



U.S. Department of Justice

Office of Legal Counsel

Washington, D.C. 20530

September 17, 2021

Austin R. Evers
Executive Director
American Oversight
foia@americanoversight.org

Re: FOIA Tracking No. FY21-020

Dear Mr. Evers:

This letter responds to your October 13, 2020 Freedom of Information Act (“FOIA”) request to the Office of Legal Counsel (“OLC”), in which you sought “records reflecting any final legal advice and analyses . . . regarding any matters related to the Republican National Convention, including but not limited to the application of the Hatch Act to federal employees or use of executive branch resources for the event[,] . . . from August 1, 2020, through August 31, 2020.” Pursuant to 28 C.F.R. § 16.5(b), your request was processed in the simple track. A search of OLC’s files has located no documents responsive to your request.

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(c). 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.

For any further assistance and to discuss any aspect of your request, you may contact Melissa Golden, OLC’s FOIA Public Liaison, at usdoj-officeoflegalcounsel@usdoj.gov, (202) 514-2053, or at Office of Legal Counsel, United States Department of Justice, 950 Pennsylvania Ave., N.W., Room 5511, Washington, DC 20530.

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, 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.

You have the right to an administrative appeal. You may administratively appeal by writing to the Director, Office of Information Policy (“OIP”), United States Department of Justice, 441 G Street, NW, 6th Floor, Washington, D.C. 20530, 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 transmitted within 90 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 black ink, appearing to read "Paul P. Colborn".

for Paul P. Colborn
Special Counsel