



U.S. Department of Justice

Criminal Division

Office of Enforcement Operations

Washington, D.C. 20530

VIA Electronic Mail

September 22, 2022

Mr. Michael Ding
America First Legal Foundation
#231
611 Pennsylvania Ave SE
Washington, DC 20003
FOIA@aflegal.org

Request No. CRM-301722517
Subject: Lenient Plea Deal for Arsonists
(Parts D and F)

Dear Mr. Ding:

The Criminal Division acknowledges receipt of your Freedom of Information Act request dated June 13, 2022. Your request was received in this Office on June 13, 2022. In that request, you asked for access to records concerning the above-mentioned subject. Your request has been assigned file number CRM-301722517. You should refer to this number in any future correspondence with this Office.

- ☒ Your request has been received by the Freedom of Information Act/Privacy Act Unit and we are searching the section(s) most likely to maintain responsive records.
- ☒ Because your request presents “unusual circumstances” (See 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(6)(B)(i)-(iii)), we are extending the time limit to respond to your request beyond the ten additional days provided by the statute.
- ☒ We have not yet made a decision on your request for a fee waiver. We will do so after we determine whether the processing of your request will result in any assessable fees.
- ☐ We have not yet made a decision on your request for preferred fee status. We will do so after we determine whether the processing of your request will result in any assessable fees.
- ☐ Your request for expedited treatment has been:
 - ☐ Granted. Accordingly, your request has been assigned to a Government Information Specialist in this Office and we will respond to your request as soon as practicable.
 - ☐ Denied. If you are not satisfied with the Criminal Division’s determination in response to this request, you may administratively appeal by writing to the Director, Office of Information Policy (OIP), United States Department of Justice, 441 G Street, NW, 6th Floor, Washington, D.C. 20530, or you may submit an

appeal through OIP's FOIA STAR portal by creating an account on the following website: <https://www.justice.gov/oip/submit-and-track-request-or-appeal>. Your appeal must be postmarked or electronically transmitted within 90 days of the date of my response to your request. If you submit your appeal by mail, both the letter and the envelope should be clearly marked "Freedom of Information Act Appeal."

After carefully considering your request, we concluded that another component of the U.S. Department of Justice maintains the records you seek for Parts A, B, C, and E. Hence, your request was routed to the Executive Office for United States Attorneys (EOUSA) for processing and a direct response to you. If you have any questions about the status of your routed request, you may contact the EOUSA at the following address:

Executive Office for United States Attorneys
Department of Justice
175 N Street, N.E.
Suite 5.400
Washington, DC 20530

I assure you that your request will be processed as soon as possible. If you have any questions or wish to discuss reformulation or an alternative time frame for the processing of your request, you may contact me by telephone at (202) 616-0307, by email at crm.foia@usdoj.gov, or by mail at the Criminal Division, U.S. Department of Justice, Room 803, Keeney Building, NW, Washington, DC 20530-0001.

You may contact our FOIA Public Liaison at the telephone number listed above for any further assistance and to discuss any aspect of your 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, Room 2510, 8601 Adelphi Road, College Park, Maryland 20740-6001; e-mail at ogis@nara.gov; telephone at 202-741-5770; toll free at 1-877-684-6448; or facsimile at 202-741-5769.

Sincerely,

FOIA/PA Unit
Criminal Division
U.S. Department of Justice