



OFFICE of GOVERNMENT INFORMATION SERVICES

August 27, 2013 - Sent via U.S. Mail



NATIONAL ARCHIVES and RECORDS ADMINISTRATION

Re: Case No. 201300698
MN: NG: CM

8601 ADELPHI ROAD
COLLEGE PARK, MD
20740-6001

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Dear [Redacted]:

This responds to your requests to the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS), which we received on July 17, 2013. You requested assistance with a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request that you made to the Department of Justice Federal Bureau of Prisons (BOP).

OGIS was created under the OPEN Government Act of 2007 to resolve Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) disputes with the goal of avoiding litigation. Since opening our doors in September 2009, OGIS has received more than 1,200 cases and has successfully resolved most of them by facilitating discussions between FOIA requesters and Federal agencies. We offer mediation services as a nonbinding alternative to litigation. Participation in OGIS's mediation services is voluntary and the office has no binding authority. OGIS does not process FOIA requests or review FOIA appeals. OGIS cannot compel an agency to release records.

After opening a case, OGIS gathers information from the requester and the agency to learn more about the nature of the dispute. This process helps us gather necessary background information, assess whether the issues are appropriate for mediation, and determine the willingness of the parties to engage in our services. As part of our information gathering, we carefully reviewed your submission of information. We also spoke to the FOIA staff of BOP to learn more about how your request was handled.



We understand that you made a request to BOP for records related to inmate "lockbox" deposits. BOP responded to your request by informing you that it found no records responsive to your request. You appealed that response, and the Department of Justice Office of Information Policy upheld that response. I understand that you dispute this response.

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We contacted BOP to learn more about how it processed your request. We learned that what you refer to as the "lockbox" is known as the "Inmate Deposit Fund." As a courtesy to you, we have printed the relevant chapters of the "Trust Fund/Deposit Fund" manual, which is posted on BOP's website.

I hope this information has been helpful to you. At this time, there is no further assistance we can offer you in this case. Thank you for bringing this matter to OGIS; we will consider your case closed.

Sincerely,



Miriam Nisbet, Director
Office of Government Information Services

Enclosure