Officer assigned to your request, Daniel Mullin, at daniel.r.mullin3.civ@mail.mil or 571-372-0465. Additionally, if you have concerns about service received by our office, please contact a member of our Leadership Team at 571-372-0498 or Toll Free at 866-574-4970.


Should you wish to inquire about mediation services, you may contact the OSD/JS FOIA Public Liaison, Virginia Burke, by email at osd.mc-alex.oatsd-pclt.mbx.foia-liaison@mail.mil or by phone at 571-372-0462. You may also contact the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) at the National Archives and Records Administration to inquire about the FOIA mediation services they offer. The contact information for OGIS is as follows:

Office of Government Information Services
National Archives and Records Administration
8601 Adelphi Road-OGIS
College Park, MD 20740
E-mail: ogis@nara.gov
Telephone: 202-741-5770
Fax: 202-741-5769
Toll-free: 1-877-684-6448

You have the right to appeal to the appellate authority, Mr. Michael Kremlacek, Acting Principal Deputy to the Secretary of Defense for Privacy, Civil Liberties, and Transparency (PCLT), Office of the Secretary of Defense, at: 4800 Mark Center Drive, ATTN: PCLFD, FOIA Appeals, Mailbox #24, Alexandria, VA 22350-1700. Your appeal must be postmarked within 90 calendar days of the date of this response. Alternatively, you may email your appeal to osd.foia-appeal@mail.mil. If you use email, please include the words "FOIA Appeal" in the subject of the email. Please also reference FOIA case number 24-F-0154 in any appeal correspondence.

We appreciate your patience in the processing of your request. As stated previously, please contact the Action Officer assigned to your request, Daniel Mullin, and reference FOIA case number 24-F-0154, if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,


for Pamela Andrews
Chief, FOIA

Enclosures:
As stated

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)
Sent: Friday, October 13, 2023 11:50 AM
To: (b)(6)
Cc: (b)(6)
Subject: (b)(5)
Signed By: (b)(6)

Thanks (b)(6) I'll take a look shortly.

From: (b)(6)
Sent: Friday, October 13, 2023 11:28 AM
To: (b)(6)
Cc: (b)(6)
Subject: (b)(5)

Good morning,

(b)(5)

V/r,

(b)(6)

Freedom of Information Division
OSD/JS FOIA Requester Service center
Action Officer

(b)(6)

From: (b)(6)
Sent: Friday, October 27, 2023 11:30 AM
To: (b)(6)
Subject: (b)(5)
Attachments: (b)(6)
Signed By: (b)(6)

V/R,

(b)(6)

OSD/JS FOIA Office

(b)(6)

Comments: <https://ice.disa.mil/index.cfm?fa=card&sp=125562>

From: (b)(6)
Sent: Wednesday, May 10, 2023 3:26 PM
To: (b)(6)
Cc: (b)(6)
Subject: RE: (b)(5)

(b)(6)

Feedback is attached from our Interviewers.

Thank you,

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

From: (b)(6)
Sent: Wednesday, May 3, 2023 12:47 PM
To: (b)(6)
Cc: (b)(6)
Subject: (b)(5)

Hi (b)(6)

(b)(5)
(b)(5) Thank you and feel free to contact me if you have questions or concerns.

V/r,

(b)(6)

Freedom of Information Division
OSD/JS FOIA Requester Service center
Action Officer

(b)(6)

From: (b)(6)
Sent: Friday, October 27, 2023 11:31 AM
To: (b)(6)
Subject: (b)(5)
Attachments:
Signed By: (b)(6)

V/R,

(b)(6)
OSD/JS FOIA Office

(b)(6)

Comments: <https://ice.disa.mil/index.cfm?fa=card&sp=125562>

From: (b)(6)
Sent: Monday, May 1, 2023 11:12 AM
To: (b)(6)
Subject: (b)(5)

I did some work on this to make sure I have the meat of everything correct. I will tighten it up later on this week. I just wanted to update you on this and I know you are still having drive issues.

V/r,

(b)(6)
Freedom of Information Division
OSD/JS FOIA Requester Service center
Action Officer

(b)(6)

From: (b)(6)
Sent: Monday, April 24, 2023 2:10 PM
To: (b)(6)
Subject: (b)(5)

Good afternoon (b)(6)

I got all of drives back late this morning so I was able to work on (b)(5) I am going to go back and work on language and organization but I just wanted to update you with what I had so far. I want to make sure what I noted for exemptions and final dispositions is accurate. Thank you.

