



DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
Washington DC 20420
March 5, 2019

Mr. Hart Wood
American Oversight
1030 15th Street, NW
Suite B255
Washington DC, 20005

Re: Freedom of Information Act Tracking Number 19-03908-F

Dear Mr. Wood

This letter responds to your January 28, 2019 request under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) 5 U.S.C §552 to the Department of Veterans Affairs. Your request was referred to the Office of Finance on February 7, 2019. In your letter, you requested the following:

"All records reflecting costs reimbursed or paid directly by your agency for any reimbursable expenses attributable to any political appointee. Payments or reimbursements include any payments associated with travel (including staff or security detail assigned to a political appointee), long-term housing, the cost of government transportation, individual airfare for government employees and/or their spouses, lodging, meals, per diem payments, rental vehicles, overtime payments made via government-issued charge cards or travel or any other reimbursable expenses."

You defined political appointee "as any person who is a Presidential Appointee with Senate Confirmation (PAS), a Presidential Appointee (PA), a Non-career SES, or a Schedule C employee GS-13 or higher."

In your letter you requested all records for the period from December 21, 2018, through January 25, 2018. You subsequently corrected that request with VA's FOIA Officer to the period from December 21, 2018 through January 25, 2019.

Our Financial Services Center's (FSC) Corporate Travel and Charge Card Services (CTCCS) office conducted a search of both E-Gov Travel Service 2 (ETS2) and ConcurGovTravel systems for payments of any official Temporary Duty (TDY) Travel costs and payments to political appointees, using names provided to the Office of Finance by VA's Corporate Senior Executive Management Office (CSEMO). The results of that query are attached.

The FSC also queried the Financial Management System (FMS) with the employee's vendor ID and SSN using SQL Studio Manager. Again, the list of personnel provided by CSEMO was used to define the parameters of the query. Both FMS Vendor IDs and SSNs were used to ensure the widest search. This search yielded no payments.

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The Freedom of Information Statute, 5 U.S.C. §552 (A) (4) (a) (II), places all FOIA requesters in one of several categories for fee purposes. The categories of FOIA requesters are commercial use requesters; educational institutions; non-commercial scientific institutions; representatives of the news media; and all other requesters.

We have determined your organization falls within the category of other requestors and therefore waive any fees.

If you disagree with the determination, please be advised you may appeal to:

Office of General Counsel (024)
Department of Veterans Affairs
810 Vermont Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20420

If you should choose to file an appeal, your appeal must be postmarked no later than ninety (90) calendar dates from the date of this letter. Please include a copy of this letter with your written appeal and clearly state why you disagree with the determinations set forth in this response.

In addition to filing an appeal with the Office of General Counsel regarding this determination, you may also seek assistance regarding your FOIA request from VACO FOIA Public Liaison and or Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) as provided below:

Department of Veterans Affairs
VA FOIA Public Liaison (005R1)
810 Vermont Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20420
Email: vacofoiaservice@va.gov
Telephone: 877-750-3642
Fax: 202-632-7581

Office of Government Information Services (OGIS)
National Archives and Records Administration
8601 Adelphi Rd
College Park, MD 20740-6001
Email: ogis@nara.gov
Fax: 202-741-5769

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This response closes FOIA 19-03908-F. If you have any questions, please contact me at 202-461-6183.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Julie Schroeder".

Julie Schroeder
Freedom of Information Act Officer
Office of Finance

Enclosures

NOTE: Records in blue text are canceled trips with no payment issued to the traveler.

