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U.S. Department
of Transportation
**Federal Aviation
Administration**

1701 Columbia Avenue
College Park, GA 30337

JUN 26 2013

Certified Mail – Return Receipt

Mr. John Greenewald, Jr.
[REDACTED]

RE: Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Control No. 2013-005000(ES)

Dear Mr. Greenewald:

This letter is in response to your FOIA request received in this office on May 28, 2013 made under the provisions of Title 5 United States Code, Section 552 to the FAA.

You requested a copy of all documents pertaining to an aircraft that was reported flying over Quincy, Massachusetts, in early May.

A records search was conducted at Boston Airport Traffic Control Tower (ATCT), and Boston Consolidated Terminal Radar Approach Control (TRACON). As a result, enclosed is one (1) disc from Boston TRACON containing email messages pertaining to your request.

Boston ATCT did not have any responsive records regarding your request.

There were no fees incurred in processing your request.

The undersigned and Mr. Mark D. Ward, Director, Air Traffic Organization, Eastern Service Center, are responsible for this partial no records determination. You may request reconsideration of this determination by writing to:

Assistant Administrator for Finance and Management, AFN-1
Federal Aviation Administration
800 Independence Avenue, S.W.
Washington, DC 20591

Your request for reconsideration must be made in writing within 30 calendar days from the date of receipt of this letter and must include all information and arguments relied upon.

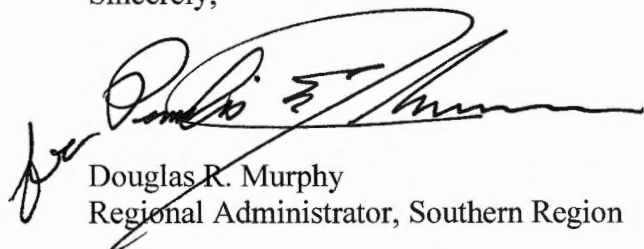
Your letter must state that it is an appeal from the above-described determination regarding a request made under the Freedom of Information Act. Please inscribe "FOIA Appeal" on the envelope containing the appeal.

Page 2 – Mr. John Greenwald, Jr., FOIA Control No. 2013-005000(ES)

Please refer to the FOIA control number in all subsequent correspondence.

If you have any questions regarding this request, you may contact Patricia Facey, Administrative Services Group, Management Support Team at (404) 305-5526.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Douglas R. Murphy", is written over a horizontal line. The signature is stylized and cursive.

Douglas R. Murphy
Regional Administrator, Southern Region

Enclosure



Re: Boston Globe query 

Robert K Jones  Jim Peters
TEA-A90, Boston TRACON, NH :

05/01/2013 12:23 PM

Cc: Andy Hale, Arlene Salac, Brendan Reilly, Kathleen Bergen, Coleman Hartigan

Jim:

FAA has been working with Law Enforcement flights in that area, during the periods described.

Please contact me if you have any questions, or require further information.

Thanks,

Bob

Robert K. Jones
District Manager, New England Terminal Operations
Air Traffic Manager, Boston TRACON
Federal Aviation Administration
(603) 594-5501 (Office)
(603) 244-0663 (BlackBerry/Cellular)
Robert.K.Jones@faa.gov

This e-mail is intended solely for the recipient(s) named above. This message may contain privileged or confidential information. As such, if you are not the intended recipient of this message, notify the sender immediately and delete the original message.

Jim Peters

[Bob: The Boston Globe called today about "sur...](#)

05/01/2013 11:34:08 AM

From: Jim Peters/AEA/FAA
AEA-ANE-005, Eastern Region Media Relations
To: Robert K Jones/ANE/FAA@FAA
Cc: Andy Hale/ANE/FAA@FAA, Brendan Reilly/ANE/FAA@FAA, Kathleen Bergen/ASO/FAA@FAA, Arlene Salac/AEA/FAA@FAA
Date: 05/01/2013 11:34 AM
Subject: Boston Globe query

Bob:

The Boston Globe called today about "surveillance" being conducted over Cambridge. The info the paper has is based on observations made by a Cambridge resident. As a courtesy, I asked the Globe to email the info but also advised the paper that FAA may not be able to comment. And we have no intention of confirming the nature of the activity. Can you let me know if there is anything going on? As you can see from the message, Massport did confirm the flights but nothing beyond that. We may want to give law enforcement a heads-up and possibly refer the paper to the appropriate agency .

