



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT

Office of the Chief Privacy Officer

March 5, 2018

Alex Elson
National Student Legal
Defense Network
c/o John Robinson
1440 G Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20005

RE: FOIA Request No. 18-01066-F

Dear Alex Elson:

This letter is a final response to your request for information pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), 5 U.S.C. § 552, dated February 12, 2018 and received in this office on February 14, 2018. Your request was forwarded to the appropriate office to search for documents that may be responsive to your request: the Office of Management, Office of the Chief Privacy Officer (OM-OCPO).

You requested:

- Part A - copy of each request for documents listed in the Request Status Log. To the extent this request is unduly burdensome on the Department, and without waiving any rights for full compliance with this request, NSLDN would be willing to receive a more detailed log of the Request Status Log, so long as such a log included, at a minimum:
 - Request ID
 - Requester Name
 - Requester Organization
 - Request Description
 - Received Date
 - Request Status
- Part B - For each request for which expedited processing was requested in FY 2018, FY 2017, FY2016 and FY 2015, please provide a copy of the request for expedited processing (including the underlying request for documents), a copy of the Department's determination/decision regarding the request for expedition, and a copy of all written communication between the requester of an expedited request and the Department regarding the expedited request (including any documents relating to an appeal of the determination on the request for expedition).

On February 26, 2018, one of my colleagues in OM-OCPO sent you an email, regarding Part B of your request, with detailed information in reference to a special search that was conducted. It resulted in a query that produced 118 FOIA requests between 10/01/2015 and 01/23/2018 in which expedited processing for each was requested. As a result of this query, an Expedited FOIA Log was created in response to your request. On March 1, 2018, you agreed with my colleague's suggestion to accept this customized FOIA Log in response to your request.

Enclosed is a CD containing six spreadsheets that are responsive to your request. The documents provided are:

- An "Expedited" FOIA Log for FY2015 to a portion of FY2018,
- FOIA Log for FY2015,
- FOIA Log for FY2016,
- FOIA Log for FY2017, and a
- FOIA Log for 09/01/17 to 01/25/2018.

However, certain information has been withheld according to FOIA exemption (b)(6), as specified below:

- Records or portions of records relating to personal information is exempt pursuant to 5 U.S.C. §552 (b)(6) of the FOIA. Disclosure of this information would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.

Provisions of the FOIA allow us to recover the costs pertaining to your request. The Department has concluded that you fall within the category of "all other use requester." However, the Department has provided you with this information at no charge. The Department's release of this information at no cost does not constitute the grant of a fee waiver, and does not infer or imply that you will be granted a fee waiver for future requests made under FOIA to the Department. Because we were able to locate and process these documents at minimal costs, they are provided to you at no cost.

Also, you have the right to seek assistance and/or dispute resolution services from the Department's FOIA Public Liaison or the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS). The FOIA Public Liaison is responsible, among other duties, for assisting in the resolution of FOIA disputes. OGIS, which is outside the Department of Education, offers mediation services to resolve disputes between FOIA requesters and Federal agencies as a non-exclusive alternative to appeals or litigation.

They can be contacted by:

Mail	FOIA Public Liaison Office of the Chief Privacy Officer U.S. Department of Education 400 Maryland Ave., SW, LBJ 2W218-58 Washington, DC 20202-4536	Office of Government Information Services National Archives and Records Administration 8601 Adelphi Road Room 2510 College Park, MD 20740-6001
E-mail	robert.wehausen@ed.gov	OGIS@nara.gov
Phone	202-205-0733	301-837-1996; toll free at 1-877-684-6448
Fax	202-401-0920	301-837-0348

Lastly, you have the right to appeal this decision by writing to the address below, 90 calendar days from the date of this letter. Using the services described above does not affect your right or the deadline to file an appeal. Your appeal must be in writing and must include detailed statement of all legal and factual bases for the appeal; it should be accompanied by this letter, a copy of your initial letter of request, and any documentation that serves as evidence or supports the argument you wish the Department to consider in making an administrative determination on your appeal.

Appeals may be submitted using the on-line form available at www.ed.gov/policy/gen/leg/foia/foia-appeal-form.pdf.

E-mail: EDFOIAappeals@ed.gov
Fax: 202-401-0920
Mail: Appeals Office
Office of the Chief Privacy Officer
U.S. Department of Education
400 Maryland Avenue, SW, LBJ 2E320
Washington, DC 20202-4536

Sincerely,

Arthur Caliguiran

Arthur Caliguiran
FOIA Analyst
FOIA Service Center

Enclosure