Presidential Appointees with/without Senate Confirmation (PAS/PA)																		
EMPLOYEE NAME	DOCUMENT NAME	TA NUMBER	DEPARTURE DATE	RETURN DATE	APPROVED DATE	MEAL	LODGING	AIR	RENTAL CAR	TERMINAL MILEAGE	CANCELATION PENALTIES/ FEES	VOUCHER FEE	TRAVEL FEE	TOTAL OTHER	TOTAL TRIP AMOUNT	PAYMENT TO TRAVELER	PAYMENT TO GOVT ISSUED CARD	CENTRALLY BILLED CARD (Non-Reimbursable)
Wilkie, Robert L	VCH19050041	1019T2227	09-Dec-18	15-Dec-18	08-Jan-19	\$500.50	\$881.09	\$1,774.39	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$14.75	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,170.73	\$303.11	\$1,078.48	\$1,789.14
Wilkie, Robert L	VCH19053293	1019T4892	03-Jan-19	04-Jan-19	16-Jan-19	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$109.78	\$14.75	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$124.53	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$124.53
Lawrence, Paul Reynold	VCH19049238	1019T3663	17-Dec-18	17-Dec-18	28-Dec-18	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$434.40	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$14.75	\$9.91	\$25.00	\$484.06	\$0.00	\$25.00	\$459.06
Reeves, Randy C	VCH19048722	1019T2502	13-Dec-18	15-Dec-18	21-Dec-18	\$156.25	\$225.00	\$987.60	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$14.75	\$35.95	\$0.00	\$1,419.55	\$156.25	\$225.00	\$1,038.30
Tucker, Brooks D	VCH19050432	1019T2107	09-Dec-18	11-Dec-18	02-Jan-19	\$165.00	\$342.00	\$464.40	\$0.00	\$70.84	\$0.00	\$14.75	\$45.86	\$50.00	\$1,152.85	\$285.84	\$342.00	\$525.01
Tamara Bonzanto	No TDY travel payments during the timeframe requested																	
Melissa Sue Glynn	No TDY travel payments during the timeframe requested																	
James P. Gfrerer	No TDY travel payments during the timeframe requested																	
Jon J. Rychalski	No TDY travel payments during the timeframe requested																	
Cheryl L. Mason	No TDY travel payments during the timeframe requested																	
James M. Byrne	No TDY travel payments during the timeframe requested																	
Daniel R. Sitterly	No TDY travel payments during the timeframe requested																	
Jonathan L. Ulyot	No TDY travel payments during the timeframe requested																	
Totals						\$821.75	\$1,448.09	\$3,660.79	\$0.00	\$70.84	\$109.78	\$73.75	\$91.72	\$75.00	\$6,351.72	\$745.20	\$1,670.48	\$3,936.04

Non-Career SES Appointees																		
EMPLOYEE NAME	DOCUMENT NAME	TA NUMBER	DEPARTURE DATE	RETURN DATE	APPROVED DATE	MEAL	LODGING	AIR	RENTAL CAR	TERMINAL MILEAGE	CANCELATION PENALTIES/ FEES	VOUCHER FEE	TRAVEL FEE	TOTAL OTHER	TOTAL TRIP AMOUNT	PAYMENT TO TRAVELER	PAYMENT TO GOVT ISSUED CARD	CENTRALLY BILLED CARD (Non-Reimbursable)
Brazell, Karen L	VCH19049395	1019T3432	09-Dec-18	14-Dec-18	27-Dec-18	\$359.25	\$853.00	\$714.70	\$72.77	\$63.22	\$0.00	\$14.75	\$35.95	\$355.96	\$2,469.60	\$228.06	\$1,476.14	\$765.40
Davis, Lynda	VCH19059791	1019T5140	08-Jan-19	11-Jan-19	07-Feb-19	\$231.00	\$416.52	\$464.60	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$14.75	\$9.91	\$41.85	\$1,178.63	\$689.37	\$0.00	\$489.26
Dillard, Stephen B	VCH19057419	1019T7785	18-Jan-19	21-Jan-19	22-Jan-19	\$213.50	\$324.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$40.60	\$0.00	\$14.75	\$9.91	\$111.00	\$713.76	\$689.10	\$0.00	\$24.66
Dillard, Stephen B	VCH19049005	101T98315	15-Nov-18	20-Nov-18	21-Dec-18	\$293.25	\$382.93	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$52.88	\$0.00	\$14.75	\$71.90	\$134.00	\$949.71	\$346.13	\$516.93	\$86.65
Powers, Pamela	VCH19045800	1019T2257	09-Dec-18	11-Dec-18	04-Jan-19	\$148.00	\$362.00	\$806.34	\$0.00	\$79.56	\$0.00	\$14.75	\$0.00	\$50.14	\$1,460.79	\$240.58	\$399.12	\$821.09
Powers, Pamela	VCH19053294	1019T5402	03-Jan-19	04-Jan-19	14-Jan-19	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$109.78	\$14.75	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$124.53	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$124.53
Verschoor, Thayer Lamont	VCH19048053	1019T2557	05-Dec-18	07-Dec-18	21-Dec-18	\$220.00	\$578.78	\$605.33	\$0.00	\$28.34	\$0.00	\$14.75	\$9.91	\$83.00	\$1,540.11	\$280.34	\$629.78	\$629.99
Verschoor, Thayer Lamont	VCH19048093	1019T1023	10-Dec-18	13-Dec-18	11-Jan-19	\$483.00	\$434.48	\$777.80	\$0.00	\$28.34	\$0.00	\$14.75	\$35.89	\$148.01	\$1,922.27	\$579.34	\$514.49	\$828.44
Bader, Christine E.	No TDY travel payments during the timeframe requested																	
Balland, David J.	No TDY travel payments during the timeframe requested																	
Connell, Lawrence B.	No TDY travel payments during the timeframe requested																	
Grosso, Gina M. (Pending)	No TDY travel payments during the timeframe requested																	
Hayes-Byrd, Jacquelyn D. (Pending)	No TDY travel payments during the timeframe requested																	
Hutton, James E.	No TDY travel payments during the timeframe requested																	
Mashburn, John K.	No TDY travel payments during the timeframe requested																	
Sandoval, Camilo (Pending)	No TDY travel payments during the timeframe requested																	
Syrek, Christopher	No TDY travel payments during the timeframe requested																	
Wagner, John E.	No TDY travel payments during the timeframe requested																	
Totals						\$1,948.00	\$3,351.71	\$3,368.77	\$72.77	\$292.94	\$109.78	\$118.00	\$173.47	\$923.96	\$10,359.40	\$3,052.92	\$3,536.46	\$3,770.02

