



**FEMA**

September 12, 2018

**SENT VIA E-MAIL TO: [FOIA@epic.org](mailto:FOIA@epic.org)**

Alan Butler  
Senior Counsel  
EPIC.org  
1718 Connecticut Ave NW, Suite 200  
Washington, DC 20009

**Re: FEMA FOIA Case Number 2018-FEFO-00979**

Dear Mr. Butler:

This is the final response to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request to the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) National Protection and Programs Directorate (NPPD). You are seeking records of research, integration, and analysis activities related to the Russian Interference in the 2016 presidential election.

DHS NPPD referred your request and four (4) pages of records to this office for processing and direct response to you. Your request was received by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) on July 19, 2018. Of the four (4) pages, I have determined that two (2) pages of the records are releasable in their entirety, and two (2) pages are partially releasable pursuant to Title 5 U.S.C. § 552 (b)(6), FOIA Exemption 6.

**FOIA Exemption 6** exempts from disclosure of personnel or medical files and similar files the release of which would cause a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy. This requires a balancing of the public's right to disclosure against the individual's right to privacy. The privacy interests of the individuals in the records you have requested outweigh any minimal public interest in disclosure of the information. Any private interest you may have in that information does not factor into the aforementioned balancing test.

You have the right to appeal if you disagree with FEMA's response. The procedure for administrative appeals is outlined in the DHS regulations at 6 C.F.R. § 5.8. In the event you wish to submit an appeal, we encourage you to both state the reason(s) you believe FEMA's initial determination on your FOIA request was erroneous in your correspondence, and include a copy of this letter with your appeal. Should you wish to do so, you must send your appeal within 90 days from the date of this letter to [fema-foia@fema.dhs.gov](mailto:fema-foia@fema.dhs.gov), or alternatively, via mail at the following address:

FEMA  
Office of the Chief Administrative Officer

Information Management Division (FOIA Appeals)  
500 C Street, SW, Seventh Floor, Mail Stop 3172  
Washington, D.C. 20472-3172

As part of the 2007 amendments, the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) was created to offer mediation services to resolve disputes between FOIA requesters and Federal agencies. You may contact OGIS in any of the following ways:

Office of Government Information Services  
National Archives and Records Administration  
8601 Adelphi Road- OGIS  
College Park, MD 20740-6001  
E-mail: [ogis@nara.gov](mailto:ogis@nara.gov)  
Web: <https://ogis.archives.gov>  
Telephone: 202-741-5770/Toll-free: 1-877-684-6448  
Facsimile: 202-741-5769

Provisions of the FOIA allow us to recover part of the cost of complying with your request. In this instance, because the cost is below the \$25 minimum, there is no charge.

If you need any further assistance or would like to discuss any aspect of your request, please contact us and refer to FOIA case number **2018-FEFO-00979**. You may send an e-mail to [fema-foia@fema.dhs.gov](mailto:fema-foia@fema.dhs.gov), call (202) 646-3323, or you may contact our FOIA Public Liaison in the same manner.

Sincerely,

Eric Neuschaefer  
Chief, Disclosure Branch  
Information Management Division  
Mission Support

Enclosure(s): Responsive Documents, (4 pages)