

Privacy Office, Mail Stop 0655

July 7, 2021

SENT BY ELECTRONIC MAIL TO: 103730-22927071@requests.muckrock.com

J. Ader Muckrock DEPT MR 103730 411A Highland Ave Somerville, MA 02144-2516

Re: 2021-HQFO-00060

Dear Mr. Ader:

This is the electronic final response to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request to the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), dated October 14, 2020, and received by this office on October 14, 2020. You are seeking all emails sent to/from OPSEC@hq.dhs.gov from October 1, 2020 to October 14, 2020.

A search of the Office of the Chief Information Officer (OCIO) for documents responsive to your request produced a total of 13 pages. Portions of 2 of these pages are partially releasable pursuant to Title 5 U.S.C. § 552 (b)(6), FOIA Exemption 6.

FOIA Exemption 6 exempts from disclosure 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.

The balance of the record are being transferred to the FOIA Offices at Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), the Transportation Security Agency (TSA), Customs and Border Protection (CBP) and Immigrations and Customs Enforcement (ICE), and their contact information can be located at: https://www.dhs.gov/foia-contact-information. Specifically, 6 pages are being referred to FEMA, 2 pages are being referred to TSA, 1 page is being referred to CBP, and 2 pages are being referred to CBP, for their review and direct response to you.

You have a right to appeal the above withholding determination. Should you wish to do so, you must send your appeal and a copy of this letter, within 90 days of the date of this letter, to: Privacy Office, Attn: FOIA Appeals, U.S. Department of Homeland Security, 245 Murray Lane,

SW, Mail Stop 0655, Washington, D.C. 20528-0655, following the procedures outlined in the DHS FOIA regulations at 6 C.F.R. Part 5 § 5.8. Your envelope and letter should be marked "FOIA Appeal." Copies of the FOIA and DHS FOIA regulations are available at www.dhs.gov/foia.

If you need any further assistance or would like to discuss any aspect of your request, please contact the analyst below who processed your request and refer to **2021-HQFO-00060**. You may send an e-mail to <u>foia@hq.dhs.gov</u>, call 202-343-1743 or toll free 1-866-431-0486, or you may contact our FOIA Public Liaison in the same manner. Additionally, you have a right to right to seek dispute resolution services from the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) which mediates disputes between FOIA requesters and Federal agencies as a non-exclusive alternative to litigation. If you are requesting access to your own records (which is considered a Privacy Act request), you should know that OGIS does not have the authority to handle requests made under the Privacy Act of 1974. You may contact OGIS as follows: Office of Government Information Services, National Archives and Records Administration, 8601 Adelphi Road-OGIS, College Park, Maryland 20740-6001, e-mail at ogis@nara.gov; telephone at 202-741-5770; toll free at 1-877-684-6448; or facsimile at 202-741-5769.

Sincerely,

Jimmy Wolfrey

Senior Director, FOIA Operations and Management (Acting)

Enclosures: 2 pages