Schedule C and White House Fellow (Schedule A)																		
EMPLOYEE NAME	DOCUMENT NAME	TA NUMBER	DEPARTURE DATE	RETURN DATE	APPROVED DATE	MEAL	LODGING	AIR	RENTAL CAR	TERMINAL MILEAGE	CANCELATION PENALTIES/ FEES	VOUCHER FEE	TRAVEL FEE	TOTAL OTHER	TOTAL TRIP AMOUNT	PAYMENT TO TRAVELER	PAYMENT TO GOVT ISSUED CARD	CENTRALLY BILLED CARD (Non-Reimbursable)
Anderson, Christopher J.	VCH19053029	1019T2495	10-Dec-18	14-Dec-18	15-Jan-19	\$661.25	\$702.52	\$1,770.00	\$0.00	\$16.36	\$0.00	\$14.75	\$35.95	\$203.99	\$3,404.82	\$881.60	\$702.52	\$1,820.70
Bailey, Aaron Kenneth	VCH19050373	101T98506	02-Dec-18	07-Dec-18	21-Dec-18	\$390.50	\$962.24	\$338.40	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$14.75	\$9.91	\$132.16	\$1,847.96	\$1,484.90	\$0.00	\$363.06
Levell, Leah Victoria	VCH19053950	1019T4906	02-Jan-19	04-Jan-19	14-Jan-19	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$109.78	\$14.75	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$124.53	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$124.53
Scott, Traci A	VCH19051604	1019T2250	09-Dec-18	14-Dec-18	02-Jan-19	\$656.00	\$881.09	\$1,597.79	\$0.00	\$35.98	\$0.00	\$14.75	\$0.00	\$90.00	\$3,275.61	\$522.73	\$1,140.34	\$1,612.54
Scott, Traci A	VCH19053301	1019T4909	03-Jan-19	04-Jan-19	10-Jan-19	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$109.78	\$14.75	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$124.53	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$124.53
Childress, Katherine T	VCH19041608	1019T0428	27-Nov-18	28-Nov-18	21-Dec-18	\$82.50	\$0.00	\$1,031.40	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$14.75	\$0.00	\$133.04	\$1,261.69	\$108.03	\$0.00	\$1,153.66
Childress, Katherine T	VCH19050264	1019T2256	09-Dec-18	14-Dec-18	04-Jan-19	\$604.00	\$881.09	\$1,597.79	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$14.75	\$0.00	\$84.84	\$3,182.47	\$688.84	\$881.09	\$1,612.54
Childress, Katherine T	VCH19053568	1019T5824	02-Jan-19	04-Jan-19	10-Jan-19	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$329.39	\$14.75	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$344.14	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$344.14
Eason, William J.	No TDY travel payments during the timeframe requested																	
Cashour, Curtis	No TDY travel payments during the timeframe requested																	
Haverstock, Cathleen A.	No TDY travel payments during the timeframe requested																	
Bossie, Darren J.	No TDY travel payments during the timeframe requested																	
Beardsley, Jason R.	No TDY travel payments during the timeframe requested																	
Quill, Joshua	No TDY travel payments during the timeframe requested																	
Fish, John N.	No TDY travel payments during the timeframe requested																	
Murphy, Elizabeth	No TDY travel payments during the timeframe requested																	
Vannoy, Caitlin P. (Pending)	No TDY travel payments during the timeframe requested																	
Kasperowicz, Peter I. (Pending)	No TDY travel payments during the timeframe requested																	
Totals						\$2,394.25	\$3,426.94	\$6,335.38	\$0.00	\$52.34	\$548.95	\$118.00	\$45.86	\$644.03	\$13,565.75	\$3,686.10	\$2,723.95	\$7,155.70



