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. When NARA completes processing of a category of records, it will issue a response to all requesters who asked for records pertaining to that subject matter and will post any non-exempt records or discretionary releases in NARA’s Electronic FOIA Library/Reading Room (the “Reading Room”), at the landing page located at https://archives.gov/foia/15boxes.

“Category 3” refers to internal NARA emails sent or received from January 1, 2021 to March 31, 2022. NARA is processing Category 3 in two parts. This interim response letter covers the first part of NARA’s Category 3 production.

NARA has completed processing of 352 Category 3 emails, consisting of 930 pages of records. Of those files, NARA is releasing 23 pages in full and 52 with parts redacted under exemptions (b)(5), (b)(6), and/or (b)(7)(E). NARA is withholding 855 pages in full under exemptions (b)(5)(855 pages), (b)(6)(817 pages), (b)(7)(A)(782 pages), (b)(7)(C)(234 pages), and/or (b)(7)(E)(174 pages). Please refer to the landing page for the 75 pages that NARA is releasing this month in connection with your request.

Exemption (b)(5) was asserted to protect NARA’s internal deliberations. The exemption was also asserted to protect privileged communications and deliberations with other federal agencies, with former President Trump’s Presidential Records Act representatives, and with Congress,
where disclosure of the withheld information would reveal the substance of those communications.

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 and efforts.

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.

Exemption (b)(7)(E) was asserted to protect law enforcement information related to techniques and procedures that, if disclosed, could reasonably be expected to risk circumvention of the law.

This response completes processing of 930 pages of records responsive to Category 3 and is an interim response to your FOIA request. NARA anticipates completing processing the remainder of Category 3 by December 2022.

Sincerely,

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