



Substance Abuse and Mental Health
Services Administration

5600 Fishers Lane • Rockville, MD 20857
www.samhsa.gov • 1-877-SAMHSA-7 (1-877-726-4727)



The SAMHSA FOIA Office recommends all FOIA requests be submitted through the electronic portal at <https://www.foia.gov/>.

If you have already submitted a FOIA request and need to communicate with the SAMHSA FOIA Office, please email FOIA@samhsa.gov.

February 24, 2025

Nathan Wessler
125 Broad Street
New York, NY 10004
nwessler@aclu.org

Re: Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Request Case Number 02072025S131

Dear Requester:

This letter represents the acknowledgement and final response to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request dated February 7, 2025. Your request was for information regarding access to sensitive agency records by individuals associated with the so-called Department of Government Efficiency (“DOGE”).

Please be advised your request was submitted to the SAMHSA’s Office for Management Technology and Operations for processing. This center informed us that there are no records associated with this request. Based on the information you provided to us, we were not able to locate any responsive records subject to the FOIA. Therefore, we are closing this request.

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services policy calls for the fullest responsible disclosure consistent with the requirements of administrative necessity and confidentiality as recognized by the FOIA, 5 U.S.C. § 552 and HHS’ FOIA regulations at 45 CFR Part 5.

While we believe that an adequate search of the appropriate files was conducted for the records you requested, you have the right to appeal our “No Records” determination. You can appeal and preserve your rights under FOIA and give the agency a chance to review and reconsider your request and the agency’s decision.

Your appeal can be submitted by email or in the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services FOIA and Appeal Portal within 90 days from the date of this letter to:

William Holzerland
Deputy Agency Chief FOIA Officer
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs
Email: HHS.ACFO@hhs.gov
Portal: <https://requests.publiclink.hhs.gov/App/Index.aspx>

If you would like to discuss our response before filing an appeal to attempt to resolve your dispute without going through the appeals process or if you are not satisfied with any aspect of the processing and handling of this request, please contact SAMHSA's FOIA Public Liaison:

Kara Lampasone
Branch Chief
Executive Correspondence and Support Branch
5600 Fishers Lane
Rockville, MD 20857
Email: foia@samhsa.gov

If we are unable to resolve your FOIA dispute 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
8601 Adelphi Road-OGIS
College Park, MD 20740-6001
Telephone: 202-741-5770
Toll-Free: 1-877-684-6448
Fax: 202-741-5769
Email: ogis@nara.gov

Sincerely,

Kara Lampasone
SAMHSA FOIA Specialist