

U.S. Department of
Homeland Security

United States
Coast Guard



Commanding Officer
United States Coast Guard
Intelligence Coordination Center (ICC)

4251 Suitland Road, Rm 3A111
Washington, DC 20395-5765
Staff Symbol: ICC-FOIA
Phone: (301) 669-4546
Fax: (301) 669-4556

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AUG 12 2014

Mr. Brian Gaffney
Law Offices of Brian Gaffney
APC
446 Old County Road, Suite 100-310
Pacifica, CA 94044

Dear Mr. Gaffney:

This acknowledges our receipt and provides an interim response to the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request from Mr. Paul Mino, dated June 1, 2004, currently in litigation as *Institute for Policy Studies v. CIA*, 06-CV-00960, and processed by the United States Coast Guard Intelligence Coordination Center (USCG ICC). We received a referral from the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) in this office on May 28, 2014. We understand Mr. Mino is seeking information related to the Colombia organization known as the "PEPES," Pablo Escobar and/or the death of Pablo Escobar (See Enclosure 1).

The information identified and referred by CIA (Case No: F-2012-00430) consisted of 310 documents. Due to the number of documents, we are releasing information in groups as we are able to process. An index describes the type of document, location of the responsive information, total number of pages, and a determination (See Enclosure 2). This initial release consists of 179 pages from 150 documents (See Enclosure 3). Only responsive information to the request or information reviewed by another agency is included in this interim response. CIA withheld information pursuant to Title 5 U.S.C. § 552 under exemption (b)(3). Exemption (b)(3) refers to Title 50 U.S.C § 403 as amended, on information pertaining to the CIA – these withholds are annotated on the index and the appropriate document. All other information in the documents that is not responsive to the request, is reasonably segregable and is being withheld.

The remaining documents are either in further review or included responsive information sourced to other agencies. Consults have been sent to the other agencies with a request to respond to the ICC for our direct response to you.

I made the decision to withhold the information as the Initial Denial Authority in coordination with CIA. You have the right to appeal the above withholding determination. Should you wish to do so, within 60 days of the date of this letter you may send your appeal and a copy of this letter to the following address:

ENCLOSURE **1**

COMMANDANT (CG-611)
US COAST GUARD
ATTN: FOIA OFFICE
2703 MARTIN LUTHER KING JR AVE SE, STOP 7710
WASHINGTON DC 20593-7710

Following the administrative procedures outlined in 6 CFR § 5.9(a), please explain the reason(s) you believe the decision regarding your request was incorrect. Your envelope and letter should be marked "Freedom of Information Act Appeal" and reference FOIA case number **USCG ICC NUMBER 18-2014**. FOIA and DHS regulations are available at: www.dhs.gov/foia. Please note your appeal will not be acted on until the current litigation *Institute for Policy Studies v. CIA*, 06-CV-00960 has been concluded.

If you have any questions, you may contact us at 301-669-2978/3912. Please refer to USCG ICC FOIA Case #18-2014.

Sincerely,



R.P. HAYES

Captain, U. S. Coast Guard
Commanding Officer, Intelligence Coordination Center

Enclosures: (1) Original Request
(2) Index of Interim Release
(3) 179 pages of Responsive Information