



United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520

August 28, 2023

Case No. FL-2022-00031

Mr. Reed Rubinstein
America First Legal Foundation
600 14th Street NW, 5th Floor
Washington, D.C. 20005

Dear Mr. Rubinstein:

As we noted in our letter dated July 28, 2023, we are processing your request for material under the Freedom of Information Act (“FOIA”), 5 U.S.C. § 552. The Department of State (“Department”) has processed more than 300 pages of potentially responsive material since its last release and has identified an additional 10 responsive records subject to the FOIA. We have determined that all 10 records may be released in part.

An enclosure explains the FOIA exemptions and other grounds for withholding material. Where we have made redactions, the applicable FOIA exemptions are marked on each record. Where applicable, the Department has considered the foreseeable harm standard when reviewing these records and applying FOIA exemptions. All non-exempt material that is reasonably segregable from the exempt material has been released and is enclosed.

We will keep you informed as your case progresses. If you have any questions, your attorney may contact Stephen DeGenaro, Assistant United States Attorney, at (202) 252-7229 or Stephen.DeGenaro@usdoj.gov. Please refer to the case number, FL-2022-00031, and the civil action number, 21-cv-02832, in all correspondence about this case.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Diamonece Hickson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "D" and "H".

Diamonece Hickson
Chief, Litigation and Appeals Branch
Office of Information Programs and Services

Enclosures: As stated.

The Freedom of Information Act (5 USC 552)

FOIA Exemptions

- (b)(1) Information specifically authorized by an executive order to be kept secret in the interest of national defense or foreign policy. Executive Order 13526 includes the following classification categories:
- 1.4(a) Military plans, systems, or operations
 - 1.4(b) Foreign government information
 - 1.4(c) Intelligence activities, sources or methods, or cryptology
 - 1.4(d) Foreign relations or foreign activities of the US, including confidential sources
 - 1.4(e) Scientific, technological, or economic matters relating to national security, including defense against transnational terrorism
 - 1.4(f) U.S. Government programs for safeguarding nuclear materials or facilities
 - 1.4(g) Vulnerabilities or capabilities of systems, installations, infrastructures, projects, plans, or protection services relating to US national security, including defense against transnational terrorism
 - 1.4(h) Weapons of mass destruction
- (b)(2) Related solely to the internal personnel rules and practices of an agency
- (b)(3) Specifically exempted from disclosure by statute (other than 5 USC 552), for example:
- | | |
|----------------|---|
| ARMSEXP | Arms Export Control Act, 50a USC 2411(c) |
| CIA PERS/ORG | Central Intelligence Agency Act of 1949, 50 USC 403(g) |
| EXPORT CONTROL | Export Administration Act of 1979, 50 USC App. Sec. 2411(c) |
| FS ACT | Foreign Service Act of 1980, 22 USC 4004 |
| INA | Immigration and Nationality Act, 8 USC 1202(f), Sec. 222(f) |
| IRAN | Iran Claims Settlement Act, Public Law 99-99, Sec. 505 |
- (b)(4) Trade secrets and confidential commercial or financial information
- (b)(5) Interagency or intra-agency communications forming part of the deliberative process, attorney-client privilege, or attorney work product
- (b)(6) Personal privacy information
- (b)(7) Law enforcement information whose disclosure would:
- (A) interfere with enforcement proceedings
 - (B) deprive a person of a fair trial
 - (C) constitute an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy
 - (D) disclose confidential sources
 - (E) disclose investigation techniques
 - (F) endanger life or physical safety of an individual
- (b)(8) Prepared by or for a government agency regulating or supervising financial institutions
- (b)(9) Geological and geophysical information and data, including maps, concerning wells

Other Grounds for Withholding

- NR Material not responsive to a FOIA request excised with the agreement of the requester

From:	"(b)(6)
To:	(b)(6) (b)(6) (b)(6)
Subject:	Seeking clearance on the PLOCCA/MEPCA report
Date:	Mon, 25 Feb 2019 19:03:53 +0000

Hi all – flagging a clearance request I sent on classnet on Friday, seeking your review of the PLOCCA/MEPCA report. It’s due to the NEA/FO tomorrow so I would appreciate your clearance by COB today.

