Dear Mr. Sanderson:

This letter responds to Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Request No. NGC22-727.

NARA has received approximately 50 FOIA requests seeking records related to the 15 boxes of materials received from former President Trump’s residence in Mar-a-Lago. NARA is processing all related requests in the same manner: identifying categories of frequently requested records and organizing its searches and responses by those categories of records. NARA is processing the records on a monthly basis and posting any releasable records at NARA’s Electronic FOIA Library/Reading Room, at https://archives.gov/foia/15boxes. Please refer to this website for this month’s release in connection with your request.

This month’s response pertains to the following categories:

- Category 4 (records documenting the cost associated with retrieval of the boxes);
- Category 5 (any NARA inventory pertaining to the contents of the boxes);
- Category 6 (NARA communications with former President Donald Trump’s Presidential Records Act (PRA) representatives related to the boxes, beginning April 1, 2022); and
- Category 7 (NARA communications with Congress, the Department of Justice, and the White House related to the 15 boxes, beginning April 1, 2022).

You are receiving this letter because Categories 4, 5, 6 and 7 are responsive to your request.

For Category 4, NARA identified 3 pages of responsive records, consisting of a contract. NARA is releasing 2 of these pages in full and one page with parts redacted under exemptions (b)(4) and (b)(6).

For Category 5, NARA identified 1,141 pages of responsive records, consisting of drafts and other versions of inventories. NARA is withholding all responsive records in full under FOIA exemptions (b)(5) and (b)(7)(A). Some of the Category 5 records also contain information that is protected from disclosure under exemptions (b)(1), (b)(6), and/or (b)(7)(C).
For Category 6, NARA identified 54 pages of responsive records. NARA is releasing six of those pages (four pages in full and two pages with parts redacted under exemption (b)(6)). NARA is withholding 48 Category 6 pages in full under exemptions (b)(3), (b)(5), (b)(6), (b)(7)(A), and (b)(7)(C).

For Category 7, NARA identified 607 pages of responsive records. NARA is releasing 52 of those pages (37 pages in full and 15 pages with parts redacted under exemption (b)(6)). We are withholding 555 pages in full, under exemptions (b)(3), (b)(5), (b)(6), (b)(7)(A), and (b)(7)(C).

Exemption (b)(1) was asserted to protect information properly classified under an executive order in the interest of national defense or foreign policy.

Exemption (b)(3) was asserted in connection with Federal Rule of Criminal Procedure 6(e), which prohibits the disclosure of any “matter occurring before [a] grand jury.”

Exemption (b)(4) was asserted to protect confidential commercial information.

Exemption (b)(5) was asserted to protect privileged communications and deliberations with other federal agencies, former President Trump’s PRA representatives, the White House, and Congress.

Exemption (b)(6) was asserted to protect the release of information, the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.

Many of the records you requested were compiled in relation to active law enforcement proceedings.

Exemption (b)(7)(A) was asserted to withhold records compiled for law enforcement purposes, the disclosure of which could reasonably be expected to interfere with enforcement proceedings.

Exemption (b)(7)(C) was asserted to withhold records compiled for law enforcement purposes, the disclosure of which could reasonably be expected to constitute an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.

NARA anticipates making its next response in February of 2023.

Sincerely,

Joseph A. Scanlon
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