V/r,

(b)(6)

Freedom of Information Division
OSD/JS FOIA Requester Service center
Action Officer

(b)(6)

From: (b)(6)
Sent: Friday, October 27, 2023 11:33 AM
To: (b)(6)
Subject: (b)(5)
Signed By: (b)(6)

V/R,

(b)(6)
OSD/JS FOIA Office

(b)(6)

Comments: <https://ice.disa.mil/index.cfm?fa=card&sp=125562>

From: (b)(6)
Sent: Wednesday, April 5, 2023 2:45 PM
To: (b)(6)
Subject: RE: (b)(5)

Looks good (b)(6)
(b)(6)

V/R,

(b)(6)
OSD/JS FOIA Office
(b)(6)

Comments: <https://ice.disa.mil/index.cfm?fa=card&sp=125562>

From: (b)(6)
Sent: Wednesday, April 5, 2023 2:30 PM
To: (b)(6)
Subject: (b)(5)

(b)(6)

(b)(5)

(b)(6) Thank you

V/r,

(b)(6)

Freedom of Information Division
OSD/JS FOIA Requester Service center

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

(b)(5)

(b)(5)

(b)(5)

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

(b)(5)

From: (b)(6)
Sent: Friday, October 27, 2023 11:33 AM
To: (b)(6)
Subject: (b)(5)
Signed By: (b)(6)

V/R,

(b)(6)
OSD/JS FOIA Office

(b)(6)

Comments: <https://ice.disa.mil/index.cfm?fa=card&sp=125562>

From: (b)(6)
Sent: Wednesday, April 5, 2023 2:46 PM
To: (b)(6)
Subject: RE: (b)(5)

(b)(5) ..

V/R,

(b)(6)
OSD/JS FOIA Office

(b)(6)

Comments: <https://ice.disa.mil/index.cfm?fa=card&sp=125562>

From: (b)(6)
Sent: Wednesday, April 5, 2023 2:30 PM
To: (b)(6)
Subject: (b)(5)

(b)(6),

(b)(5)
(b)(5) Thank you

V/r,

(b)(6)

Freedom of Information Division
OSD/JS FOIA Requester Service center
Action Officer

(b)(6)

From: (b)(6)
Sent: Friday, October 27, 2023 11:34 AM
To: (b)(6)
Subject: (b)(5)
Signed By: (b)(6)

V/R,

(b)(6)
OSD/JS FOIA Office

(b)(6)

Comments: <https://ice.disa.mil/index.cfm?fa=card&sp=125562>

From: (b)(6)
Sent: Thursday, April 6, 2023 10:02 AM
To: (b)(6)
Subject: RE: (b)(5)

Looks good so far... (b)(5)
(b)(5)

V/R,

(b)(6)
OSD/JS FOIA Office
(b)(6)

Comments: <https://ice.disa.mil/index.cfm?fa=card&sp=125562>

From: (b)(6)
Sent: Thursday, April 6, 2023 7:09 AM
To: (b)(6)
Subject: RE: (b)(5)

Good morning,

(b)(5)

V/r,

(b)(6)

Freedom of Information Division
OSD/JS FOIA Requester Service center

(b)(6)

From: (b)(6)

Sent: Wednesday, April 5, 2023 2:45 PM

To: (b)(6)

Subject: RE: (b)(5)

(b)(5)

V/R,

(b)(6)

OSD/JS FOIA Office

(b)(6)

Comments: <https://ice.disa.mil/index.cfm?fa=card&sp=125562>

From: (b)(6)

Sent: Wednesday, April 5, 2023 2:30 PM

To: (b)(6)

Subject: (b)(5)

(b)(6),

(b)(5)

V/r,

(b)(6)

Freedom of Information Division
OSD/JS FOIA Requester Service center

(b)(6)

From: (b)(6)
Sent: Friday, October 27, 2023 11:34 AM
To: (b)(6)
Subject: FW: Are you
Signed By: (b)(6)

V/R,

(b)(6)
OSD/JS FOIA Office

(b)(6)

Comments: <https://ice.disa.mil/index.cfm?fa=card&sp=125562>

From: (b)(6)
Sent: Tuesday, March 28, 2023 12:07 PM
To: (b)(6)
Subject: Are you

In the office right now? I have a call with AARO and (b)(6) at 1300 today to discuss a way ahead on Greenwald's FOIA's concerning the interviews, do you want to Join us?

