



U.S. Department of Justice
Office of Information Policy
Sixth Floor
441 G Street, NW
Washington, DC 20530-0001

Telephone: (202) 514-3642

April 3, 2020

Enid Zhou
EPIC
1519 New Hampshire Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20036
zhou@epic.org

Re: FOIA-2020-00618
DRH:VAV:GMG

Dear Enid Zhou:

This responds to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request dated March 24, 2020 and received in this Office on March 25, 2020 in which you requested records pertaining to public health surveillance, dating from December 1, 2019.¹

Please be advised that a search has been conducted of the electronic database of the Departmental Executive Secretariat, which is the official records repository for the Offices of the Attorney General and Deputy Attorney General, and no records responsive to your request were located.

For your information, the Department has a decentralized system for processing FOIA requests and each component of the Department maintains its own records. Accordingly, FOIA requesters need to direct their requests to the Department component(s) they believe have records pertaining to the subjects of their requests. Based on the type of records that you seek, this Office has forwarded your request to the Office of Legal Counsel (OLC) for processing and direct response to you. Contact information for OLC may be found online at <https://www.justice.gov/oip/find-foia-contact-doj/list>.

For your information, Congress excluded three discrete categories of law enforcement and national security records from the requirements of the FOIA. *See* 5 U.S.C. § 552(c) (2018). This response is limited to those records that are subject to the requirements of the FOIA. This is a standard notification that is given to all our requesters and should not be taken as an indication that excluded records do, or do not, exist.

You may contact our FOIA Public Liaison, Valeree Villanueva, for any further assistance and to discuss any aspect of your request at: Office of Information Policy, United States Department of Justice, 441 G Street NW, Sixth Floor, Washington, DC 20530-0001; telephone at 202-514-3642.

¹ You directed your request to the FOIA/PA Mail Referral Unit (MRU), Justice Management Division, who forwarded it to this Office for handling. The MRU tracking number associated with this request is EMRUFOIA032420-4.

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.

If you are not satisfied with this Office's determination in response to this request, you may administratively appeal by writing to the Director, Office of Information Policy, 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 following the instructions on OIP's website: <https://www.justice.gov/oip/submit-and-track-request-or-appeal>. Your appeal must be postmarked or electronically transmitted within ninety 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."

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Douglas R. Hibbard".

Douglas R. Hibbard
Chief, Initial Request Staff