

The Identity Project
(PapersPlease.org)
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Kathy Ray, FOIA Contact
Office of the Secretary of Transportation (OST)
1200 New Jersey Ave., SE, W94-122
Washington, DC 20590

FOIA Request
Fee benefit requested
Fee waiver requested

Dear FOIA Officer:

This is a request pursuant to the federal Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. § 552.

I request access to and copies of:

- (1) Any records pertaining to the designation by the Secretary of Transportation of a single contact officer responsible for overall coordination of the implementation of Executive Order 13107 by the Department of Transportation (DOT), including but not limited to any orders or directives formalizing such a designation and any communications between the Office of the Secretary of Transportation (OST) or other DOT components or other executive offices or departments regarding such a designation, the need or potential need for such a designation, and/or the absence of such a designation.
- (2) Any public notices promulgated by the DOT or DOT components pertaining to the designation of a single contact officer responsible for overall coordination of the implementation of Executive Order 13107 by the DOT.
- (3) Any information distributed to DOT components pertaining to the designation of a single contact officer responsible for overall coordination of the implementation of Executive Order 13107 by the DOT.
- (4) Any policies, procedures, communications, or other records pertaining to the handling by the DOT or DOT components of complaints of alleged violations by the DOT or DOT components of U.S. obligations pursuant to international human rights treaties.
- (5) Any policies, procedures, directives, instructions, or advice for use within DOT or by DOT components pertaining to the receipt, processing, investigation, referral, logging, reporting, and/or response to complaints of alleged violations by the DOT or DOT components of U.S. obligations pursuant to international human rights treaties, including but not limited to those pertaining to complaints received in the course of DOT and/or component rulemakings.

- (6) Any logs, docket lists, reports, or similar records pertaining to complaints of alleged violations by the DOT or DOT components of U.S. obligations pursuant to international human rights treaties, including but not limited to any reports that identify such complaints as a category of complaints to DOT, or that pertain to the number of such complaints, the DOT components by which they been received or to which they pertain, which provisions of which treaties have they alleged to have been violated, how they have been handled, what the disposition of them has been, what (if any) response has been provided to the complainants, how much time has elapsed between receipt and response to complaints, and/or how many such complaints remain pending.

With respect to any e-mail messages included in the responsive records, I specifically request access to and copies of the complete informational content of the underlying electronic records, in their full and complete form including all headers and attachments, fully expanded e-mail addresses, full addresses for address "aliases", full lists for "distribution list" aliases, and all related metadata.

As a representative of the news media I am only required to pay for the direct cost of duplication after the first 100 pages. Through this request, I am gathering information on DOT policies and procedures that is of current interest to the public because without this information, there is no way for members of the public to know how or to whom to complain of human rights violations by DOT, to understand how such complaints are supposed to be handled, or to know what sorts of complaints have been made and how they have, in fact, been handled. This information is being sought on behalf of The Identity Project ("IDP"). IDP provides advice, assistance, publicity, and legal defense to those who find their rights infringed or their legitimate activities curtailed by demands for identification -- including demands made by DOT-regulated transportation carriers -- and builds public awareness about the effects of ID requirements on fundamental rights. IDP is a program of the First Amendment Project, a nonprofit organization providing legal and educational resources dedicated to protecting and promoting First Amendment rights.

This information will be made available to the public. One of the principal activities of IDP is publication of the informational and educational Web site at <<http://www.papersPlease.org>>, where we have published documents obtained in response to our previous FOIA requests.

Please waive any applicable fees. Release of the information is in the public interest because it will contribute significantly to public understanding of government operations and activities. The records I am requesting clearly relate to government operations and activities. It is in the public interest for the public to how complaints are supposed to be handled, how they are being handled, and whether, and if so how, the DOT is fulfilling its duties pursuant to Executive Order 13107.

If my request is denied in whole or part, I ask that you justify all deletions by reference to specific exemptions. I will also expect you to release all segregable portions of otherwise exempt material. I, of course, reserve the right to appeal your decision to withhold any information or to deny a waiver of fees. Please respond as soon as possible to confirm your receipt of this request. I look forward to your complete reply within 20 business days, as the FOIA statute requires.

Edward Hasbrouck