V/R,

(b)(6)
OSD/JS FOIA Office

(b)(6)

Comments: <https://ice.disa.mil/index.cfm?fa=card&sp=125562>

From: (b)(6)
Sent: Friday, October 27, 2023 11:35 AM
To: (b)(6)
Subject: FW: FOIA Request concerning AARO interviews
Attachments: (b)(5) Request Description.pdf
Signed By: (b)(6)

V/R,

(b)(6)
OSD/JS FOIA Office

(b)(6)

Comments: <https://ice.disa.mil/index.cfm?fa=card&sp=125562>

From: (b)(6)
Sent: Tuesday, March 28, 2023 12:54 PM
To: (b)(6)
Subject: FOIA Request concerning AARO interviews

(b)(6)

(b)(5)

V/R,

(b)(6)
OSD/JS FOIA Office

(b)(6)

Comments: <https://ice.disa.mil/index.cfm?fa=card&sp=125562>

From: (b)(6)
Sent: Friday, October 27, 2023 11:36 AM
To: (b)(6)
Subject: (b)(5)
Signed By: (b)(6)

V/R,

(b)(6)
OSD/JS FOIA Office

(b)(6)

Comments: <https://ice.disa.mil/index.cfm?fa=card&sp=125562>

From: (b)(6)
Sent: Thursday, March 30, 2023 10:39 AM
To: (b)(6)
Subject: RE: (b)(5)

Ok. I will give you a call later today for any info from your (b)(5) call that may need to be included and get a idea what info I need from (b)(6) so I can get a rough outline started.

V/r,

(b)(6)
Freedom of Information Division

(b)(6)

From: (b)(6)
Sent: Thursday, March 30, 2023 10:13 AM
To: (b)(6)
Subject: (b)(5)

We don't have one yet...

From: (b)(6)
Sent: Thursday, March 30, 2023 10:10 AM

To: (b)(6)
Subject: (b)(5)

I don't mind working on it. What is the deadline (b)(5)

V/r,

(b)(6)

Freedom of Information Division
OSD/JS FOIA Requester Service center
Action Officer

(b)(6)

From: (b)(6)
Sent: Thursday, March 30, 2023 9:50 AM
To: (b)(6)
(b)(6)
Subject: (b)(5)

(b)(5)

V/R,

(b)(6)

OSD/JS FOIA Office

(b)(6)

Comments: <https://ice.disa.mil/index.cfm?fa=card&sp=125562>

From: (b)(6)
Sent: Friday, October 27, 2023 11:37 AM
To: (b)(6)
Subject: FW: (b)(5)
Signed By: (b)(6)

V/R,

(b)(6)
OSD/JS FOIA Office

(b)(6)

Comments: <https://ice.disa.mil/index.cfm?fa=card&sp=125562>

From: (b)(6)
Sent: Thursday, March 30, 2023 11:35 AM
To: (b)(6)
Subject: FW: (b)(5)

See (b)(6) response

From: (b)(6)
Sent: Thursday, March 30, 2023 11:34 AM
To: (b)(6)
Subject: RE: (b)(5)

(b)(5)

(b)(6)

From: (b)(6)
Sent: Thursday, March 30, 2023 11:27 AM
To: (b)(6)
Subject: (b)(5)

(b)(6)

(b)(5)

V/R,

(b)(6)

OSD/JS FOIA Office

(b)(6)

Comments: <https://ice.disa.mil/index.cfm?fa=card&sp=125562>

From: (b)(6)
Sent: Friday, October 27, 2023 11:18 AM
To: (b)(6)
Subject: FW: OSD/JS; 23-F-0529 & 23-F-0658 for Media Release
Signed By: (b)(6)

V/R,

(b)(6)
OSD/JS FOIA Office

(b)(6)

Comments: <https://ice.disa.mil/index.cfm?fa=card&sp=125562>

From: (b)(6)
Sent: Friday, June 2, 2023 11:23 AM
To: (b)(6)
Subject: RE: OSD/JS; 23-F-0529 & 23-F-0658 for Media Release

(b)(6)

This relates to the AARO request.

(b)(5)

(b)(5)

V/r,

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

Government Information Specialist
Freedom of Information Division
OSD/JS FOIA Requester Service Center

(b)(6)

From: (b)(6)
Sent: Friday, June 2, 2023 11:10 AM
To: (b)(6)

Cc: (b)(6)

Subject: RE: OSD/JS; 23-F-0529 & 23-F-0658 for Media Release

Hi (b)(6)

I have a question about the response to 23-F-0529.

(b)(5)

(b)(5)

(b)(5)

No issues with release of 23-F-0658 as scheduled.

Regards,

(b)(6)

From: (b)(6)

Sent: Friday, June 2, 2023 6:38 AM

To: (b)(6)

Subject: OSD/JS; 23-F-0529 & 23-F-0658 for Media Release

(b)(6)

This is to advise you of an upcoming release to the media or to a requester with the potential to obtain media dissemination. We intend to make this release within 24-hours, unless you advise this office that you require additional time to coordinate.

If 24-hours is not sufficient time, please let this office know immediately by contacting the action officer assigned to this case. In order to not further delay this response, we ask that your request for a delay not exceed three working days.

V/r,

(b)(6)

Government Information Specialist
Freedom of Information Division
OSD/JS FOIA Requester Service Center

(b)(6)

(b)(5) ; (b)(6)

(b)(5)

(b)(5)