7 December 2020

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 of the Selective Service System, to the extent that the Selective Service System has records of any or all of this information:

(1) The name, city or town and state or territory of residence, titles, occupation, employer, organizational or institutional affiliations, current or former military affiliation and current rank or highest rank attained, branch and starting and ending years of military service, year of birth, date of appointment, board name or number or other identifier, any board office (e.g. chairperson, vice-chair, etc.) held, and the geographic jurisdiction assigned to that board, of each current member of a Selective Service Local Board, District Appeal Board, or National Appeal Board;

(2) The name, city or town and state or territory of residence, titles, occupation, employer, organizational or institutional affiliations, “registrar program” as defined by the Selective Service System.
System\textsuperscript{1}, current or former military affiliation and current rank or highest rank attained, branch and starting and ending years of military service, year of birth, and date of appointment of each current Selective Service registrar; and

(3) The name, city or town and state or territory of residence, titles, occupation, employer, organizational or business or institutional affiliations, current or former military affiliation and current rank or highest rank attained, branch and starting and ending years of military service, year of birth, date of appointment, and assigned Selective Service region of each current Selective Service Reserve Service Member (RSM); and

(4) The name, city or town and state or territory of residence, titles, occupation, employer, organizational or institutional affiliations, current or former military affiliation and current rank or highest rank attained, branch and starting and ending years of military service, year of birth, date of appointment, state or territory of directorship, and Selective Service region of each current Selective Service state or territorial Director.

I request that all responsive records be provided in text-searchable, unencrypted electronic form.

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 Selective Service System plans and preparations for a draft, who would make decisions in individual cases in the event of the draft, who trains and supervises those decision-makers, and their affiliations and demographics.

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 responses to my previous FOIA requests to Federal agencies and reporting, analysis, and commentary based on this information and other sources – about the Selective Service System and the issues of the draft and draft registration. The information obtained in response to this request will be made available to the public through publication of significant records on the Web, along with reporting, analysis, and commentary informed by the records released in response to this request.

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.

Members of Selective Service local boards, district appeals boards, and the National Appeal Board would be the administrative adjudicators of claims for exemption or deferment, including claims for conscientious objector status, in the event of activation of a military draft conducted by the Selective Service System. As quasi-judicial administrative officers, they hold positions of great public trust and would, in the event of a draft, be making decisions on behalf of the Federal government which could have life or death implications.

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\textsuperscript{1} See list of “Registrar Programs” on SSS Form 402, “Selective Service System Uncompensated Registrar Program Appointment Form”, OMB Control Number 3240-0010.
The duties of Reserve Service Members (RSMs) include training local board members. As trainers, each Reserve Service Member has an even greater influence than any local board member on how local board members will interpret Selective service System regulations and directives, and this on the outcome of decision-making in the event of a draft.

State and territorial directors supervise and direct the training and operations of local boards, district and state appeal boards, RSMs, and other staff.

It is of the utmost importance to the public to know who these decision-makers and their trainers and supervisors are; whether they fairly represent the demographics of their communities, their states and territories, and the country as a whole; and whether they are likely to be able to fairly and impartially cast judgment on the claims which would come before them.

Selective Service System registrars are appointed and hold themselves out to the public as representatives of the Selective Service System, and are intended to be relied on for information concerning Selective Service System policies, procedures, and requirements. It is important for individuals seeking information or advice concerning the Selective Service System to be able to determine who has, and who has not, been so appointed and authorized and can be relied on for information or advice concerning those policies, procedures, and requirements.

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 the adequacy of the search for responsive records or 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 action with respect to this request.

I look forward to your complete reply within 20 working days, as the FOIA statute and the Selective Service System’s FOIA regulations require.

To avoid unnecessary delays, please contact me immediately by telephone at +1-415-824-0214 in San Francisco should you have any questions regarding this request.

Edward Hasbrouck

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2. Selective Service System, “Reserve Service Members”, [https://www.sss.gov/about/agency-structure/#s2](https://www.sss.gov/about/agency-structure/#s2)

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