



**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES**

National Institutes of Health  
National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases  
6705 Rockledge Drive  
FOIA/PA Office, RKL 1, 4th Floor  
Bethesda, MD 20892

July 24, 2023

Gene Hamilton  
America First Legal Foundation  
600 14th St. NW, 5th Floor  
Washington, DC 20005

Re: FOIA Case Number: 60438

Dear Mr. Hamilton:

This is our final response to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request addressed to National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID), National Institutes of Health (NIH), dated and received July 20, 2023. Your request was forwarded to this office because of our responsibilities under the FOIA for the NIAID.

You requested: all records of communications between Dr. Hugh Auchincloss, Director of NIAID, with Imran Ahmed or with any e-mail account ending in the domain name “@counterhate.com.” (Date Range for Record Search: From 1/21/2021 To 7/21/2023)

The Center for Information Technology (CIT) conducted an electronic search of Dr. Auchincloss’ email files and the Immediate Office of the Director, NIAID searched Dr. Auchincloss’ files for text messages. No records responsive to your request were located. While we believe that an adequate search of appropriate files was conducted for the records you requested, you have the right to appeal this determination that no records exist which would be responsive to your request. Should you wish to do so, your appeal must be sent within ninety (90) days of the date of this letter, following the procedures outlined in Subpart F of the HHS FOIA Regulations (<https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2016/10/28/2016-25684/freedom-of-information-regulations>) to:

Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs/Agency Chief FOIA Officer  
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services  
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs  
Room 729H  
200 Independence Avenue, S.W.  
Washington, DC 20201  
[FOIARequest@hhs.gov](mailto:FOIARequest@hhs.gov)  
FAX: 202-690-8320

Please feel free to call me on 301-496-9737 for additional information or to inquire about your request.

If you are not satisfied with the processing and handling of this request, you may contact the NIAID FOIA Public Liaison and/or the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS):

NIAID FOIA Public Liaison

Marianne Manheim, JD  
Rockledge I, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor  
6705 Rockledge Drive  
Bethesda, MD 20892  
301-496-9737 (phone)  
301-402-3604 (fax)  
marianne.manheim@nih.gov (email)

OGIS

National Archives and Records Admin.  
8601 Adelphi Rd – OGIS  
College Park, MD 20740-6001  
202-741-5770 (phone)  
1-877-684-6448 (toll-free)  
202-741-5769 (fax)  
[ogis@nara.gov](mailto:ogis@nara.gov) (email)

In certain circumstances, provisions of the FOIA and HHS FOIA Regulations allow us to recover part of the cost of responding to your request. Because the cost is below the \$25 minimum, there is no charge for the enclosed materials.

Thank you for your interest in the NIAID.

Sincerely,

Qianna Norman  
Government Information Specialist, NHLBI