Thanks,

(b)(6)

Sender:	(b)(6)
Recipient:	(b)(6) (b)(6) (b)(6)

From:	(b)(6)
To:	Kaldahl, Ryan M (b)(6)
CC:	H_Staffers <H_Staffers@state.gov>
Subject:	RMK RED - The proposed PLOCCA/MEPCA report (003554) and Determination
Date:	Thu, 18 Jun 2020 19:06:50 +0000

Ryan attached is a report and Determination. After you final approval I will PDF the letters.

(b)(6)

Staff Assistant
Bureau of Legislative Affairs (H)
HST 7805

(b)(6)

Sender:	(b)(6)
Recipient:	Kaldahl, Ryan M (b)(6) H_Staffers <H_Staffers@state.gov>

From:	(b)(6)
To:	H_Staffers <H_Staffers@state.gov>
Subject:	Report on PLO Commitments (003554)
Date:	Thu, 18 Jun 2020 18:52:29 +0000

Dear (b)(6)

Attached is the report for 003554, on PLO Commitments.

Sincerely,

(b)(6)

Sender:	(b)(6)
Recipient:	H_Staffers <H_Staffers@state.gov>

From:	(b)(6)
To:	(b)(6)
Subject:	RE: Status Update on the PLOCCA/MEPCA Report?
Date:	Tue, 25 Feb 2020 14:11:38 +0000

I'm checking with post today. Last time I checked it was still with the Embassy's FO. Best, (b)(6)

From: (b)(6)
Sent: Tuesday, February 25, 2020 8:49 AM
To: (b)(6)
Subject: Fwd: Status Update on the PLOCCA/MEPCA Report?

You brought this up yesterday. I know the last one is in.

(b)(6) / Office of Israeli and Palestinian Affairs (NEA/IPA) / U.S. Department of State
/ O:(b)(6) / DRSN:(b)(6)
/ nipr:(b)(6) / sipr:(b)(6)

**** Sent on my mobile phone. Please excuse any typos. ****

From: (b)(6)
Sent: Tuesday, February 25, 2020 8:43:04 AM
To: (b)(6)
Subject: Status Update on the PLOCCA/MEPCA Report?

Thanks!

Sender:	(b)(6)
Recipient:	(b)(6)

From:	(b)(6)
To:	(b)(6)
Subject:	RE: PLOCCA/MEPCA
Date:	Wed, 27 Feb 2019 14:45:26 +0000

Hi (b)(6)

I'll go have a look right now. That's a frightening acronym....

Best,

(b)(6)

From: (b)(6)
Sent: Wednesday, February 27, 2019 4:42 PM
To: (b)(6)
Subject: PLOCCA/MEPCA

Hi (b)(6) hope all is well. Just wanted to make sure you had seen my classnet email with the PLOCCA/MEPCA report. As mentioned, (b)(5)

(b)(5) Let me know if you think you or someone from your team will have a chance to review today.

Thanks,

(b)(6)

Sender:	(b)(6)
Recipient:	(b)(6)

From:	(b)(6)
To:	(b)(6)
Subject:	FW: PIOCCA
Date:	Fri, 30 Aug 2019 14:42:02 +0000

FYI

Unclassified

From: (b)(6)
Sent: Friday, August 30, 2019 10:26 AM
To: (b)(6)
Subject: PIOCCA

Hi –

(b)(5) we are inputting them and getting back to him. We are doing our best to get them to you as soon as we can.

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

Political Counselor
Palestinian Affairs Unit
Office: (b)(6)

Unclassified

Sender:	(b)(6)
Recipient:	(b)(6)

From:	<NEA-Staff-Assistants-DL@state.gov>
To:	(b)(6)
Subject:	Awaiting Your Clearance : AM to D on 2019 PLOCCA-MEPCA Report
Date:	Wed, 19 Feb 2020 13:30:41 -0500

The following onePAPER package is currently awaiting your clearance:

AM to D on 2019 PLOCCA-MEPCA Report

If you have any questions, please contact the NEA Staff Assistants at NEA-Staff-Assistants-DL@state.gov.

