



July 16, 2021

Ms. Emma E. Bond, Esq.
ACLU of Maine
P.O. Box 7860
Portland, ME 04112

Dear Ms. Bond:

While processing your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request, the DHS/ICE discovered 74 pages of documents (DHS/ ICE FOIA Case Number 2021-ICLI-00025) that originated at the U.S. General Services Administration (GSA) and referred those documents to GSA for final review and response. This letter is in response to the referral that GSA received from DHS/ICE, assigned number (GSA-2021-001210), submitted on June 17, 2021, in which you requested the following narrowed down scope:

“[]records regarding ICE detention in Maine, including transferees of ICE detainees to and from Maine during the COVID-19 pandemic, as well as ICE's future plans to develop another holding facility in Scarborough, Maine. The FOIA request is currently the subject of litigation in Immigrant Legal Advocacy Project v. ICE 2:21-cv-00066.”

Enclosed please find the documents responsive to your request.

In processing your request, GSA withheld confidential/or proprietary financial information pursuant to the FOIA, 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(4). The fourth statutory exemption requires an agency to withhold “matters that are trade secrets and commercial or financial information obtained from a person, that are privileged or confidential.”

Additionally, pursuant to the FOIA, 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(5) and (7)(F), which authorizes the withholding of information necessary to protect the physical safety of a wide range of individuals, GSA has determined that releasing information relating to the names of federal agency or agencies that use each GSA federally owned building could compromise security at federal facilities and the safety of persons at these facilities.

As we have redacted information referenced in the above paragraph(s) with the aforementioned FOIA exemptions, this technically constitutes a partial denial of your FOIA request. You have the right to appeal the denial of the information being withheld. You may submit an appeal online at the following link (<https://www.foiaonline.gov/foiaonline/action/public/home>) or in writing to the following address:

U.S. General Services Administration
FOIA Requester Service Center (LG)
1800 F Street, NW
Washington, DC 20405

Your appeal must be postmarked or electronically transmitted within 90 days of the date of the response to your request. In addition, your appeal must contain a brief statement of the reasons why the requested information should be released. Please enclose a copy of your initial request and this denial. Both the appeal letter and envelope or online appeal submission should be prominently marked, "Freedom of Information Act Appeal."

This completes our action on this FOIA request. Should you have any questions, please contact Jason Perez at (617) 650-7627 or by email at Jason.perez@gsa.gov. You may also contact the GSA FOIA Public Liaison, Duane Smith, at (202) 694-2934 or by email at duane.smith@gsa.gov for any additional assistance and to discuss any aspect of your FOIA request.

Additionally, you may contact the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) at the National Archives and Records Administration to inquire about the FOIA mediation services they offer. The contact information for OGIS is as follows: Office of Government Information Services, National Archives and Records Administration, 8601 Adelphi Road-OGIS, College Park, Maryland 20740-6001, email at ogis@nara.gov; telephone at (202) 741-5770; toll free at (877) 684-6448; or facsimile at (202) 741-5769.

Sincerely,

Travis Lewis

FOIA Program Manager
Office of General Counsel
General Services Administration

Enclosure(s)