

Central Intelligence Agency



Washington, D.C. 20505

(b)(3)

Mr. Mark S. Zaid  
Executive Director  
The James Madison Project  
1250 Connecticut Avenue, NW  
Suite 200  
Washington, DC 20036

APPROVED FOR  
RELEASE  DATE:  
18-Aug-2010

Reference: F-2008-00103

Dear Mr. Zaid:

On 19 October 2007 the Office of the Information and Privacy Coordinator received your 18 October 2007 Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request for **“copies of all internal Central Intelligence Agency (‘CIA’) documents pertaining to discussions concerning the decision to initiate an internal review of the operations of the CIA’s Inspector General (‘IG’), John Helgerson, and of the IG’s Office as a whole.”** We have assigned your request the reference number above. Please use this number when corresponding with us so that we can identify it easily.

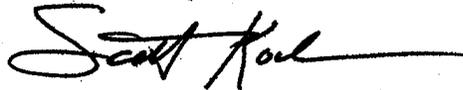
We accept your request and will process it according to the FOIA, 5 U.S.C. § 552, as amended, and the CIA Information Act, 50 U.S.C. § 431, as amended. Unless you object, we will limit our search to CIA-originated records existing through the date of this acceptance letter.

As a matter of administrative discretion, we will waive the fees associated with processing your FOIA request in this instance. Therefore, your request for a fee waiver is granted.

You have requested expedited processing. We handle all requests in the order we receive them: that is, “first-in, first-out.” We make exceptions to this rule only when a requester establishes a compelling need under the standards in our regulations. A “compelling need” exists: 1) when the matter involves an imminent threat to the life or physical safety of an individual, or 2) when a person primarily engaged in disseminating information makes the request and the information is relevant to a subject of public urgency concerning an actual or alleged Federal government activity. Your request does not demonstrate a “compelling need” under these criteria and, therefore, we deny your request for expedited processing.

The large number of FOIA requests CIA receives has created unavoidable delays making it unlikely that we can respond within the 20 working days the FOIA requires. You have the right to consider our honest appraisal as a denial of your request and you may appeal to the Agency Release Panel. A more practical approach would permit us to continue processing your request and respond to you as soon as we can. You will retain your appeal rights and, once you receive the results of our search, can appeal at that time if you wish. We will proceed on that basis unless you object.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Scott Koch", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Scott Koch  
Information and Privacy Coordinator