----- Forwarded by Jim Peters/AEA/FAA on 05/01/2013 11:23 AM -----

An attorney in Cambridge writes this morning....

“I wondered if anyone has made you aware of what appear to be almost continuous surveillance flights over Cambridge MA in recent days. Specifically, single engine unmarked aircraft fly in low altitude circles at roughly 3 minute intervals day and night. Although the aircraft themselves are plainly audible and visible, they bear no identifiable markings.”

“Because the noise is intrusive, I contacted Massport. The representative confirmed the flights but was unable to confirm the identity or source of the flights.”



Re: Fw: low flying aircraft over Quincy, MA for Rep Lynch

Robert K Jones
TEA-A90, Boston TRACON, NH :

t
o Mary K Sherer

05/10/2013 10:26 AM

Mary:

The subject aircraft is operated by Law Enforcement. I received a contact from Jim Peters, AEA Public Affairs, regarding the concern reported from Quincy, MA. To facilitate information sharing, I contacted the Law Enforcement organization and requested to have their Public Affairs Office communicate with FAA Public Affairs. From what I understand, they have made contact with each other's appropriate Public Affairs office.

Here is a Facebook discussion that is occurring regarding this operation:

<https://www.facebook.com/wcvb5/posts/10151594654144445>

There was a similar posting on the FAA's Facebook page.

Please let me know if you have any questions, or require further information.

Best regards,

Bob

Robert K. Jones
District Manager, New England Terminal Operations
Air Traffic Manager, Boston TRACON
Federal Aviation Administration
(603) 594-5501 (Office)
(603) 244-0663 (BlackBerry/Cellular)
Robert.K.Jones@faa.gov

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Mary K Sherer	Can you help?	05/10/2013 10:03:51 AM
From:	Mary K Sherer/ASO/FAA	
To:	"Robert K Jones" <robert.k.jones@faa.gov>	
Date:	05/10/2013 10:03 AM	
Subject:	Fw: low flying aircraft over Quincy, MA for Rep Lynch	

Can you help?

Mary Sherer, Acting Director
Terminal Operations
Eastern Service Area

O: 404-305-6242

BB: 317-339-8919

Shirley Miller

----- Original Message -----

From: Shirley Miller

Sent: 05/10/2013 10:01 AM EDT

To: Mary K Sherer; Mark D Ward; H-Michael Brown; Elizabeth Ray

Cc: Ronisha Dickerson; Tracy Edwards; Maurice Hoffman

Subject: Fw: low flying aircraft over Quincy, MA for Rep Lynch
Hi...can you check into this?

Thanks!

----- Forwarded by Shirley Miller/AWA/FAA on 05/10/2013 09:59 AM -----

From: Brian Langdon/AWA/FAA
AGI-003, Government & Industry Affairs
To: Shirley Miller/AWA/FAA@FAA
Cc: Tracy Edwards/AWA/FAA@FAA, Ronisha Dickerson/AWA/FAA@FAA, Maurice Hoffman/AWA/FAA@FAA
Date: 05/10/2013 09:56 AM
Subject: low flying aircraft over Quincy, MA for Rep Lynch

from Representative Stephen Lynch's (D-MA) office.... Please let me know what I can tell them.

Thanks....

We received a call from a City Councilor in Quincy, MA regarding a low flying plane in Quincy, MA over the past couple of weeks. Below are some articles about it the local press. Any information you could provide regarding this would be appreciated. Thank you.

<http://www.patriotledger.com/news/x140272228/Mysterious-aircraft-puzzles-Quincy-residents>

http://www.boston.com/yourtown/news/quincy/2013/05/low-flying_aircraft_causing_co.html

Brian Langdon
Federal Aviation Administration
Office of Government and Industry Affairs - AGI
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Washington, DC 20591
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