

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY WASHINGTON, D.C. 20220

August 18, 2014

RE: 2014-08-073

Mr. John Young 251 West 89th Street New York, NY 10024

Dear Mr. Young:

This letter acknowledges the receipt of your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request to the U.S. Department of the Treasury, dated August 1, 2014. You have requested records concerning documents reportedly taken from the National Security Agency by Edward Snowden. A copy of your request is enclosed.

In order to process your request, I require additional information from you. The FOIA does not require agencies to search for the proverbial needle in a haystack, nor does it contemplate that requestors will ask for the entire haystack. "[I]t is the requester's responsibility to frame requests with sufficient particularity to ensure that searches are not unreasonably burdensome, and to enable the searching agency to determine precisely what records are being requested". Further, the FOIA does not require an agency to conduct research projects, create new records, answer questions posed by requesters, or attempt to interpret a request that does not identify specific records.

Records must be described in reasonably sufficient detail to enable government employees who are familiar with the subject area to locate records without placing an unreasonable burden upon the agency. For this reason §1.5(d) of Treasury's FOIA regulations at 31 C.F.R. Part 1, Subpart A require that you describe the records in reasonably sufficient detail to enable employees who are familiar with the subject area of the request to locate the records without placing an unreasonable burden upon the Department. Whenever possible, a request should include specific information about each record sought, such as the date, title or name, author, recipients, and subject matter of the record.

Please resubmit your request containing a reasonable description of the specific records you are seeking. Upon receipt of a perfected request, you will be advised as to the status of your request.

If I do not receive an amended request from you within 15 business days from the date of this letter, I will assume you are no longer interested in this FOIA request and will consider your request withdrawn. Please be advised that this action is not a denial of your request and will not preclude you from filing other requests in the future.

See Assassination Archives, 720 F. Supp. at 219. The reasonable description obligation relates to the subject matter of a search as well as to its location. Bailey, 2010 WL 924251, at *4.

Further inquiries concerning this request should make reference to the identification number at the top of this letter and should be faxed to 202-622-3895 or mailed to:

FOIA Request FOIA and Transparency Department of the Treasury Washington, DC 20220

Sincerely,

Cawana Pearson Objectly sop of the Cawana Place on Objectly sop of the Cawana Place on Objectly of the Cawana Place of the Objectly of the Cawana Place of the International Object of the Object of t

Cawana Pearson for Ryan Law Director, FOIA and Transparency

Enclosure

CRYPTOME

By mail and publication on Cryptome.org

22 August 2014

FOIA Request FOIA and Transparency Department of the Treasury Washington, DC 20220

RE: 2014-08-073

Dear FOIA Officer,

This responds to your letter of August 18, 2014, and clarifies my request.

- 1. Concerning income, profit, revenue and any other financial benefit derived from documents reportedly taken from the National Security Agency by Edward Snowden by institutions and persons who have been publicly identified as having access to the documents as described in the attachment.
- 2. Costs and expenses incurred or projected by all US Government departments, agencies and offices attributable to documents reportedly taken from the National Security Agency by Edward Snowden.

This material will be published on the public education website Cryptome.org of which I am the administrator.

I agree to pay for costs associated with this request.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

John Young 251 West 89th Street New York, NY 10024 212-873-8700

jya@pipeline.com

Enc Attachments

FOIA Request Concerning Edward Snowden Documents 22 August 2014 – Page 2

Based on published accounts there appears to be several prongs of documents provided by Edward Snowden and unidentified parties, released, being released or studied for release.

