



U.S. Department of Justice
Office of Information Policy
Sixth Floor
441 G Street, NW
Washington, DC 20530-0001

Telephone: (202) 514-3642

November 3, 2020

Austin Evers
American Oversight
1030 15th Street, NW
Suite B255
Washington, DC 20005
foia@americanoversight.org

Re: FOIA-2021-02470
DRH

Dear Austin Evers:

This responds to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request dated and received in this Office on October 5, 2020, seeking copies of all texts and emails related to agency business sent by Attorney General William Barr, Chief of Staff William Levi, and former Chief of Staff Brian Rabbitt since February 14, 2019.

Your request is seeking all records of three Department officials, including the Attorney General, related to Department of Justice business since the beginning of the current tenure of Attorney General Barr. Accordingly, in the absence of a topic for your request and/or a more limited timeframe, your request is not reasonably described as required by the FOIA. If you would like to discuss reformulation of your request, you may contact this Office.

Furthermore, I note that your organization has previously received from this Office numerous records of Attorney General Barr and his Chiefs of Staff in response to your other FOIA requests. Additional records of these Department officials are likely to be processed in response to still other FOIA requests from your organization that are currently pending in this Office. As such, your current request is at least partially duplicative of numerous prior requests your organization has submitted to this Office.

For your information, Congress excluded three discrete categories of law enforcement and national security records from the requirements of the FOIA. See 5 U.S.C. § 552 (2018). This response is limited to those records that are subject to the requirements of the FOIA. This is a standard notification that is given to all our requesters and should not be taken as an indication that excluded records do, or do not, exist.

You may contact our FOIA Public Liaison, Valeree Villanueva, for any further assistance and to discuss any aspect of your request at: Office of Information Policy, United States Department of Justice, Sixth Floor, 441 G Street, NW, Washington, DC 20530-0001; telephone at 202-514-3642.

Additionally, you may contact the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) at the National Archives and Records Administration to inquire about the FOIA mediation services they offer. The contact information for OGIS is as follows: Office of Government Information Services, National Archives and Records Administration, Room 2510, 8601 Adelphi Road, College Park, MD 20740-6001; e-mail at ogis@nara.gov; telephone at 202-741-5770; toll free at 1-877-684-6448.

If you are not satisfied with this Office's determination in response to this request, you may administratively appeal by writing to the Director, Office of Information Policy, United States Department of Justice, Sixth Floor, 441 G Street, NW, Washington, DC 20530-0001, or you may submit an appeal through OIP's FOIA STAR portal by creating an account following the instructions on OIP's website: <https://www.justice.gov/oip/submit-and-track-request-or-appeal>. Your appeal must be postmarked or electronically submitted within ninety days of the date of my response to your request. If you submit your appeal by mail, both the letter and the envelope should be clearly marked "Freedom of Information Act Appeal."

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Douglas R. Hibbard", with a small "DR" monogram at the end.

Douglas R. Hibbard
Chief, Initial Request Staff