Thank you,

The NEA Staff Assistants

Sender:	<NEA-Staff-Assistants-DL@state.gov>
Recipient:	(b)(6)

From:	<NEA-Staff-Assistants-DL@state.gov>
To:	(b)(6)
Subject:	Returned to Drafter : PLO Commitments Compliance Act of 1989, as amended. (PLOCCA/MEPCA report)
Date:	Tue, 22 Jun 2021 10:38:10 -0400

The following document has been returned to drafter and is currently pending your action:

PLO Commitments Compliance Act of 1989, as amended. (PLOCCA/MEPCA report)

If you have any questions, please contact the NEA Staff Assistants at NEA-Staff-Assistants-DL@state.gov.

Thank you,

The NEA Staff Assistants

Sender:	<NEA-Staff-Assistants-DL@state.gov>
Recipient:	(b)(6)

Reports with H (April 30 2020)

(b)(5)

- #3554: 2020 PLOCC/MEPCA
 - submitted 4/13

(b)(5)

Congressional Notifications with H

(b)(5)

From:	(b)(6)
To:	(b)(6)
Subject:	Fw: CLEARANCE: AM to D on PLOCCA Report; Clear by Tuesday, October 13, 1 p.m.
Date:	Wed, 14 Oct 2020 21:26:17 +0000

(b)(6)

Egypt Desk

Cell: (b)(6)

From: (b)(6)

Sent: Friday, October 9, 2020 3:52 PM

To: (b)(6)

(b)(6)

(b)(6) SP_NEA <SP_NEA@state.gov>; GPA-Specials <GPA-Specials@state.gov>

Subject: RE: CLEARANCE: AM to D on PLOCCA Report; Clear by Tuesday, October 13, 1 p.m.

(b)(6)

Please see comments to be addressed in the attached before D can clear. (b)(5)

(b)(5)

OK for D pending resolution of comments and outstanding clearances – please revert and I’ll take a quick look.

Thanks,

(b)(6)

Special Assistant

Office of the Deputy Secretary of State

Tel: (b)(6) Mob: (b)(6) (b)(6)

~~SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED~~

From: (b)(6)

Sent: Friday, October 9, 2020 3:46 PM

To: (b)(6)

(b)(6)

(b)(6) SP_NEA

<SP_NEA@state.gov>; GPA-Specials <GPA-Specials@state.gov>

Subject: Re: CLEARANCE: AM to D on PLOCCA Report; Clear by Tuesday, October 13, 1 p.m.

Clear for the Jordan Desk.

--

(b)(6)

Jordan and Lebanon Desk Officer

NEA/LEV

Department of State

Desk: (b)(6)

Cell: (b)(6)

From: (b)(6)

Sent: Friday, October 9, 2020 3:16 PM

To: (b)(6)

(b)(6)

(b)(6) SP_NEA <SP_NEA@state.gov>; GPA-Specials <GPA-Specials@state.gov>

Subject: Re: CLEARANCE: AM to D on PLOCCA Report; Clear by Tuesday, October 13, 1 p.m.

Clear for egypt

(b)(6)

Egypt Desk

Cell: (b)(6)

From: (b)(6)

Sent: Friday, October 9, 2020 2:56 PM

To: (b)(6)

(b)(6)

(b)(6); SP_NEA <SP_NEA@state.gov>; GPA-Specials <GPA-Specials@state.gov>

Subject: CLEARANCE: AM to D on PLOCCA Report; Clear by Tuesday, October 13, 1 p.m.

Colleagues,

Please find for your clearance the AM to D for the PLOCCA report. L/AN has cleared as well as post. Please provide your clearance by **Tuesday, October 13 at 1 p.m.**

Thank you.

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

Political Officer

Office of Israel and Palestinian Affairs (NEA/IPA)

Bureau of Near East Affairs

Washington, D.C.

Cell: (b)(6)

(b)(6)

~~SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED~~

Sender:	(b)(6)
Recipient:	(b)(6)
	(b)(6)