



U.S. Department of Justice
Office of Information Policy
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Washington, DC 20530-0001

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Emma Best
MuckRock News
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Somerville, MA 02144

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ck.com](mailto:60408-18005064@requests.muckrock.com)

March 24, 2021
Appeal No. DOJ-AP-2019-
005268
Request No. 1416886
CDT:DRC:EMY

VIA: Email

Dear Emma Best:

You appealed from the action of the Federal Bureau of Investigation on your Freedom of Information Act request for access to records concerning the Reformed Church in America or the Christian Reformed Church in North America. I note that your appeal concerns the adequacy of the FBI's search for responsive records.

After carefully considering your appeal, I am affirming the FBI's action on your request. By letter dated May 2, 2019, the FBI released to you 168 pages of previously processed responsive records in full. I have determined that the FBI's response was correct and that it conducted an adequate, reasonable search for responsive records subject to the FOIA.*

Please be advised that the FBI has found a reference to records that might be responsive to your request. These records, however, were transferred to the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA), File No. 100-HQ-106670. If you have not done so already, you may wish to submit a request directly to NARA for the records you seek at the following address:

National Archives and Records Administration
Special Access and FOIA Staff
NWCTF-Room 5500
8601 Adelphi Road
College Park, MD 20740

Please be advised that this Office's decision was made only after a full review of this matter. Your appeal was assigned to an attorney with this Office who thoroughly reviewed and

analyzed your appeal, your underlying request, and the action of the FBI in response to your request.

If you are dissatisfied with my action on your appeal, the FOIA permits you to file a lawsuit in federal district court in accordance with 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(4)(B).

For your information, the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) offers mediation services to resolve disputes between FOIA requesters and Federal agencies as a non-exclusive alternative to litigation. Using OGIS services does not affect your right to pursue litigation. 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; email at ogis@nara.gov; telephone at 202-741-5770; toll free at 1-877-684-6448; or facsimile at 202-741-5769. If you have any questions regarding the action this Office has taken on your appeal, you may contact this Office's FOIA Public Liaison for your appeal. Specifically, you may speak with the undersigned agency official by calling (202) 514-3642.

Sincerely,



X

Matthew Hurd, Acting Chief, Administrative
Appeals Staff

* I note that the FBI located potentially responsive civil litigation records. These records generally encompass civil litigation in which the organization filed a lawsuit against the FBI pursuant to the FOIA. Most individuals are not interested in these files, which concern FOIA litigation that is publicly documented on the federal court dockets. Please contact the FBI if you are interested in such records.