



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

Telephone: (202) 514-3642

January 4, 2023

Andrea Beaty
1611 Connecticut Ave NW
Washington, DC 20009
beaty@therevolvingdoorproject.org

Re: Appeal No. A-2023-00207
Request No. FOIA-2021-01960
DRC:RNB

VIA: Online Portal

Dear Andrea Beaty:

You appealed from the action of the Initial Request Staff (IR Staff) of the Office of Information Policy on your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request for access to records concerning copies of all Notifications of Personnel Action (SF-50) associated with Susan Davies since January 1, 2021. I note that your appeal concerns the adequacy of the search.

After carefully considering your appeal, I am affirming IR Staff's action on your request. The IR Staff informed you that it could locate no responsive records subject to the FOIA in its files. I have determined that IR Staff's action was correct and that it conducted an adequate, reasonable search for such records.

As to your arguments concerning routing your request, "[w]here a component's FOIA office determines that a request was misdirected within the Department, the receiving component's FOIA office shall route the request to the FOIA office of the proper component(s)." 28 CFR 16.4(c). Because it was possible that the Office of Legal Policy might have had responsive records, your request was not misdirected. A search was conducted in the Office of Legal Policy, and no records responsive to your request were located. Based on the type of records you are seeking, you may wish to make a request directly to the Justice Management Division of the United States Department of Justice and/or make a request directly to the Office of Personnel Management. <https://www.foia.gov/>

Please be advised that this Office's decision was made only after a full review of this matter. Your appeal was assigned to an attorney with this Office who thoroughly reviewed and analyzed your appeal, your underlying request, and the action of IR Staff in response to your request.

If you are dissatisfied with my action on your appeal, the FOIA permits you to file a lawsuit in federal district court in accordance with 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(4)(B).

For your information, the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) offers mediation services to resolve disputes between FOIA requesters and Federal agencies as a non-exclusive alternative to litigation. Using OGIS services does not affect your right to pursue litigation. The contact information for OGIS is as follows: Office of Government Information Services, National Archives and Records Administration, Room 2510, 8601 Adelphi Road, College Park, Maryland 20740-6001; email at ogis@nara.gov; telephone at 202-741-5770; toll free at 1-877-684-6448; or facsimile at 202-741-5769. If you have any questions regarding the action this Office has taken on your appeal, you may contact this Office's FOIA Public Liaison for your appeal. Specifically, you may speak with the undersigned agency official by calling (202) 514-3642.

Sincerely,

X *Daniel Castellano*

Daniel Castellano,
Associate Chief, for Matthew W. Hurd, Chief,
Administrative Appeals Staff