



**U.S. Department of Justice**  
Office of Information Policy  
Suite 11050  
1425 New York Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20530-0001

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Telephone: (202) 514-3642

January 31, 2019

Mr. Matt Ehling  
Public Record Media  
2375 University Avenue, W  
Suite 200  
St. Paul, MN 55114  
info@publicrecordmedia.com

Re: DOJ-2017-004508 (AG)  
DOJ-2017-005102 (DAG)  
DOJ-2017-005103 (ASG)  
DOJ-2017-005104 (OLP)  
VRB:TAZ:JMS  
No. 18-cv-1052 (D.D.C.)

Dear Mr. Ehling:

This responds to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request dated May 25, 2017, and received in this Office on June 6, 2017, for records pertaining to policies and practices governing the use of law enforcement tools to obtain records from or concerning members of the news media, as well as certain records related to the prosecution or potential prosecution of journalists under provisions of the Espionage Act. This response is made on behalf of the Offices of the Attorney General (OAG), Deputy Attorney General (ODAG), Associate Attorney General (OASG), and Legal Policy (OLP).<sup>1</sup>

Pursuant to communications and negotiations by and through counsel, you have agreed to forego a search of OLP, and have indicated that a search of the electronic database of the Departmental Executive Secretariat, which is the official records repository for OAG, ODAG, and OASG, would satisfy your request. You have also indicated that production of records from a related matter could be provided in satisfaction of Part 1 of your FOIA request. That production was completed via email to your counsel on November 9, 2018.

Further, pursuant to our agreement as it relates to Parts 2-4 of your request, please be advised that we conducted a search of the electronic database of the Departmental Executive Secretariat, and no records responsive to those parts of your request were located.

For your information, Congress excluded three discrete categories of law enforcement and national security records from the requirements of the FOIA. *See* 5 U.S.C. § 552(c) (2012 & Supp. V 2017). This response is limited to those records that are subject to the requirements of the FOIA. This is a standard notification that is given to all our requesters and should not be taken as an indication that excluded records do, or do not, exist.

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<sup>1</sup> Your request was originally directed to the Mail Referral Unit, Justice Management Division, for appropriate routing. It was received by this Office on June 6, 2017. The MRU tracking number associated with this request is 7016 0910 0001 0550 1714.

If you have any questions regarding this response, please contact Jeremy Simon of the U.S. Attorney's Office for the District of Columbia, at [REDACTED].

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'V-R-B', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Vanessa R. Brinkmann  
Senior Counsel