



January 22, 2020

Mr. Austin R. Evers
American Oversight
1030 15th Street NW, Suite B255
Washington, DC 20005

Dear Mr. Evers:

This letter is in response to your U.S. General Services Administration (GSA) Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request number (GSA-2020-000170), submitted on November 19, 2019, in which you requested:

- “1. All guidance, directives, instructions, policies, and procedures (including that transmitted via email, memoranda, or other means of communication) regarding the use of properties owned by the Trump Organization for government-sponsored meetings, conferences, or travel. Both technical/logistical guidance as well as policy guidance should be considered responsive to this request.
2. All guidance, directives, instructions, policies, and procedures (including that transmitted via email, memoranda, or other means of communication) regarding reimbursement for meals, overnight stays, or other expenses incurred at properties owned by the Trump Organization. Both technical/logistical guidance as well as policy guidance should be considered responsive to this request.
3. All records reflecting costs reimbursed or paid directly by your agency for visits to any property owned by the Trump Organization. Reimbursements include payments for lodging, meals, conference fees, incidental expenses, costs for transportation, costs of individual airfare, per diem payments, overtime payments, payments made via government-issued charge cards or travel cards, or other reimbursable expenses. This request encompasses costs incurred not only by government employees, but also by their spouses or any staff or security detail assigned to government employees traveling to any Trump Organization property.

Date from 7/24/2017 to the present.”

In response to your request, GSA does not have any records pertaining to Items 1 and 2 of your request. GSA does not have policy or guidance regarding the use of properties owned by the Trump Organization for government-sponsored meetings, conferences, or travel.

In response to Item 3 of your request, as you specifically requested information related to per diem payments and government-issued travel cards, please find attached a spreadsheet that documents four individual purchases made by employees while on official travel using the required Government travel card for dining expenses, not lodging, at the Trump International Hotel in Washington DC. Please note, per diem rates are designed to compensate, in part,

U.S. General Services Administration
1800 F. Street, Northwest
Washington, DC 20405
Telephone: (877) 675-FOIA
Fax: (202) 501-2727

employees for the costs of meals while away from home. While employees are on travel, they are required to use the Government travel card for meals, unless an exception applies, but travelers are permitted to choose the dining location of their choice. These four individuals were only compensated the established per diem rate, not the actual expense of their meal, so no itemized receipt or line item is reflected on individual travel vouchers; just the enclosed travel card transaction report information, which helps ensure cards are not misused.

In processing your request, GSA withheld the names and e-mail addresses of individuals pursuant to the FOIA, 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(6). This was done because public disclosure of this information would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.

As we have redacted information referenced in the above paragraph(s) with the aforementioned FOIA exemption, this technically constitutes a partial denial of your FOIA request. You have the right to appeal the denial of the information being withheld and the adequacy of GSA's search for those items where no responsive records were located. You may submit an appeal online at the following link: (<https://foiaonline.regulations.gov/foia/action/public/home>) or by writing to the following address:

U.S. General Services Administration
FOIA Requester Service Center (H3A)
1800 F Street, NW, Room 7308
Washington, DC 20405

Your appeal must be postmarked or electronically transmitted within 120 days of the date of the response to your request. In addition, your appeal must contain a brief statement of the reasons why the requested information should be released. Please enclose a copy of your initial request and this letter. Both the appeal letter and envelope or online appeal submission should be prominently marked, "Freedom of Information Act Appeal."

This completes action on your request. Should you have questions, you may contact me at travis.lewis@gsa.gov or contact our GSA FOIA Public Liaison, Audrey Brooks, at (202) 205-5912 or by email at audrey.brooks@gsa.gov for any additional assistance and to discuss any aspect of your FOIA request.

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, 8601 Adelphi Road-OGIS, College Park, Maryland 20740-6001, email at ogis@nara.gov; telephone at (202) 741-5770; toll free at (877) 684-6448; or facsimile at (202) 741-5769.

Sincerely,

Travis Lewis

Travis Lewis
Deputy Director
Office of Accountability and Transparency
Office of Administrative Services

Enclosures

2017																
Date from 7/24/2017 none																
2018																
Account Name 1	Program	Region	Service/Staff Office	Merchant Name					MCC	MCC Description	Transaction Date	Transaction Post	Transaction Amount	Transaction Type	Transaction DB-CR Indicator	Account e-mail Address
(b)(6) (b)(7)	TRAVEL	GSA REGION 3	PUBLIC BUILDINGS SERVICE(3P)	TRUMP INTL HOTEL DC RE	1100 PENNSYLVANIA AVE NW	WASHINGTON	DC	200040000	5812	Eating Places, Restaurants	11/16/17	11/20/17	\$59.50	Purchase	Debit	(b)(6) (b)(7)
(b)(6) (b)(7)	TRAVEL	GSA REGION 2	PUBLIC BUILDINGS SERVICE (2P)	TRUMP INTL HOTEL DC RE	1100 PENNSYLVANIA AVE NW	WASHINGTON	DC	200040000	5812	Eating Places, Restaurants	5/2/18	5/4/18	\$96.90	Purchase	Debit	(b)(6) (b)(7)
2019																
Cardholder Full Name	Program	Region	Service/Staff Office	Merchant ID Name	Merchant Address 1	Merchant City	Merchant Postal	MCC	MCC Description	Transaction Date	Transaction Post	Transaction Amount	Transaction Type	Transaction DB-CR Indicator	Account e-mail Address	
(b)(6) (b)(7)	TRAVEL	GSA REGION 5	PUBLIC BUILDING SERVICE - PBS	TRUMP INTL HOTEL DC RE	1100 PENNSYLVANIA AVE NW	WASHINGTON	DC	20004	5812	Restaurants	9/18/19 0:00	9/18/19 0:00	\$ 19.40	Purchase	Debit	(b)(6) (b)(7)
(b)(6) (b)(7)	TRAVEL	GSA REGION 00	OFC OF STRATEGIC COMMS.	TRUMP INTL HOTEL DC RE	1100 PENNSYLVANIA AVE NW	WASHINGTON	DC	20004	5812	Restaurants	9/18/19 0:00	9/18/19 0:00	\$ 20.00	Purchase	Debit	(b)(6) (b)(7)