DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES Office of the Secretary

Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs
Washington, D.C. 20201

Case No. 2025-00027-A-PHS (Original Appeal No. 2025-00027-A-OS)

December 12, 2024

David Medeiros
MuckRock News, DEPT MR 174592
263 Huntington Avenue
Boston, MA 02115
174592-18623438@requests.muckrock.com

Dear Mr. Medeiros:

On October 20, 2024, you submitted a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request to the Department of Health and Human Services, Office of the Secretary (OS). Your request sought records related to "the Connecticut Medicaid Acquired Brain Injury (ABI) Waiver Program." The OS FOIA Office assigned your request tracking number 2025-00410-FOIA-PHS.

On November 1, 2024, you submitted an appeal concerning your October 20, 2024, FOIA request. Your appeal stated that you were seeking "clarification and prompt resolution regarding the recent delays and scope of [your] request." Your appeal further stated that "no substantive updates or record retrieval details [had] been provided, warranting [your] appeal to ensure that [your] request's full scope is addressed and all responsive records are considered." The OS FOIA Office assigned your appeal tracking number 2025-00027-A-OS (subsequently renumbered 2025-00027-A-OS). I interpreted your appeal as an indication that you believed that the OS FOIA Office had failed to respond to your request in a timely manner.

On November 4, 2024, the OS FOIA Office issued a final response to your initial request. This response informed you that your request had been re-routed to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) for review and a direct response to you. Because the OS FOIA Office has already responded to your request, your appeal is now moot.

CMS can further assist you with the processing of your request. If at any point in the FOIA process you need assistance with the processing of your request, you may contact CMS's FOIA Public Liaison. This individual can assist you in reducing delays in the processing of your request, increasing transparency and understanding of the status of your request, and assisting to resolve any FOIA disputes. CMS's FOIA Public Liaison can be reached using the following contact information:

Desiree Gaynor
CMS FOIA Public Liaison
E-mail: desiree.gaynor@cms.hhs.gov

You may also seek assistance from the HHS FOIA Public Liaison. This individual can be reached using the following contact information:

Paula Formoso
HHS FOIA Public Liaison
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs
E-mail: HHS_FOIA_Public_Liaison@hhs.gov

Finally, you may seek assistance with the processing of your requests from the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS). OGIS serves as the Federal FOIA ombudsman and assists requesters and agencies to prevent and resolve FOIA disputes through mediation. Using OGIS services does not affect your right to pursue litigation. You may contact OGIS via email at ogis@nara.gov.

CONCLUSION:

Your administrative appeal, 2025-00027-A-PHS, is hereby administratively closed as moot.

Sincerely,

Alesia Y. Williams -S

Digitally signed by Alesia Y. Williams -S
Date: 2024.12.12 08:45:22 -05'00'

Alesia Y. Williams
Director, FOIA Appeals and Litigation
FOI/Privacy Acts Division