

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Atlanta GA 30333 June 24, 2022

Aaron Siri Siri & Glimstad LLP 200 Park Ave 17th Floor New York, NY 10166 Via email: foia@sirillp.com

Dear Mr. Siri:

This letter is regarding your Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (CDC/ATSDR) Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request of December 13, 2021, assigned #22-00518-FOIA.

We located 242 pages of responsive records (237 pages released in full or part). After a careful review of these pages, some information was withheld from release pursuant to 5 U.S.C. §552 Exemptions b(5) and b(6). The foreseeable harm standard was considered when applying these redactions. The responsive records are available to download at the link below:

https://centersfordiseasecontrol.sharefile.com/d-s43d3f728747e4211bc5c7b44176cb8e4

Exemption 5 protects inter-agency or intra-agency memorandums or letters which would not be available by law to a party other than an agency in litigation with the agency. Exemption 5 therefore incorporates the privileges that protect materials from discovery in litigation, including the deliberative process, attorney work-product, and attorney-client privileges. Information withheld under this exemption was protected under the <u>deliberative process privilege</u>. The deliberative process privilege protects the decision-making process of government agencies. The deliberative process privilege protects materials that are both predecisional and deliberative. The materials that have been withheld under the deliberative process privilege of Exemption 5 are both predecisional and deliberative, and do not contain or represent formal or informal agency policies or decisions.

Exemption 6 protects information in personnel and medical files and similar files when disclosure would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy. The information that has been withheld under Exemption 6 consists of personally identifiable medical and contact information. We have determined that the individuals to whom this information pertains has a substantial privacy interest in withholding it.

Five (5) pages of responsive records have been referred to the Department of Defense for their review and direct response to you. You may inquire about the status of these records at the following email address: usarmy.detrick.medcom-usamrmc.mbx.foia@mail.mil

You may contact our FOIA Public Liaison at 770-488-6246 for any further assistance and to discuss any aspect of your request. Additionally, you may contact the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) at the National Archives and Records Administration to inquire about the FOIA mediation services they offer. The contact information for OGIS is as follows: Office of Government Information Services, National Archives and Records Administration, 8601 Adelphi Road-OGIS, College Park, Maryland 20740-6001, e-mail at ogis@nara.gov; telephone at 202-741-5770; toll free at 1-877-684-6448; or facsimile at 202-741-5769.

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If you are not satisfied with the response to this request, you may administratively appeal to the Deputy Agency Chief FOIA Officer, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, via the online portal at https://requests.publiclink.hhs.gov/App/Index.aspx. Your appeal must be electronically transmitted by November 4, 2022.

Sincerely,

Roger Andoh

CDC/ATSDR FOIA Officer

Office of the Chief Operating Officer (770) 488-6399

Fax: (404) 235-1852

Enclosures

22-00518-FOIA