U.S. Department of Justice
Office of Information Policy
Sixth Floor
441 G Street, NW
Washington, DC 20530-0001

Telephone: (202) 514-3642

David Medeiros

Re: Appeal Nos. A-2025-00584, A-2025-00643, A-2025-00647, A-2025-00644, A-2025-00645, A-2025-00648, A-2025-00646, A-2025-00649 & A-2025-00657
Request Nos. FOIA-2025-01052, FOIA-2025-01053, FOIA-2025-01054, FOIA-2025-01055, FOIA-2025-01056, FOIA-2025-01057, FOIA-2025-01059, FOIA-2025-01060

176821-54350521@requests.muckrock.com

VIA: Email - 1/31/2025

Dear David Medeiros:

You appealed from the action of the Initial Request Staff (IR Staff) of the Office of Information Policy on your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requests for access to various records concerning complaints submitted to the Department of Justice. I have construed your appeal as concerning the IR Staff's determination that it does not maintain such records.

After carefully considering your appeal, I am affirming the IR Staff's action on your requests. The IR Staff informed you that it does not maintain records such as those that you described. I have determined that the IR Staff's response was correct. Based on the type of records that you appear to be seeking, you might wish to make a request to the Civil Rights Division of the United States Department of Justice for the records that you seek. I trust that this information will be of some assistance to you as you attempt to locate these records.

Please be advised that DOJ has a decentralized system for processing FOIA requests and each component maintains and handles FOIA requests for its own records. Accordingly, you need to send your requests to the DOJ components, such as the Civil Rights Division and the Office of the Inspector General, you believe have records pertaining to the subject of your requests directly. Additional information is available at www.justice.gov/oip/foia-request.html

and https://www.foia.gov/.

Furthermore, I am denying your request for a Vaughn Index. You are not entitled to such a listing at the administrative stage of processing FOIA requests and appeals. See, e.g., Citizens for Responsibility & Ethics in Wash. v. FEC, 711 F.3d 180, 187 n.5 (D.C. Cir. 2013). Additionally, no information was withheld in response to these requests.

Furthermore, by letter dated January 7, 2025, this Office informed you that your additional appeal from your FOIA request for the above-referenced records had been received by this Office and would be assigned for adjudication under Appeal No. A-2025-00657. However, this Office subsequently learned that your appeal file was a duplicate of Appeal No. A-2025-00584. In light of these circumstances, I am administratively closing Appeal No. A-2025-00657 in this Office.

Please be advised that this Office's decision was made only after a full review of this matter. Your appeal was assigned to an attorney with this Office who thoroughly reviewed and analyzed your appeal, your underlying request, and the action of the IR Staff in response to your request.

If you are dissatisfied with my action on your appeal, the FOIA permits you to file a lawsuit in federal district court in accordance with 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(4)(B).

For your information, the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) offers mediation services to resolve disputes between FOIA requesters and Federal agencies as a non-exclusive alternative to litigation. Using OGIS services does not affect your right to pursue litigation. The contact information for OGIS is as follows: Office of Government Information Services, National Archives and Records Administration, Room 2510, 8601 Adelphi Road, College Park, Maryland 20740-6001; email at ogis@nara.gov; telephone at 202-741-5770; toll-free at 1-877-684-6448; or facsimile at 202-741-5769. If you have any questions regarding the action this Office has taken on your appeal, you may contact this Office and speak with the undersigned agency official by calling 202-514-3642.

Sincerely,

X Rianna Barrett

Rianna Barrett,
Associate Chief, for Christina Troiani, Chief,
Administrative Appeals Staff