Political Appointees
Onboard as of 01/28/2019
For Official Use Only

Presidential Appointees with/without Senate Confirmation (PAS/PA)									
Name	Title	Grade	Appt Date	Date Sworn In	Date Entered Current Position	Position Number	Separation (S) / Expiration (E) Date	Status of Fill	Remarks
Presidential Appointment (Senate Confirmation Required) (PAS)									
Robert L. Wilkie	Secretary	EX-I	7/30/18	7/30/18	7/30/18	DVEX00001			07/30/2018 (4:30PM)
Vacant (V: Bowman)	Deputy Secretary	EX-II				DVEX00002			08/28/2018. Mr. James Byrne designated by the POTUS effective 08/28/2018 as Acting.
Paul R. Lawrence	Under Secretary for Benefits	EX-III	4/27/18	5/15/18	4/27/18	DVEX 00005			
Vacant (V: Shulkin)	Under Secretary for Health	EX-III				DVEX 00004		Commission Adjourned 01/10/2019	EIC: Dr. Lieberman EIC: Carolyn Clancy effective 10/7/2017.
Randy C. Reeves	Under Secretary for Memorial Affairs	EX-III	11/21/17	12/13/17	12/13/17	DVEX00006			
Tamara Bonzanto	Assistant Secretary for Accountability and Whistleblower Protection	EX-IV	1/4/19	1/7/19	1/7/19	DVEX00019			
Brooks D. Tucker	Assistant Secretary for Congressional and Legislative Affairs	EX-IV	8/9/17	8/11/17	8/11/17	DVEX00016			Prev TTSC 01/30/2017
Melissa Sue Glynn	Assistant Secretary for Enterprise Integration	EX-IV	11/21/17	12/11/17	12/11/17	DVEX00015			Prev TTSC
James P. Gfrerer	Assistant Secretary for Information and Technology/Chief Information Officer	EX-IV	1/4/19	1/7/19	1/7/19	DVEX00017			
Jon J. Rychalski	Assistant Secretary for Management/Chief Financial Officer	EX-IV	1/4/18	1/8/18	1/8/18	DVEX00009			Prev Career SES w/DoD. Note 1.
Cheryl L. Mason	Chairman, Board of Veterans Appeals	EX-IV	11/21/17	12/11/17	12/11/17	DVEX00008			Prev Career SES
James M. Byrne	General Counsel	EX-IV	8/9/17	8/11/17	8/11/17	DVEX00007			Acting Designation Pending. Mr. Byrne is currently serving "Acting DepSec" as of 08/28/2018.
Presidential Appointee (Senate Confirmation is not Required) (PA)									
Daniel R. Sitterly	Assistant Secretary for Human Resources and Administration	EX-IV	1/4/19	1/7/19	1/7/19	DVEX00011			
Jonathan L. Ulyot	Assistant Secretary for Public and Intergovernmental Affairs	EX-IV	4/11/17	4/12/17	4/12/17	DVEX00014			

Note 1: Senate confirmation is not required for the A/S OM. CFO must be confirmed by Senate.
*Subject to Salary Freeze for Politicals: Salary frozen at 2013 rates.
**Date Sworn In represents the actual physical start date. Appt Date is the date the President signed the Commission.

Non-Career SES Appointees

Name	Title	Grade	Appt Date	Date Sworn In	Date Entered Current Position	Position Number	Separation (S) / Expiration (E) Date	Status of Fill	Remarks
Bader, Christine E.	Senior Advisor to the Deputy Secretary	ES	10/29/18	10/29/18	10/29/18	DVES01132			
Balland, David J.	DAS, Congressional Affairs (OCLA)	ES	8/2/17	8/2/17	8/2/17	DVES00887			
Brazell, Karen L.	Principal Executive Director, Office of Acquisition, Logistics and Construction	ES	8/5/18	8/6/18	8/6/18	DVES00848			Also serves as CAO
Connell, Lawrence B.	Chief of Staff, Veterans Health Administration	ES	1/20/17	1/20/17	7/22/18	DVES00289			Package with COSVA.
Davis, Lynda C.	Senior Advisor/Chief Veteran Experience Officer	ES	1/20/17	1/20/17	3/28/17	DVES01004			
Dillard, Stephen	Executive Director, Minority Veterans	ES	11/25/18	11/26/18	11/25/18	DVES00598	6 Year Term Ends (11/24/2024)		03/12/2018 Identification of replacement in progress per WHL. Retiring: July 2018
Grosso, Gina M. (Pending)	PDAS, Human Resources and Administration	ES							
Hayes-Byrd, Jacquelyn D.	Deputy Chief of Staff	ES	2/6/17	2/6/17	3/7/18	DVES00568			
Hayes-Byrd, Jacquelyn D. (Pending)	Executive Director, Women Veterans	ES				DVES00599	6 Year Term		

