



U.S. Department
of Veterans Affairs

Via Email: foia@americanoversight.org

MAR 04 2019

Mr. Hart Wood
1030 15th Street, NW
Suite B256
Washington, DC 20005

RE: Freedom of Information Act Tracking Number: **19-03912-F**

Dear Mr. Wood,

This is in response of your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request to the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) dated January 28, 2019, in which you are seeking:

- 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 the travel of any 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, payments made via government-issued charge cards or travel cards, or any other reimbursable expenses. (Date Range for Record Search: From 12/21/2018 To 1/25/2019).

We consulted with the Office of Information Technology-IT Resource Management, Director IT Financial Management and Oversight Service (ITFMOS) and no records were located reflecting costs reimbursed or paid directly by our agency for any reimbursable expenses attributable to any political appointee. Payments or reimbursements include any payments associated with travel (including the travel of any 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, payments made via government-issued charge cards or travel cards, or any other reimbursable expenses between December 21, 2018 and January 25, 2019. Therefore, this is a no records respond to your request.

You may appeal in writing to:

Department of Veterans Affairs
General Counsel (024)
810 Vermont Avenue
Washington, DC 20420

You may also submit your appeal via facsimile to (202) 273-6388 or via email to ogcfoiaappeals@va.gov. If you do appeal this determination, you must specify which part of the determination you are appealing. Please include a copy of your request and my letter with your appeal, and clearly state why you disagree with this determination. If you mail your appeal, both the front of the envelope and the letter should be clearly marked "FOIA Appeal". Please also include a daytime telephone number in case the Office of General Counsel needs additional information.

As an alternative to submitting an appeal, you may contact the VA FOIA Public Liaison, which was created to offer mediation services to resolve disputes between FOIA requesters and the VA. Using the VA FOIA Public Liaison does not affect your right to appeal.

You may contact the VA FOIA Public Liaison at:

Department of Veterans Affairs
VA FOIA Public Liaison (005R1C)
810 Vermont Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20420
Email: vacofoiaservice@va.gov
Phone: (877) 750-3642
Fax: (202) 632-7581

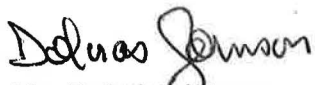
As another alternative to submitting an appeal, you may also contact the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) whom was created to offer mediation services to resolve disputes between FOIA requesters and Federal Agencies. Using OGIS does not affect your right to appeal. You may contact OGIS in any of the following manners:

Office of Government Information Services
National Archives & Records Administration
8601 Adelphi Road
College Park, MD 20740-6001
Email: ogis@nara.gov
Phone: (202) 741-5770
Toll-free: 1-877-684-6448
Fax: (202) 741-5769

This concludes the FOIA Service's response to your request.

We appreciate your interest in the VA. If you have any further questions concerning this letter, you may contact Jacqueline Short of my staff at (202) 632-7426.

Sincerely,



Ms. Doloras Johnson
Director, VACO FOIA Service
Quality, Performance, and Risk (QPR)
Office of Information and Technology (OIT)