

U.S. Department of Justice Office of Information Policy Sixth Floor 441 G Street, NW Washington, DC 20530-0001

Telephone: (202) 514-3642

August 11, 2020

DOJ-2017-005348 (AG)

DRH:ADF:ERH

Re:

Anne Weismann CREW 455 Massachusetts Ave, NW Washington, DC 20001 aweismann@citizensforethics.org

Dear Anne Weismann:

This responds to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request made via the Office of Information Policy's FOIAonline Portal and received in this Office on July 13, 2017, in which you requested (1) remarks by Attorney General Jeff Sessions delivered on July 11, 2017 at the Alliance Defending Freedom's (ADF) Summit on Religious Liberty, and (2) records of communications between the Office of the Attorney General and the ADF concerning the summit.

Please be advised that a search has been conducted in the Offices of the Attorney General and Public Affairs, as well as of the electronic database of the Departmental Executive Secretariat, which is the official records repository for the Office of the Attorney General, and 165 pages of material were located that contain records responsive to your request. I have determined that 116 pages are appropriate for release with excisions made pursuant to Exemptions 5 and 6 of the FOIA, 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(5) and (b)(6). Exemption 5 pertains to certain inter- and intra-agency communications protected by the deliberative process privilege. Exemption 6 pertains to information the release of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of the personal privacy of third parties. Additionally, I have determined that forty-nine pages should be withheld in full pursuant to Exemption 5. The released material has been posted to this Office's FOIA Library and is available here: https://www.justice.gov/oip/foia-library/general_topics/summit_on_religious_freedom_08_05_20/download.

Please note that the posted material also contain records that are not responsive to your request. Those records have not been processed and are marked accordingly. Additionally, the material marked as "duplicative" is duplicative of material processed elsewhere in this material.

For your information, Congress excluded three discrete categories of law enforcement and national security records from the requirements of the FOIA. See 5 U.S.C. § 552(c) (2018). This response is limited to those records that are subject to the requirements of the FOIA. This is a standard notification that is given to all our requesters and should not be taken as an indication that excluded records do, or do not, exist.

You may contact our FOIA Public Liaison, Valeree Villanueva, for any further assistance and to discuss any aspect of your request at: Office of Information Policy, United

States Department of Justice, Sixth Floor, 441 G Street, NW, Washington, DC 20530-0001; telephone at 202-514-3642.

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, Room 2510, 8601 Adelphi Road, College Park, MD 20740-6001; e-mail at ogis@nara.gov; telephone at 202-741-5770; toll free at 1-877-684-6448; or facsimile at 202-741-5769.

If you are not satisfied with this Office's determination in response to this request, you may administratively appeal by writing to the Director, Office of Information Policy, United States Department of Justice, Sixth Floor, 441 G Street, NW, Washington, DC 20530-0001, or you may submit an appeal through OIP's FOIA STAR portal by creating an account following the instructions on OIP's website: https://www.justice.gov/oip/submit-and-track-request-or-appeal. Your appeal must be postmarked or electronically submitted within ninety days of the date of my response to your request. If you submit your appeal by mail, both the letter and the envelope should be clearly marked "Freedom of Information Act Appeal."

Sincerely,

Douglas R. Hibbard

Chief, Initial Request Staff