Hutton, James E.	Deputy Assistant Secretary, Public Affairs (OPIA)	ES	6/25/17	6/25/17	10/15/17	DVES01118			
Mashburn, John K.	Senior Advisor to the Secretary of Veterans Affairs	ES	10/14/18	10/15/18	10/14/18	DVES00654			
Powers, Pamela J.	Chief of Staff	ES	8/19/18	8/20/18	8/19/18	DVES00448			Pending WH/OPM Approval. Detailed to Senior Advisor
Sandoval, Camilo	Senior Advisor (VHA)	ES	5/19/17	5/19/17	5/19/17	DVES01111			Serving as EIC, OI&T as of April 18, 2018
Sandoval, Camilo (Pending)	Senior Advisor/Chief Technology Officer	ES							
Syrek, Christopher	Deputy Chief of Staff (VA)	ES	8/2/17	8/2/17	8/19/18	DVES01148			Pending OPM/WH approvals
Verschoor, Thayer	Executive Director, Intergovernmental Affairs (OPIA)	ES	7/23/17	7/23/17	7/23/17	DVES00673			
Wagner, John E.	PDAS, Public and Intergovernmental Affairs	ES	6/14/17	6/14/17	6/14/17	DVES01109			
Vacant (V: Connell)	Senior Advisor (OSVA)	ES	1/20/17	1/20/17	4/9/18	DVES01134			
Vacant (V: Nicholas)	Senior Advisor, OAWP	ES				DVES01112		Unknown	
Vacant (V: O'Rourke)	Senior White House Advisor (OSVA)	ES				DVES01107			Pending WH/OPM Approval
Schedule C and White House Fellow (Schedule A)									
Name	Title	Grade	Appt Date	Date Sworn In	Date Entered Current Position/Grade	Position Number	Separation (S) / Expiration (E) Date	Status of Fill	Remarks
Anderson, Christopher	Special Assistant (OCLA)	GS-12	7/10/17	7/10/17	7/10/17	DVGS17007			
Bailey, Aaron K.	Senior Advisor for Investigations	GS-15	4/2/18	4/2/18	4/2/18	DVGS18001			
Eason, William J.	Special Assistant/Deputy Press Secretary	GS-13	7/1/18	7/2/18	9/24/18	DVGS00138			
Cashour, Curtis	Press Secretary	GS-15	6/8/17	6/8/17	6/8/17	DVGS17005			
Haverstock, Cathleen A.	Special Assistant	GS-15	6/28/17	6/28/17	6/28/17	DVGS17008			
Bossie, Darren J.	White House Liaison	GS-13	12/31/18	12/31/18	12/31/18	DVGS18015			
LeVell, Leah V.	Special Assistant (Mission Support)	GS-11	5/14/18	5/14/18	12/16/18	DVGS18016			
Beardsley, Jason R.	Senior Advisor and Veterans Service Org Liaison	GS-15	6/18/18	6/18/18	6/18/18	DVGS18006			
Quill, Joshua	Deputy Chief of Staff	GS-15	6/24/18	N/A	6/24/18	DVGS18008			
Scott, Traci Ann	Senior Advisor for Strategic Communications	GS-15	9/2/18	9/5/18	9/2/18	DVGS18010			
Fish, John N.	Director, State and Local Government Relations	GS-15	9/4/18	9/4/18	9/4/18	DVGS18011			
Childress, Katherine T.	Director, Mission Support and Mission Operations	GS-14	11/1/18	11/1/18	11/1/18	DVGS18014			
Murphy, Elizabeth	Advisor to the Chairman BVA	GS-9	10/1/18	10/1/18	10/1/18	DVGS18012			
Vannoy, Caitlin P. (Pending)	Special Advisor	GS-14				DVGS19001			
Kasperowicz, Peter I. (Pending)	Speechwriter	GS-15				DVGS19003			
Name	Title	Grade	Appt Date	Date Sworn In		Position Number	Separation (S) / Expiration (E) Date	Status of Fill	Remarks
None Identified	White House Fellow	GS-14							Does not count against Department allocations.

Summary of Appointments		
Type of Appointment	Onboard Strength	Statutory Limitations
PAS	10	12
PA**	2	3
Schedule C (Permanent)	13 (15)	15 (Auth use of 15 by WH per WHL)
Noncareer SES*	14 (15)	18 (FY 2018) (Auth use of all by WH per WHL) - Note 2

Note 2: Limit subject to change based on number of Career SES onboard for prior FY.