DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES Office of the Secretary

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

HHS Case No. 2025-00638-FOIA-OS

February 21, 2025

Sent via email:
David Medeiros
176223-39868678@requests.muckrock.com

Dear Mr. Medeiros:

This is in response to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request, dated: November 18, 2024 (attached for reference). We received your request on November 18, 2024.

The organizational components serviced by the Office of the Secretary FOIA Requester Service Center do not routinely collect or retain the type of records in which you express interest. Therefore, we are closing our file on this request.

If you believe that this response constitutes an adverse determination, you may appeal. By filing an appeal, you preserve your rights under FOIA and give the agency a chance to review and reconsider your request and the agency's decision.

Please mark the correspondence, "Freedom of Information Act Appeal." Your appeal must be transmitted within 90 days from the date of receipt of this letter to:

William H. Holzerland
Deputy Agency Chief FOIA Officer
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs
HHS.ACFO@hhs.gov

If you would like to discuss our response before filing an appeal to attempt to resolve your dispute without going through the appeals process, you may contact the HHS FOIA Public Liaison for assistance at:

HHS FOIA/PA Public Liaison
FOI/Privacy Acts Division
Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs (ASPA)
Office of the Secretary (OS)
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)
Telephone: (202) 690-7453
Fax: (202) 690-8320
E-mail: HHS_FOIA_Public_Liaison@hhs.gov

If you are unable to resolve your FOIA dispute through our FOIA Public Liaison, the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS), the Federal FOIA Ombudsman's office, offers mediation services to help resolve disputes between FOIA requesters and Federal agencies. The contact information for OGIS is:

Office of Government Information Services
National Archives and Records Administration
Telephone: (202) 741-5770
Toll-Free: 1-877-684-6448
E-mail: ogis@nara.gov
Fax: 202-741-5769

Your request was also referred to the Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Inspector General (OIG) and the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), respectively, to conduct a search for the records you are seeking. Because HHS FOIA administration is decentralized, your request will be closed in this office. Upon receipt, OIG and CMS will log your request and issue you a new tracking number for reference. To check the status of your request with CMS, you may contact their FOIA office directly at foiarequest@cms.hhs.gov. To check the status of your request with OIG, you may contact their FOIA office directly at foia.oig@oig.hhs.gov.

There are no charges in this instance because the billable costs are less than our threshold of $25.

Sincerely yours,

Natasha Taylor for

Arianne Perkins
Director, Initial FOIA Requests
FOI/Privacy Acts Division