



United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520

May 27, 2025

Request No.: F-2025-16816

Mr. Paul Andrew Mitchell

Sent via email: supremelawfirm@gmail.com

Dear Mr. Mitchell:

This letter acknowledges receipt of your request submitted pursuant the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), received by the U.S. Department of State, Information Access Programs Directorate on April 17, 2025. This Office assigned your request the subject reference number and placed it in the complex processing track where it will be processed as quickly as possible. (See 22 CFR 171.12(b).)

This office needs additional information from you regarding the records you are seeking. We are unable to process your request as currently written. Please provide additional details such as the specific type of document that you are looking to receive i.e. emails, messages, cables, mailed letters, any context, timeframe(s), names of any individuals involved, a contract number (if applicable), and reasons why the requester believes the Department may have records regarding the subject of the request. See 22 CFR 171.4(b). We have conducted preliminary research and found that President Biden established several Presidential Commissions during his term, but none specifically named or directly involved Merrick Garland or the Department. Any additional information you can provide will better enable us to search for and locate any responsive information that the Department may have.

Attached is a copy of your request, for your convenience. Please provide this additional information specific to this request via email to FOIA_Inquiry@state.gov. **Your response is due within 10 business days of this letter, or by no later than June 9, 2025.** Your request will be tolled until we receive this information, if we do not receive additional information by this date your request will be administratively as it is not reasonably described.

You requested expedited processing of this request. According to 22 CFR 171.12(d), requests shall receive expedited processing when a requester demonstrates a “compelling need” for the information exists for one of the following reasons: (1) failure to obtain the requested information on an expedited basis could reasonably be expected to pose an imminent threat to the life or physical safety of an individual; (2) the information is urgently needed by an individual primarily engaged in disseminating information in order to inform the public concerning actual or alleged Federal government activity; or (3) failure to release the information would impair substantial due process rights or harm substantial humanitarian interests. Your request does not demonstrate a “compelling need” for the requested information. Therefore, this Office denies your request for expedited processing.

If you have any questions regarding your request, would like to narrow the scope or arrange an alternative time frame to speed its processing, or would like an estimated date of completion, please contact me, [Asia P.](#), or our FOIA Public Liaison via email at FOIAStatus@state.gov or telephone at (202) 261-8484.

If you are not satisfied with this determination, you may administratively appeal by writing to: Appeals Officer, Information Access Programs Directorate (A/SKS/IAP), U.S. Department of State, 2201 C Street, NW, Washington, D.C. 20520; by fax to (202) 485-1718; or by email to FOIAAppeals@state.gov. Your appeal must be postmarked or electronically transmitted within 90 days of the date of this correspondence. Please include a copy of this correspondence with your written appeal and clearly state why you disagree with the determinations set forth in this response.

Additionally, if you are not satisfied with Department’s determination in response to your request, you may contact the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) at the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) 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 address: ogis@nara.gov; telephone: (202) 741-5770; toll free number: 1-877-684-6448.

Sincerely,

Megan Farrell

(for)

Ennelle Debrosse
Supervisory Government Information Specialist
FOIA Case Processing Office
Information Access Programs Directorate