



**DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS  
OFFICE OF OPERATIONS, SECURITY AND PREPAREDNESS  
WASHINGTON DC 20420**

February 17, 2021

Mr. Austin R. Evers  
Executive Director  
American Oversight  
1030 15<sup>th</sup> Street NW, Suite B255  
Washington, DC 20005

Email: [foia@americanoversight.org](mailto:foia@americanoversight.org)

Re: FOIA #21-00865-F

Dear Mr. Evers:

This is the Initial Agency Decision on your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request, dated July 28, 2020 to the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), Office of Operations, Security, and Preparedness (OSP), in which you requested a copy of "All calendars and calendar entries for the agency official listed below, including any calendars maintained on their behalf, reflecting events that took place from January 1, 2020 to the date the search is conducted." The specific calendars that you are seeking pertain to the following:

- a. Secretary Robert Wilkie;
- b. Acting Deputy Secretary Pamela J. Powers; and,
- c. Acting Chief of Staff Brooks D. Tucker.

Your request was received by OSP's on November 6, 2020, and assigned it FOIA tracking number 21-00865-F. Please refer to this number when communicating with the VA about this request.

You have been placed in the "news media" category, which means the requester is responsible for the fees associated with duplication, excluding the cost of the first 100 pages, which are free.

OSP located ten (10) pages of responsive documents at no cost to you. We are withholding two pages pursuant to 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(6) and eight pages are released in full.

552(b)(6) permits withholding records and information about individuals, the disclosure of which would be a "clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy." To be covered, (a) information must be about an identifiable individual; (b) the disclosure would be an invasion of the individual's personal privacy if disclosed to others; and (c) it is determined that the public interest does not outweigh the privacy interest. (Information is in the public interest if it sheds light on a Federal agency's performance of its statutory duties.) VA claims records, medical records, and personnel files (pertaining to living individuals) are among many Department records that contain information that can be withheld under this exemption. Here the information withheld consists of communications under the deliberative process and VA Office of General Counsel attorneys-client and work product privileges.

If you wish to appeal this determination, please include a copy of this letter with your written appeal and clearly indicate why you disagree with the determination set forth in this response. Please be advised your appeal must be postmarked or electronically transmitted no later than ninety (90) days of the date of this letter. You may send your appeal to:

Office of General Counsel (024)  
810 Vermont Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, DC, 20420  
Email to [ogcfoiaappeals@va.gov](mailto:ogcfoiaappeals@va.gov).  
Fax: (202) 273-6388

As an alternative to an appeal, you may contact VA FOIA Public Liaison for mediation services to resolve disputes between FOIA requesters and VA. Using this method does not affect your right to appeal. You may contact:

VA FOIA Public Liaison  
Email: [vacofoiaservice@va.gov](mailto:vacofoiaservice@va.gov),  
Phone: (877) 750-3642  
Fax: (202) 632-7581

The Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) offers mediation services to resolve disputes between persons making requests and administrative agencies as a nonexclusive alternative to litigation and, at the discretion of the OGIS, may issue advisory options if mediation has not resolved the dispute. The OGIS is at:

Office of Government Information Services (OGIS)  
National Archives and Records Administration  
8601 Adelphi Road  
College Park, MD 20740  
Email: [ogis@nara.gov](mailto:ogis@nara.gov)  
Phone: (877) 684-6448  
Fax: (202) 741-5769

Sincerely,



Dr. Sylvia B. Dunn  
Director, Office of Resource Management (ORM)  
Office of Operations, Security and Preparedness (OSP)



