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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

NOV -8 2016

John Greenewald, Jr The Black Vault

RE: Your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Request FOIA Control No.: 16-IGF-OIG-00148

Dear Mr. Greenewald:

This is in response to your previously submitted Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) dated March 24, 2016, to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), Office of the Inspector General (OIG).

On April 26, 2016, the OIG notified you of potential files associated with your request and asked you to narrow the scope of your request. Because you have not responded to our interim letter (16-IGF-OIG-00066), we notified you on May 11 of our position to withdraw your request. On June 20, your request under 16-IGF-OIG-00066 was closed due to non-response.

On September 11, you resubmitted your previous request for "a copy of records, electronic or otherwise, of each HUD-OIG investigation involving HUD employees closed during calendar year 2015." We are releasing these documents to you electronically on the enclosed CD.

Enclosed are 133 pages of investigative reports involving HUD employees closed during calendar year 2015. Certain information has been withheld from these records pursuant to 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(5), which protects intra-agency communications subject to the deliberative process privilege. The information withheld consists of pre-decisional discussions or comments, investigator's notes and internal recommendations, and otherwise privileged information.

Redactions were also made under 5 U.S.C. § 552 (b)(7)(C), which protects records or information compiled for law enforcement purposes, the release of which could reasonably be expected to constitute an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy. The information withheld consists of the names of special agents and third-party individuals, signatures and other identifiable information.

Please be advised that Joseph W. Clarke, Assistant to the Inspector General for Investigations, is the official responsible for this response.

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If you are not satisfied with the response to this request, you may administratively submit an appeal pursuant to the Office of Inspector General's Freedom of Information Regulation, 24 CFR § 2002.25 (2010). This regulation provides for administrative review by the Inspector General of any denial of information. Your appeal must be postmarked or electronically transmitted within 90 days of the date of the response to your request. Both the letter and the envelope should be clearly marked "Freedom of Information Act Appeal." Your appeal should be addressed to the FOIA Appeal Specialist, Office of Legal Counsel to Inspector General, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, 451 7th Street, SW, Suite 8260, Washington, DC 20410, and should be accompanied by a copy of your initial request, a copy of this letter and your statement of circumstances, reasons and arguments supporting disclosure of the requested information.

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: ogis@nara.gov; Telephone: (202) 741-5770; Toll free: 1-877-684-6448, or Facsimile: (202) 741-5769.

I trust that this information satisfies your request. If you need any further assistance or would like to discuss any aspect of your request please do not hesitate to contact the Government Information Specialist who processed your request and/or our FOIA Requester Service Center at (202) 708-1613 for any further assistance and to discuss any aspect of your request. Please reference the above FOIA number when making inquiries about this matter.

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Sincerely

Gwendolyn Beasley

Government Information Specialist (FOIA/PA)

Enclosure: CD