



Centers for Disease Control
and Prevention (CDC)
Atlanta GA 30333
November 27, 2023

Gene Hamilton
Vice President
America First Legal Foundation
611 Pennsylvania Ave SE
#231
Washington, DC 20003

Via email: info@aflegal.org

Dear Mr. Hamilton:

This letter is in response to your Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (CDC/ATSDR) Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request of July 20, 2023, for:

All records of communications between the custodians listed below with Imran Ahmed or with any e-mail account ending in the domain name "@counterhate.com." The time frame for this request is January 20, 2021 to the date this request is processed.

Custodians:

Office of the Secretary

- 1. Xavier Becerra, Secretary of HHS*
- 2. Vivek H. Murthy, Surgeon General*
- 3. Katharine Dealy, Chief Engagement Officer for the Surgeon General*
- 4. Yolanda Byrd, HHS Digital Engagement Team*
- 5. Christy Choi, HHS Office of Communications*
- 6. Ashley Morse, HHS Director of Digital Engagement*
- 7. Joshua Peck, HHS Deputy Assistant Secretary*
- 8. Janell Muhammed, HHS Deputy Digital Director*
- National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID)*
- 9. Dr. Hugh Auchincloss, Director of NIAID*
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)*
- 10. Carol Y. Crawford, Chief of the Digital Media Branch*
- 11. Jay Dempsey, Social-media Team Leader, Digital Media Branch*
- 12. Kate Galatas, CDC Deputy Communications Director (Date Range for Record Search: From 1/21/2021 To 1/21/2027)*

On September 20, 2023, you indicated that, with respect to CDC e-mail traffic, we should limit our search for responsive records pertaining to accounts ending with "@counterhate.com."

A search of our records failed to reveal any documents pertaining to your request. CDC staff checked text records from cellular telephones, e-mail messages in e-mail accounts, as well as our controlled correspondence database and found nothing responsive.

Please note that we are able to respond only to the portion of your July 20, 2023 records request that pertains to CDC staff (custodians 10-12). Your records request implicates the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID, which is an arm of the National Institutes of Health) and other offices within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, so we are forwarding your July 20, 2023 records request, your September 20, 2023 e-mail message and a copy of this response to the following two agencies for further review and appropriate handling:

Ms. Marianne Manheim
FOIA and Privacy Act Request Coordinator
National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases
Telephone: (301) 496-9737
E-mail: nhlbifoiarequest@nhlbi.nih.gov

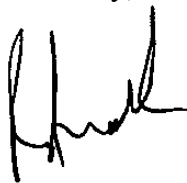
and

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Office of the Secretary
Freedom of Information Act Office
Attn: Ms. Arianne Perkins, FOIA Officer
Hubert H. Humphry Building, Room 729H
200 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20201
Telephone: (202) 690-7453
Facsimile: (202) 690-8320
E-mail: foiarequest@hhs.gov

You may contact our FOIA Public Liaison at 770-488-6246 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, 8601 Adelphi Road-OGIS, 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.

If you are not satisfied with the response to this request, you may administratively appeal to the Deputy Agency Chief FOIA Officer, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, via the online portal at <https://requests.publiclink.hhs.gov/App/Index.aspx>. Please mark both your appeal letter and envelope "FOIA Appeal." Your appeal must be electronically transmitted by February 26, 2024.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Roger Andoh', with a stylized, cursive script.

Roger Andoh
CDC/ATSDR FOIA Officer

Office of the Chief Operating Officer
(770) 488-6399
Fax: (404) 235-1852

#23-01470-FOIA

cc: Ms. Marianne Manheim
Freedom of Information Act and Privacy Act Request Coordinator
National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases

Ms. Arianne Perkins
Freedom of Information Act Officer
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Office of the Secretary