



U.S. Department of Justice
Office of Information Policy
Sixth Floor
441 G Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20530-0001

Telephone: (202) 514-3642

February 7, 2020

Michael Bekesha
Judicial Watch, Inc.
425 Third Street, S.W.
Suite 800
Washington, D.C. 20024
mbekesha@judicialwatch.org

Re: DOJ-2020-000647
19-cv-3809 (D.D.C.)
TAZ:JPW

Dear Michael Bekesha:

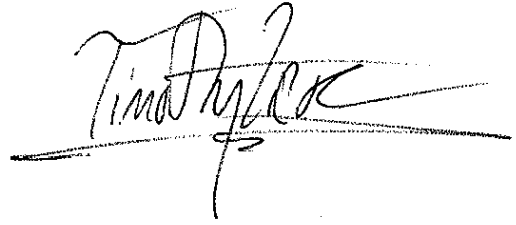
This is in response to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request dated November 1, 2019, and received in this office on November 5, 2019. You requested "records of communication between any attorney, agent, or other employee assigned to the Special Counsel's Office and CIA employee Eric Ciaramella" from May 17, 2017, to the present. This response is made on behalf of the Offices of the Attorney General and Deputy Attorney General.

I have decided to refuse to confirm or deny the existence of responsive records pursuant to Exemptions 3, 6, and 7(C) of the FOIA, 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(3), (b)(6), and (b)(7)(C). Exemption 3 pertains to information exempted from release by statute, in this instance, the CIA Act of 1949, 50 U.S.C. § 3507; and the National Security Act of 1947, 50 U.S.C. § 3024(i)(1). Exemption 6 pertains to information the release of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of the personal privacy of a third party. Exemption 7(C) pertains to records or information compiled for law enforcement purposes, the release of which could reasonably be expected to constitute an unwarranted invasion of the personal privacy of a third party.

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) (2006 & Supp. IV 2010). 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.

If you have any questions regarding this response, please contact Elizabeth Tulis of the Department's Civil Division, Federal Programs Branch, at 202-514-9237.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Timothy Ziese", written over a horizontal line. The signature is stylized and cursive.

Timothy Ziese
Senior Supervisory Attorney