

NATIONAL SECURITY AGENCY CENTRAL SECURITY SERVICE FORT GEORGE G. MEADE. MARYLAND 20755-6000

FOIA Case: 65462 7 October 2011

Ms. Natalie-Ann Knott c/o Susan Verity Civil Rights & Restorative Justice Project Northeastern University School of Law 400 Huntington Avenue Boston, MA 02115

Dear Ms. Knott:

This responds to your 9 September 2011 Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request of 9 September 2011, which was received by this office on 16 September 2011, for a copy of all records this Agency maintains on Mr. Ruben Salazar. Your letter has been assigned Case Number 65462. Please refer to this case number when contacting us about your request. Your request has been processed under the provisions of the FOIA. There are no assessable fees for this request.

Personnel management files are maintained on NSA/CSS affiliates. Therefore, a search of our most comprehensive filing systems which include applicant, personnel, security, medical, and training was conducted. Our records reflect that Mr. Ruben Salazar has never been affiliated with this Agency; thus, no records were located in a search of those filing systems.

To the extent that you are seeking intelligence information on Mr. Ruben Salazar, we have determined that the fact of the existence or non-existence of the materials you request is a currently and properly classified matter in accordance with Executive Order 13526, as set forth in Subparagraph (c) of Section 1.4. Thus, your request is denied pursuant to the first exemption of the FOIA which provides that the FOIA does not apply to matters that are specifically authorized under criteria established by an Executive Order to be kept secret in the interest of national defense or foreign relations and are, in fact properly classified pursuant to such Executive Order.

In addition, this Agency is authorized by various statutes to protect certain information concerning its activities. The third exemption of the FOIA provides for the withholding of information specifically protected from disclosure by statute. Thus, your request is also denied because the fact of the existence or non-existence of the information is exempted from disclosure pursuant to the third exemption. The specific statutes applicable in this case are Title 18 U.S. Code 798; Title 50 U.S. Code 403-1(i); and Section 6, Public Law 86-36 (50 U.S. Code 402 note).

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The Initial Denial Authority for NSA information is the Deputy Associate Director for Policy and Records, Diane M. Janosek. As your request is being denied, you are hereby advised of this Agency's appeal procedures. Any person denied access to information may file an appeal to the NSA/CSS Freedom of Information Act Appeal Authority. The appeal must be postmarked no later than 60 calendar days of the date of the initial denial letter. The appeal shall be in writing addressed to the NSA/CSS FOIA Appeal Authority (DJP4), National Security Agency, 9800 Savage Road STE 6248, Fort George G. Meade, MD 20755-6248. The appeal shall reference the adverse determination and shall contain, in sufficient detail and particularity, the grounds upon which the requester believes that the determination is unwarranted. The NSA/CSS FOIA Appeal Authority will endeavor to respond to the appeal within 20 working days after receipt, absent any unusual circumstances.

Sincerely,

PAMELA N. PHILLIPS

Chief FOIA/PA Office