

U.S. SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION WASHINGTON, DC 20416

OFFICE OF GENERAL COUNSEL

September 6, 2022

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

Dear Mr. Ding,

This letter is in response to your Freedom of Information Act ("FOIA") request No. SBA-2022-007490 in which you requested:

1. All administrative processing records (including notes, emails, and memos) related to SBA FOIA Request No. SBA-2022-006641 that are not protected by attorney-client privilege. Please be sure to include all attachments to any emails.

SBA is releasing the attached documents that are responsive to your request. Redactions have been made pursuant to FOIA Exemptions 5, and 6. Exemption 5 protects deliberative and predecisional materials written as part of the decision-making process in federal agencies. FOIA Exemption 6 protects information about individuals in "personnel and medical files and similar files" when the disclosure of such information "would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy." The redacted information consists of personal email addresses and cell phone numbers, and clearly falls under the protection of FOIA exemption 6.

If you are dissatisfied with the Agency's decision, you may file an administration appeal within 90 days of the date of this letter to:

Office of Hearings and Appeals Attention: Oreoluwa Fashola, FOIA Office 409 3rd Avenue, SW – 8th Floor Washington, D.C. 20416

If you are unable to resolve your FOIA dispute through our FOIA Public Liaison in the Office of Hearings and Appeals, the Office of Government Information Services ("OGIS"), the Federal FOIA Ombudsman's Office, offers mediation services to help resolve disputes between FOIA requesters and Federal agencies. The contact information for OGIS is:

Office of Government Information Services National Archives and Records Administration 8601 Adelphi Road-OGIS College Park, MD 20740-6001 ogis@nara.gov ogis.archives.gov 202-741-5770 877-684-6448

Sincerely,

<u>/s/ Eríc S. Benderson</u>

Eric S. Benderson Associate General Counsel for Litigation Office of General Counsel U.S. Small Business Administration