



August 20, 2020

U.S. Department of Homeland Security
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services
National Records Center
P.O. Box 648010
Lee's Summit, MO 64064-8010



U.S. Citizenship
and Immigration
Services

COW2020001811

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

Dear Austin Evers:

This is in response to your request received in our office on July 20, 2020. You specifically requested,

1. Copies of any SF-50 forms for any political appointees at the GS-13 level or higher at your agency reflecting a change to a permanent competitive, nonpolitical excepted service, or career SES position.
2. Records sufficient to identify any requests to OPM (including any approvals, rejections, or other responses from OPM) to appoint any current or former (within five years) Executive Branch political appointees at the GS-13 level or higher to permanent competitive, non-political excepted service, or career SES position (including but not limited to any pre-appointment request checklist forms OPM 5000 or 5001, or other forms used for the requests, documentation submitted with the requests, and decisions conveyed in response to the request).
3. Records sufficient to identify any requests to OPM (including any approvals, rejections, or other responses from OPM) under 5 CFR § 3318(a), (c)(1), for approval to pass over a preference eligible or object to an eligible (including but not limited to any forms SF-62 or other forms used for the request, documentation submitted with the requests, and decisions conveyed in response to the request). Please consider any employee in the following positions to be a "political appointee":
 - a. Political appointees requiring Senate confirmation (PAS);
 - b. Political appointees not requiring Senate confirmation (PA);
 - c. Political appointees, as defined under 5 U.S.C. sections 5312 through 5316 (relating to the Executive Schedule);
 - d. Political Schedule A;
 - e. Appointments made by the President without confirmation by the Senate [5 CFR § 213.3102(c)].
 - f. Assistants to top-level Federal officials if the position is being filled by a person designated by the President as a White House Fellow [5 CFR § 213.3102(z)].
 - g. Schedule C [5 CFR §§ 213.3301-3302];
 - h. Noncareer SES [5 U.S.C. § 3132(a)(7); and 5 CFR § 317, subpart F];
 - i. Limited Term SES [5 U.S.C. § 3132(a)(5); and 5 CFR § 317, subpart F];
 - j. Limited Emergency SES [5 U.S.C. § 3132(a)(6); and 5 CFR § 317, subpart F];
 - k. Appointees serving in a political capacity under agency-specific authority; and
 - l. Provisional Political Appointments [applicable to positions listed above].

www.uscis.gov

Your request stated you have no objection to the redaction of home addresses, telephone numbers, or social security numbers from SF-50s, SF-62s, or any other responsive forms. Your request specified a timeframe of January 1, 2020, through the date of search.

USCIS conducted an email and Shared Drive search for your request. The political appointees individual personnel folders were searched manually. Each name was searched in email archives.

No records of political appointees changing to permanent or career positions were located for the specified time frame of January 1, 2020 to August 11, 2020, the date of the search. Your request is considered closed as no responsive records can be located by USCIS.

You have the right to file an administrative appeal within 90 days of the date of this letter. By filing an appeal, you preserve your rights under FOIA and give the agency a chance to review and reconsider your request and the agency's decision. You may file an administrative FOIA appeal to USCIS at: USCIS FOIA/PA Appeals Office, 150 Space Center Loop, Suite 500, Lee's Summit, MO 64064-2139. Both the letter and the envelope should be clearly marked "Freedom of Information Act Appeal."

If you would like to discuss our response before filing an appeal to attempt to resolve your dispute without going through the appeals process, you may contact our FOIA Public Liaison, Jill Eggleston, for assistance at:

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services
National Records Center, FOIA/PA Office
P.O. Box 648010
Lee's Summit, MO 64064-8010
Telephone: (800) 375-5283
E-Mail: FOIAPAQuestions@uscis.dhs.gov

A FOIA Public Liaison is an agency official to whom FOIA requesters can raise concerns about the service the requester has received from the agency's FOIA Office. FOIA Public Liaisons are responsible for assisting in reducing delays, increasing transparency and understanding of the status of requests, and assisting in the resolution of disputes.

If you are unable to resolve your FOIA dispute through our FOIA Public Liaison, the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS), the Federal FOIA Ombudsman's office, offers mediation services to help resolve disputes between FOIA requesters and Federal Agencies. The OGIS does not have the authority to handle requests made under the Privacy Act of 1974. The contact information for OGIS is:

Office of Government Information Services
National Archives and Records Administration
8601 Adelphi Road - OGIS
College Park, MD 20740-6001
Telephone: (202) 741-5770 or (877) 684-6448
Email: OGIS@nara.gov
Website: ogis.archives.gov

Questions concerning this FOIA/PA request may be mailed to the FOIA/PA Officer at the PO Box listed at the top of the letterhead or emailed to USCIS.FOIA@uscis.dhs.gov. Please include the control number listed above on all correspondence with this office. You can now submit a new FOIA request online using our new Freedom of Information Act Records SysTem (FIRST). If you wish to submit a new FOIA/PA request, please visit www.uscis.gov/FOIA for instructions and requirements.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jill A. Eggleston". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Jill" and last name "Eggleston" clearly distinguishable.

Jill A. Eggleston
Director, FOIA Operations