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12 February 2019

FOIA Request  
National Commission on Military, National, and Public Service  
2530 Crystal Drive, Suite 1000, Box No. 63  
Arlington, VA 22202

(by e-mail to <[FOIA@inspire2serve.gov](mailto:FOIA@inspire2serve.gov)>)

**FOIA REQUEST**

Fee benefit requested  
Fee waiver requested

Dear FOIA Officer:

This is a request pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. § 552.

I request access to and copies of the following records:

(1) Any records of communications between any component of the Department of Justice and the Commission or any Commission member, staff, or contractor, including but not limited to any e-mail message containing the case-insensitive text string “justice.gov” (without the quotation marks) in any header including the “from”, “to”, “cc”, or “bcc” header;

(2) Any report, document, file, or other record received from any component of the Department of Justice, directly or indirectly, by Commission or any Commission member, staff, or contractor;

(3) Any records of reports, “memoranda for the record”, notes, documents, files, descriptions of meetings or interviews, research plans, research assignments, research methodologies, research results, budgets or budget or cost estimates or projections, or other records pertaining to:

(A) methods of enforcement of Selective Service registration, compulsory service, or any other policy option considered by the Commission which has or might have a compulsory element;

(B) possible sanctions for noncompliance with Selective Service, compulsory service, or any other registration, service, service reporting, service monitoring, or related requirement;

(C) past, present, or possible future noncompliance with any such requirement;

(D) costs of enforcement including projected numbers of violators of any criminal sanctions and costs of identification, investigation, prosecution, and incarceration of violators;

I also request (4) the entirety of any document or electronic file containing any records responsive to any portion of the request described in clauses 1-3 above (so that no portion of any document or file containing any responsive portions should be withheld as “unresponsive”).

I request that all responsive records be provided in text-searchable electronic form. With respect to any records held in electronic form, I request that they be provided in the original electronic form in which they are held, as complete bitwise digital copies of the original word processor files, PDF files, or other electronic files, including any file headers, embedded metadata, and all other file content.

I request that any responsive records of e-mail messages be produced as copies of the raw “message source” files, including full addresses and all headers and attachments, as those message source files are held on mail servers or backup or archival digital storage media.

I specifically request that you not create new documents or files in response to this request, not create “documents” such as page-view images or print views from digital records, and not substitute such newly-created “documents”, images, or views for requested records held by you as digital files.

If all or any part of this request or searches for responsive records are referred or delegated to other agencies, contractors, offices, or staff, I request that any referral, delegation, or search tasking instructions specifically include my request with respect to the form in which records are to be produced, so that records are not inadvertently converted to, or produced in, other forms or formats.

If you believe that you could respond to this request more quickly if responsive records are produced in a different form, please call me immediately at +1-415-824-0214 to discuss your proposed form of production and possible modification of this request to expedite your response.

As a representative of the news media I am only required to pay for the direct cost of duplication after the first 100 pages of paper records, or cost equivalent for copies of electronic records. Through this request, I am gathering information on policies, procedures, and practices that is of current interest to the public as part of widespread public interest in the activities of the Commission and the exceptionally controversial subjects of the draft, Selective Service, and compulsory service.

I am an award-winning freelance journalist, and the publisher of an informational Web site at <<https://resisters.info>> which is one of the most comprehensive and widely consulted sources of news, analysis, and background and reference information – including information obtained from the Commission in response to my previous FOIA requests, and reporting, analysis, and commentary based on this information and other sources – about the Commission and the issues of the draft, draft registration, compulsory “service”, and Selective Service. The information obtained in response to this request will be made available to the public through publication on the Web, along with reporting, analysis, and commentary informed by the records released in response to this request.

Substantially more information about the Commission and its activities – including substantially more of the Commission’s own records as well as the single largest body of independent reporting, analysis, and commentary on the activities of the Commission -- is available on my Web site than is available on the Commission’s own Web site at <<http://www.inspire2serve.gov>>.

The majority of the information available to the public about the Commission and its activities is available only on my Web site and through articles I have written for my own e-mail newsletters and other Web sites and print publications.

Most of the Commission records available to the public are available only because they have been released by the Commission in response to my previous FOIA requests, and have been published by me on my Web site along with reporting, analysis, and commentary informed by these Commission records. Most of these records have not been published by the Commission on its own Web site or anywhere else, and are not available anywhere except on my Web site.

Please waive any applicable fees. Release of the information is in the public interest because it will contribute significantly to public understanding of government operations and activities.

The Commission is tasked by statute with assessing whether continuation or expansion or Selective Service registration or compulsory service would be “feasible”. A key issue in whether any of these policy options would be feasible is whether people subject to such requirements would comply voluntarily, how many would not, and whether and if so how, at what cost, and with what collateral consequences any of these policy options could be enforced.

The Commission has scheduled formal hearings later this month and in April 2019 on topics including these. But the Commission has not released any information pertaining to its research, or any information it has received from the Department of Justice, concerning compliance or enforcement.

The response to this request is essential to enable informed public comment on these issues, and to enable peer review and expert comment concerning the sources and conclusions of the Commission’s research, compliance projections, and enforcement plans and budgets.

I have no commercial interest in this information. My reporting on this issue, while carried out in my capacity as a professional journalist, has been unpaid and not undertaken for profit.

If this request is denied in whole or part, I ask that you justify all deletions by reference to specific exemptions. I will also expect you to release all segregable portions of otherwise exempt material. I, of course, reserve the right to appeal your decision to withhold any information, to deny a waiver of fees, or to deny expedited processing.

Please respond as soon as possible to confirm your receipt of this request and to advise the reference number assigned to this request and the expected date of completion of Commission action with respect to this request. I look forward to your complete reply within 20 work days, as the FOIA statute and the Commission’s FOIA regulations require. To avoid unnecessary delays, please contact me immediately by telephone or e-mail should you have any questions regarding this request.

Sincerely,

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Edward Hasbrouck