

Public Record Media
Matt Ehling, President
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Suite 200
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March 28, 2011

U.S. Department of Homeland Security
Privacy Office
Director, Disclosure & FOIA
245 Murray Drive SW, Building 410
STOP-655
Washington DC 20528-0655

RE: Freedom of Information Act request

Dear Director,

This is a request under the Freedom of Information Act (5 USC § 552). I request that a copy of the following records be provided to me:

Any and all paper, electronic, or other records involving:

1. Correspondence within your agency relating to U.S. Coast Guard FOIA request number 2010-2784;
2. Correspondence within your agency relating to FOIA requests about any contracts between the Department of Homeland Security (or any of its components) and Talon Security, or any company with a substantially similar name;
3. Correspondence within your agency relating to FOIA requester Matt Ehling;
4. Correspondence within your agency relating to FOIA requester Matt Ehling's organization, Public Record Media;
5. Any intra-agency correspondence between any staff member of the Department of Homeland Security and any staff member of the U.S. Coast Guard that relates to items 1-4, above.

In order to help you determine my status for the purpose of assessing fees, you should know that I am a freelance journalist, and that this request is made as part of news

gathering, and is not for commercial use. Responsive files will be shared with researchers, journalists, and the public, and will not be licensed for profit.

I am seeking a waiver of fees for this request, since the public dissemination of the requested materials will aide the public's understanding of the federal government's Freedom of Information Act practices. Recent press reports indicate that your agency has subjected FOIA requests to political review, resulting in delays in the production of responsive documents. Through my current request, I am seeking to learn if a previous FOIA request of mine to the U.S. Coast Guard (number 2010-2784) was subjected to such political scrutiny.

If my fee waiver is denied, I am willing to pay fees of up to \$100.00 without prior notice. If fees are estimated to exceed this amount, please notify me first.

If this request is denied in whole or in part, please notify me of all appeals procedures available by law.

I can be contacted at 651-335-2037 if you need to discuss any aspect of this request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Matt Ehling', with a stylized, cursive flourish at the end.

Matt Ehling
President, Public Record Media