



OFFICE *of* GOVERNMENT INFORMATION SERVICES

April 15, 2015 — Sent via e-mail

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Re: Case No.: 201500513
NG: CM: KG

NATIONAL
ARCHIVES
and RECORDS
ADMINISTRATION

8601 ADELPHI ROAD
OGIS
COLLEGE PARK, MD
20740-6001

web: www.ogis.archives.gov
e-mail: ogis@nara.gov
phone: 202-741-5770
toll-free: 1-877-684-6448
fax: 202-741-5769

Dear [REDACTED]

This responds to your request for assistance from the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS), which we received on March 13, 2015 via e-mail. Your request for assistance pertains to your Freedom of Information Act Request (FOIA) request to the Department of the Treasury.

Congress created OGIS to complement existing FOIA practice and procedure; we strive to work in conjunction with the existing request and appeal process. The goal is for OGIS to allow, whenever practical, the requester to exhaust his or her remedies within the agency, including the appeal process. OGIS has no investigatory or enforcement power, nor can we compel an agency to release documents. OGIS serves as the Federal FOIA Ombudsman and our jurisdiction is limited to assisting with the FOIA process.

We reviewed your submission and understand that you submitted a FOIA request to Treasury on [REDACTED]. You then clarified that request via email to Treasury on [REDACTED], amending the dates of the records you requested. Treasury responded to you via email on [REDACTED] affirming that they received your updates and would process your request according to the new information. Treasury issued a final response on [REDACTED] and released one page to you in full. You appealed this determination, which appeared to be responsive to your original request rather than the updated version.

OGIS reached out to Treasury and spoke with the agency's FOIA Public Liaison, who confirmed that Treasury received your appeal. In reviewing your appeal, Treasury realized its error in its response to you and issued you an amended response letter, rather than an appeal determination. This amended response letter, which was sent on [REDACTED], clarified the agency's response to your request and included new appeal rights. If you are not satisfied with the [REDACTED] response, you may wish to appeal. The appeal is an important part of the FOIA administrative process because it preserves your administrative rights and gives an agency's attorneys a chance to carefully



April 15, 2015

Page 2 of 2

review and reconsider every part of a request, from the adequacy of the search that was conducted to any decision the agency made to withhold records.

I hope you find this information useful. At this time, there is no further assistance OGIS can offer. Thank you for bringing this matter to OGIS. We will close your case.

Sincerely,

/s/

Nikki Gramian, Acting Director
Office of Government Information Services (OGIS)