Materials provided to (more information on each party below):

- 1. Unidentified parties by Edward Snowden searching for an outlet.
- 2. Unidentified parties by Edward Snowden who in turn provided to other unidentified parties for evaluation, sorting, study and storage.
- 3. Barton Gellman and those he consulted for publication, private, commercial, legal and governmental.
- 4. Laura Poitras and those she consulted for security, content and authenticity.
- 5. Laura Poitras, Glenn Greenwald and those they consulted for security, content and authenticity.
- 6. Laura Poitras, Glenn Greenwald and Ewen MacAskill and those they consulted for security, content, authenticity and publication -- private, commercial, legal and governmental.
- 7. The Guardian and those it consulted for security, content, authenticity and publication -- private, commercial, legal and governmental.
- 8. The Washington Post and those it consulted for security, content, authenticity and publication -- private, commercial, legal and governmental.
- 9. The Guardian to The New York Times and those it consulted for security, content, authenticity and publication -- private, commercial, legal and governmental.
- 10. A number of outlets by Glenn Greenwald and those they consulted for security, content, authenticity and publication -- private, commercial, legal and governmental.
- 11. A number of outlets by unidentified parties and those they consulted for security, content, authenticity and publication -- private, commercial, legal and governmental.

The various prongs by geographical location:

FOIA Request Concerning Edward Snowden Documents 22 August 2014 – Page 3

Outlets tally: http://cryptome.org/2013/11/snowden-tally.htm

Washington DC
New York City
Rio de Janeiro
Hong Kong
Moscow
London
Berlin
San Francisco
Oahu, HI
Redwood City, CA
Walpole, MA
Linthicum, MD
Fort Meade, MD
Mclean, VA

Countries: Brazil, Germany, France, Norway, Netherlands, Canada, Sweden, Italy, Denmark

Prongs 1, 2 and 11 are likely related: identified and unidentified parties, with advanced technical and security skills, who are studying, authenticating, releasing in part, and preparing defenses against governmental, commercial and non-profit exploitations and aggressions.

All the prongs are likely related in obscuring who provided documents, to whom they were provided, and means to receive, store, secure, authenticate, consult, and release the documents and development of defenses against governmental, commercial and non-profit exploitations and aggressions.

Several of the identified parties with advanced technical and security skills have had bylines in news reports or have been credited with consultation. Others remain unidentified but can be linked to those identified by examination of public sources.

FOIA Request Concerning Edward Snowden Documents 22 August 2014 – Page 4

Attachment

Institutions and persons who have been publicly identified as having access to the documents.

- 1.1. The New York Times, Newspaper, New York, NY
- 1.2. The Washington Post, Newspaper, Washington, DC
- 1.3. The Guardian, Newspaper, New York, NY
- 1.4. Barton Gellman, Journalist, New York, NY
- 1.5. Laura Poitras, Journalist, New York, NY
- 1.6. Glenn Greenwald, Journalist, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
- 1.7 Bruce Schneier, Journalist
- 1.8 Jacob Appelbaum, Journalist, New York, NY and Berlin, Germany
- 1.9 Julian Assange, Journalist, London, England
- 1.10 Sarah Harrison, Journalist, Berlin, Germany
- 1.11 Jill Abramson, Journalist, New York, NY
- 1.12 Thomas Drake, former NSA official
- 1.13 William Binney, former NSA official
- 1.14 Jessica Radack, Attorney
- 1.15. American Civil Liberties Union, Attorneys, New York, NY
- 1.16. Electronic Frontier Foundation, Attorneys, San Francisco, CA
- 1.17 John and Jane Does, Attorneys, Journalists, Publicists, Philanthropists, Cryptographers, System Administrators, National Security Specialists, All Other Processors and Evaluators of the Edward Snowden Documents, located with the parties listed in items 1.1-1.16 above.
- 1.18 US government agencies and members who have had access to the Snowden documents, Washington, DC, Maryland and Virginia.
- 1.19 Non-US national governments and members who have had access to the Snowden documents, Brazil, Germany, France, Norway, Netherlands, Canada, Sweden, Italy, Denmark.
- 1.20. Non-US media, newspapers, journalists, institutions and persons who have had access to the Snowden documents, Brazil, Germany, France, Norway, Netherlands, Canada, Sweden, Italy, Denmark.