

CDC FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT REQUEST

VIA ONLINE PORTAL

February 11, 2025

Roger Andoh
Freedom of Information Officer
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
1600 Clifton Road, N.E., Building 57, Room MS D-54
Atlanta, Georgia 30333

Re: *Communications Concerning the Johns Hopkins Institute of Vaccine Safety*
(IR#1186A)

Dear Sir or Madam:

This firm represents Informed Consent Action Network (“ICAN”) and Mississippi Medical Professionals for Informed Consent (“MMPIC”). On behalf of ICAN and MMPIC, please provide the following records to foia@sirillp.com in electronic form:

All communications (including but not limited to emails, text messages, direct messages, Teams chats, Slack chats, Signal messages, Skype messages, WhatsApp messages, etc.) sent and/or received by Rochelle Walensky, Mandy Cohen, Frank DeStefano, Anne Hause, Tom Shimabukuro, John Su, Bonita Johnson, Jared Woo, Julianne Gee, Karen Broder, David Shay, and/or Tanya Myers from January 1, 2020 through the date of the search that contain the term(s) “Johns Hopkins Institute of Vaccine Safety,” “IVS,” AND/OR “vaccinesafety.edu.”

We ask that you waive any and all fees or charges pursuant to 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(4)(A)(iii). ICAN is a not-for-profit news media organization whose mission is to raise public awareness about vaccine safety, other medical treatments, environmental pollutants and toxins, and overall health choices, and to provide the public with information needed in order to give informed consent. As part of its mission, ICAN actively investigates and disseminates scientifically-based health information regarding the safety of vaccines, other medical treatments, environmental pollutants and toxins, and governmental activities for free through its website,¹ a weekly health news and talk show,² and through press events and releases. The HighWire website has approximately 3.4 million weekly visitors. On X (formerly known as Twitter), The HighWire has approximately 190,000 followers and 1 to 2.5 million impressions in a 28-day period. On Rumble, The HighWire

¹ <https://www.icandecide.org/>.

² <https://thehighwire.com/>.

has approximately 83,000 followers and growing. The size of ICAN's audience and subscribers continues to grow and is illustrative of the wide public interest in the subject of health and medical safety. Critical to ICAN's mission is its proven ability to find and review critical scientific and governmental records and meaningfully report about their social impacts. One of the tools ICAN uses to gather the raw material it uses in its popular investigative reporting is the Freedom of Information Act (“**FOIA**”). ICAN is seeking the information in this FOIA request to allow it to contribute to the public understanding of government programs and any potential effects of same on public health. The information ICAN is requesting will not contribute to any commercial activities. Therefore, ICAN should be properly categorized as a media requester, and it is entitled to the search and processing privileges associated with such a category designation. Accordingly, ICAN will be forced to challenge any agency decision that categorizes it as any other category of requester.

MMPIC is a not-for profit organization comprised of medical professionals throughout the state of Mississippi. MMPIC’s mission is to raise public awareness about vaccine safety, other medical treatments, and overall health choices, and to provide the public with information needed in order to give informed consent. MMPIC is seeking the information in this FOIA request to allow it to contribute to the public understanding of government programs and actions and any potential effects of those programs and actions on public health. The information MMPIC is requesting will not contribute to any commercial activities.

Please note that the FOIA provides that if only portions of a requested file are exempted from release, the remainder must still be released. We therefore request that we be provided with all non-exempt portions which are reasonably segregable. We further request that you describe any deleted or withheld material in detail and specify the statutory basis for the denial as well as your reasons for believing that the alleged statutory justification applies. Please also separately state your reasons for not invoking your discretionary powers to release the requested documents in the public interest. Such statements may help to avoid unnecessary appeal and litigation. ICAN and MMPIC reserve all rights to appeal the withholding or deletion of any information.

Access to the requested records should be granted within twenty (20) business days from the date of your receipt of this letter. Failure to respond in a timely manner shall be viewed as a denial of this request and ICAN and MMPIC may immediately take further administrative or legal action.

Furthermore, we specifically request that the agency provide us with an estimated date of completion for this request.

If you would like to discuss our request or any issues raised in this letter, please feel free to contact us at (240) 732-6737 or foia@sirillp.com during normal business hours. Thank you for your time and attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

/s/ Aaron Siri

Aaron Siri, Esq.
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