# VA THREAT ASSESSMENT BRIEF

Office of Security and Law Enforcement POC: Special Agent

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

@va.gov

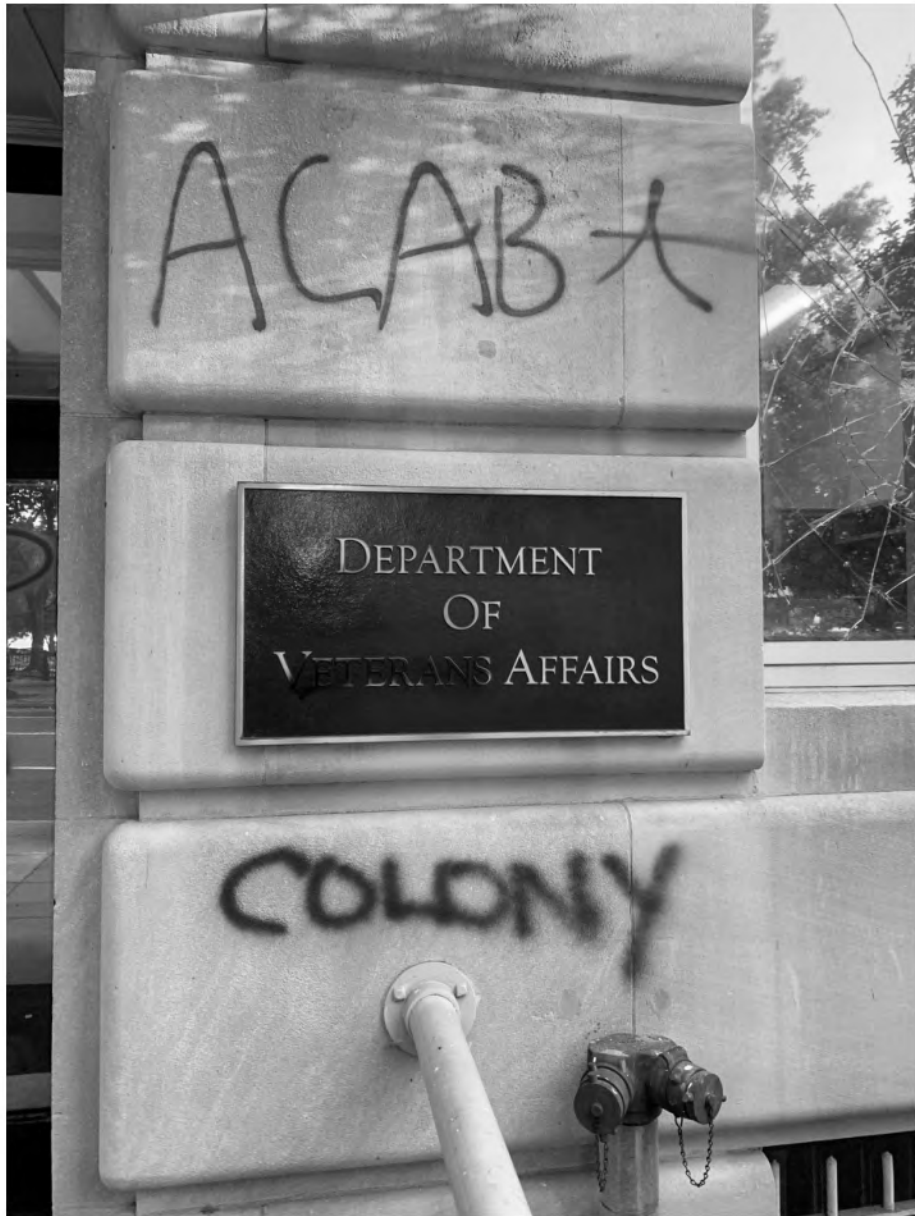
(b)(6)

# Background-VACO

- HVE seized and exploited the opportunity of the George Floyd death to sow chaos and civil unrest nationwide. Last night, VA Central Office was subject to an anarchy type criminal vandalism which includes graffiti (ACAB, F12, FTP, 1312, etc.) and broken windows.













# Current Status-Nationwide

- Minneapolis – CRRC, HR Bldg, Tampa – Saturday, May 30, 2020 at 2322 hours (EST), was on lockdown due to shots being fired at the University of Southern Florida (USF) campus nearby. Now back to normal operating status. Columbia SC – heightened security with one ingress/egress. Additional resources are scheduled to augment the shifts for tomorrow. Maintain the capability to reduce access to one entrance. Actively liaison with local authorities. N. Chicago FHCC- heightened security with one ingress/egress

# Conclusion

- The location of Central Office, and other VA facilities in urban areas makes the probability of similar incidents high. While the IP&ID has no specific, direct threat, credible information regarding any threat directed towards OS&LE protected personnel or facilities, intelligence sources predict high risk for continued civil unrest with potential for escalation of violence (i.e., crimes against person, property and way of life). (Sources: fusion centers)