



Homeland
Security

Privacy Office, Mail Stop 0655

July 13, 2020

Austin Evers
American Oversight
1030 15th Street, NW
Suite B255
Washington, DC 20005

Re: **2020-HQFO-01063**

Dear Mr. Evers:

This is the final response to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request to the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), dated April 30, 2020, and received by this office on May 6, 2020.

You are seeking:

1. All email communications (including emails, complete email chains, email attachments, calendar invitations, and calendar invitation attachments) between (a) Rear Adm. John Polowczyk, and (b) the Executive Office of the President (EOP) officials listed below:

- i. Vice President Mike Pence
- ii. National Security Advisor Robert O'Brien
- iii. Assistant to the President and Deputy National Security Advisor
Matthew Pottinger
- iv. Former Assistant to the President and Senior Advisor to the Chief of
Staff Robert Blair
- v. Assistant to the President and Director of the Domestic Policy Council
Joseph Grogan
- vi. Assistant to the President and Deputy Chief of Staff for Policy
Coordination Christopher Liddell
- vii. Director of the National Economic Council Larry Kudlow
- viii. White House Coronavirus Response Coordinator Deborah Birx
- ix. Press Secretary to the Vice President Katie Miller (formerly Katie
Waldman)
- x. Director of the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy
Kelvin Droegmeier
- xi. White House Trade Adviser Peter Navarro
- xii. White House Senior Adviser Jared Kushner

2. All text messages or messages sent on messaging platforms (such as WhatsApp, Slack, GChat, Google Hangouts, Lync, Skype, or Jabber) between

(a) Rear Adm. John Polowczyk, and (b) White House advisor Jared Kushner, including on both personal and official messaging accounts and devices. (Date Range for Record Search: From 2/1/2020 To 5/6/2020).

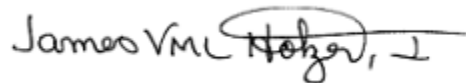
We conducted a comprehensive search of files within the Department of Homeland Security/Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for records that would be responsive to your request. An agency-wide search was conducted with FEMA's Office of the Chief Information Officer (OCIO). While Rear Adm. John Polowczyk is listed in the Global Address List (GAL) he does not have a FEMA email account. No responsive records exist.

While an adequate search was conducted, you have the right to appeal this determination that no records exist within the Department of Homeland Security/Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) that would be responsive to your request. 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, 2707 Martin Luther King Jr. Avenue, SE, Mail Stop 0655, Washington, D.C. 20528-0655, following the procedures outlined in the DHS FOIA regulations at 6 C.F.R. Part 5 § 5.5(e)(2). 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 **2020-HQFO-01063**. You may send an e-mail to foia@hq.dhs.gov, 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.

Provisions of FOIA allow DHS to charge for processing fees, up to \$25, unless you seek a waiver of fees. In this instance, because the cost is below the \$25 minimum, there is no charge.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "James V. McHolzer, Jr." with a stylized flourish at the end.

James Holzer
Deputy Chief Privacy Office (A)
Deputy Chief FOIA Officer