VA | U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

Board of Veterans' Appeals
Washington, DC 20420
www.bva.va.gov

In Reply Refer To: 01C1
26-14630-F

July 16, 2026

American Oversight
1030 15th Street NW
Suite B255
Washington, DC 20005

Sent via email to:
foia@americanoversight.org

Dear Emma Lewis:

This is in response to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request dated March 13, 2026, and received April 30, 2026. You requested all email communications sent by or on behalf of Acting Chairman and Vice Chairman Kenneth Arnold, Acting Chief Counsel and Deputy Vice Chairman Robert Scharnberger, Acting Deputy Vice Chairman Evan Deichert, Acting Deputy Vice Chairman Tracie Wesner, Deputy Vice Chairman David Barrans, Chief Counsel Rebecca Ausprung, anyone acting as Chairman of the Board of Veterans' Appeals (Board), anyone acting as Chief of Staff, anyone acting as Senior Deputy Vice Chairman, anyone acting as Deputy Vice Chairman, and anyone acting as Executive Director using the search terms and parameters outlined in your request from July 1 – September 30, 2025.

I did not locate any records responsive to your request. No individual has served in the roles of Chief of Staff, Senior Deputy Vice Chairman, or Executive Director during the relevant timeframe. Additionally, it should be noted that Chief Counsel Rebecca Ausprung vacated her position prior to your requested timeframe. With consideration of the foregoing, I consider this to be a denial of your request.

If you are unsatisfied with this response, you may contact either the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) or the VA FOIA Public Liaison for mediation services. Both will assist in resolving disputes between FOIA requesters and VA as a non-exclusive alternative to litigation. Using OGIS or the VA FOIA Public Liaison does not affect your right to pursue litigation. You may contact OGIS or the VA Public Liaison in any of the following ways:

Office of Government Information Services
National Archives and Records Administration
8601 Adelphi Road, Room 2510
College Park, MD 20740-6001

E-mail: ogis@nara.gov
Telephone: 1-877-684-6448
Facsimile: 202-741-5769

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

VA FOIA Public Liaison
810 Vermont Avenue, NW (005R1C)
Washington, DC 20420

E-mail: foiahelp@va.gov
Facsimile: 202-632-7581

You may appeal this determination by writing to the VA Office of General Counsel (024), Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20420, or email your request to: OGCFOIAAppeals@va.gov. Your appeal must be received within 90 calendar days of the date of this letter. Please state clearly why you disagree with the determination of this office.

Sincerely,



Kary D. Charlebois
FOIA/Privacy Officer

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT