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DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS
2000 NAVY PENTAGON
WASHINGTON, DC 20350-2000

5720

Ser DNS-36KM/19U102877

August 6, 2019

Sent via email to: john@greenewald.com

Mr. John Greenewald
The Black Vault
27305 W. Live Oak Rd.
Suite 1203
Castaic, CA 91384

Dear Mr. Greenewald:

This is in reference to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA)/Privacy Act (PA) request dated July 9, 2019. Your request was received in our office on the same day and assigned case number DON-NAVY-2019-008878.

In the course of processing your FOIA request this office contacted the Navy Information Dominance (N2N6) to conduct a search for applicable records. Accordingly, that office searched their local files for records relating to "copy of records, electronic or otherwise all emails to/from/cc'd/bcc'd Joseph Gradisher and Politico reporter Bryan Bender".

The N2N6 office has identified 2 records totaling 2 pages that are responsive to your request. Upon review of these records, it has been determined that they contain instances of personally identifiable information (PII), such as the names, dates of birth, and social security numbers of individuals. These instances of PII are exempt from disclosure under 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(6), since release of this information would result in a clearly unwarranted invasion of their personal privacy. The remainder of the records are released to you.

Because your request is partially denied, you are advised of your right to appeal this determination by writing to:

Office of the Judge Advocate General
1322 Patterson Ave SE Ste 3000
Washington Navy Yard, DC 20374-5066

Your appeal must be postmarked within ninety calendar days from the date of this letter. A copy of your initial request and

this letter must accompany the appeal. The appeal should be marked "FREEDOM OF INFORMATION APPEAL" both on the envelope and the face of the letter. In order to expedite the appellate process and ensure full consideration of your appeal, your appeal should contain a brief statement of the reasons you believe this decision to be in error.

In this instance, the fees associated with the processing of your request are waived, but this action is not indicative of how future requests will be handled.

For this determination, you have the right to seek dispute resolution services from either the DoD Navy Component FOIA Public Liaison, Mr. Chris Julka, at: Christopher.a.julka@navy.mil, via phone: (703) 697-0031; or by contacting the Office of Government Information Services at: (<https://ogis.archives.gov/>), (202) 741-5770, ogis@nara.gov.

Questions regarding the action this office has taken to process your request may be directed to our FOIA Service Center at (202) 685-0412 or via email at donfoia-pa@navy.mil.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'R. Strong', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

R. Strong
Deputy Director
DON FOIA/PA Program Office

Statement

From: (b) (6)
Sent: Thursday, June 20, 2019 14:03
To: Bryan Bender
Cc: Gradisher, Joseph F CIV USN DCNO N2N6 (US); (b) (6)
Subject: Statement
Signed By: (b) (6)

Categories: Green Category

Bryan,

I know you already went to print on this, but please see statement below. For attribution to Joseph Gradisher, spokesman for the Deputy Chief of Naval Operations for Information Warfare.

“Navy officials did indeed meet with interested Congressional members and staffers on Wednesday to provide a classified brief on efforts to understand and identify these threats to the safety and security of our aviators. Follow-up discussions with other interested staffers are scheduled for later today (Thursday, 20 June). Navy officials will continue to keep interested Congressional members and staff informed. Given the classified nature of these discussions, we will not comment on the specific information provided in these Hill briefings.”

V/r

(b) (6)

Very Respectfully,

(b) (6)

Non-DoD Source RE Statement

From: Bryan Bender <bbender@politico.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 20, 2019 14:04
To: (b) (6)
Cc: Gradisher, Joseph F CIV USN DCNO N2N6 (US); (b) (6)
(b) (6)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] RE: Statement

Thanks!

Sent from Mail for Windows 10

From: (b) (6)
Sent: Thursday, June 20, 2019 2:03 PM
To: Bryan Bender
Cc: Gradisher, Joseph F CIV USN DCNO N2N6 (US); (b) (6)
(b) (6)
Subject: Statement

Bryan,

I know you already went to print on this, but please see statement below. For attribution to Joseph Gradisher, spokesman for the Deputy Chief of Naval Operations for Information Warfare.

“Navy officials did indeed meet with interested Congressional members and staffers on Wednesday to provide a classified brief on efforts to understand and identify these threats to the safety and security of our aviators. Follow-up discussions with other interested staffers are scheduled for later today (Thursday, 20 June). Navy officials will continue to keep interested Congressional members and staff informed. Given the classified nature of these discussions, we will not comment on the specific information provided in these Hill briefings.”

V/r

(b) (6)

Very Respectfully,

(b) (6)