



Centers for Disease Control  
and Prevention (CDC)  
Atlanta GA 30333

September 24, 2018

Emmanuel Freudenthal  
Dept. MR60901  
411A Highland Ave.  
Somerville, Massachusetts 02144  
Via email: 60901-94207620@requests.muckrock.com

Dear Mr. Freudenthal:

This letter is in response to your Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (CDC/ATSDR) Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request of September 19, 2018, for:

1. All of the photos taken during the CDC mission to transport Ebola samples from Guinea to Atlanta around September 2017. This includes photos by employees as part of their work on this official mission, or photos by third party contractors.
2. Any contracts or agreements with Phoenix Air to supply their services for the CDC mission to transport Ebola samples from Guinea to Atlanta around September 2017
3. Any Chain of Custody documents signed for the shipping of any samples from Guinea to the USA between 01/01/17 and 01/11/17. I believe that these documents were signed by Dr Pierre Rollin and other Atlanta CDC staff, who I'm sure will have a copy.
4. Any documents with information linked to blood samples that were transported from Conakry (Guinea) to Atlanta from 01/01/17 to 01/11/17 (e.g. the name of the patient, their origin, their gender, their clinical signs etc). I understand that the private information of patients cannot be disclosed so please feel free to blacken that from any documents that contain lists. In case there are many documents that pertain to single individuals with the sample templates, then please provide one of each of the types of documents as a template.

Please provide the information marked below to aid the agency in complying with your request:

☒ In accordance with 45 CFR 5b.5(b)(2)(ii), an **original, notarized, signed** authorization for release of protected health information is required. A CDC authorization form, the one-page form we require, is available on our webpage at: <http://www.cdc.gov/od/foia/forms/index.htm>. The information pertaining to patients as you listed in Item #2 of your request cannot be provided without their consent.

☐ State health identification numbers (obtained from the state health department) are required for a search of CDC health and medical records, laboratory profiles, or any other data that would assist us with our search.

☐ Proof of death. Acceptable forms of proof of death include obituaries or death certificate.

☒ Grant, solicitation, or contract number pertaining to Item #2 of your request.

☐ Facility/site name, facility/site address, or EPA CERCLA number for environmental health investigations.

☒ Health condition or disease for which you believe samples were shipped from Guinea to the United States (pertaining to Items #2 and #4 of your request). Samples would be shipped to different CDC labs dependent upon the suspected pathogen. Therefore, in order to direct your request to the appropriate program for search, we need to know the pathogens.

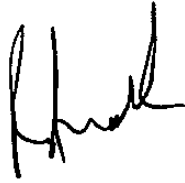
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Also, it is unclear what records you are seeking for Item #4 of your request. Requests must describe the records being sought with enough clarity as to allow program staff to perform a reasonable search. Please provide additional information, such as the precise record you seek (e.g. name and number of an official form), or the specific information you seek. Again, please note that information pertaining to individual patients, as you listed in your request, cannot be released without their signed, notarized consent.

At this time, your request has been placed on hold until we receive the information requested. If you have any questions regarding your request, please contact Laura Spencer at 770-488-6290.

**If we do not receive a response from you October 23, 2018, we will consider your request withdrawn and it will be closed.**

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Roger Andoh', with a stylized, cursive script.

Roger Andoh  
CDC/ATSDR FOIA Officer  
Office of the Chief Operating Officer  
(770) 488-6399  
Fax: (404) 235-1852

18-01118-FOIA