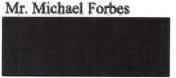


## DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY U.S. ARMY INSPECTOR GENERAL AGENCY 1700 ARMY PENTAGON WASHINGTON, DC 26310-1700

February 6, 2025

Records Release Office

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Dear Mr. Forbes:

HIGHLIGHT KEY

Blue highlight is from 5 USC § 552

Yellow is not

This letter responds to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request, received on August 13, 2024, requesting "the 'findings report,' 'final report,' work-in-process report,' or any and all reports, by any name, associated with DIH

The Army Inspector General records responsive to your request are part of a current or ongoing investigation; your request is therefore denied pursuant to Exemption (b)(7)(A) of the FOIA, 5 USC 552.

Exemption (b)(7)(A) applies to information compiled for law enforcement purposes, the disclosure of which could reasonably be expected to interfere with enforcement proceedings. In addition, Exemptions (b)(5), (b)(6), (b)(7)(C), and (b)(7)(D) may also apply.

Exemption (b)(5) protects from disclosure, under the "attorney-client privilege," such information as confidential communications between an attorney and the IG relating to legal matters for which the IG has sought professional legal advice. It also protects information from disclosure under the "deliberative process privilege," the general purpose of which is to prevent injury to the quality of agency decisions. The decision to withhold the information is necessary to encourage open, frank policy discussions among agency personnel; to protect against premature disclosure of proposed policies before they are actually adopted; and/or to protect against public confusion that might result from disclosure of reasons and rationales that were not in fact ultimately the grounds for an agency's action.

Exemption (b)(6) applies to information about individuals, in "personnel and medical files and similar files," the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.

Exemption (b)(7)(C) applies to information contained in records compiled for law enforcement purposes, disclosure of which could reasonably be expected to constitute an unwarranted invasion of the privacy of any individuals who were mentioned therein, or who conducted and/or supervised the conduct of an inquiry or investigation.

Exemption (b)(7)(D) protects information compiled for law enforcement purposes, when disclosure could reasonably be expected to reveal the identity of the person who furnished the information in confidence.

You may appeal this denial decision in writing within 90 days from the date of this letter. If you decide to appeal, please address your appeal through this office—Records Release Office (SAIG-ZXR), U.S. Army Inspector General Agency, 1700 Army Pentagon, Room 1E132, Washington, DC 20310-1700—for transmittal to the Army Office of the General Counsel (OGC). That office has appellate authority for Army Inspector General initial FOIA determinations. In any such appeal, you should also provide a copy of this letter along with sufficient justification upon which the OGC may base a decision.

Please be advised that you may resubmit your request at a future date, thereby allowing time for the IG investigation to be completed. You may contact the Records Release Office to request the status of the investigation before you resubmit your request. If you have any questions concerning this action, you may contact our office via email: usarmy.

mil. Please refer to Case Number in the subject of your email.

Sincerely,

M. Thomas

Margaret F. Thomas Deputy Legal Advisor See next page to compare this signature from another letter to someone else in 2017 from the same person



## DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL 1700 ARMY PENTAGON WASHINGTON DC 20310-1700

SAIG-JAR

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MEMORANDUM FOR U.S. Army Freedom of Information Office, Records Management & Declassification Agency, ATTN: Ms. Sasha Ward, 7701 Telegraph Road, Casey Building, RM 150, Alexandria, VA 22315-3860

SUBJECT: FOIA Reading Room Posting of Frequently Requested IG Record

As required by the FOIA, 5 U.S.C. 552, (a)(2)(D), request the enclosed IG report be
posted in your FOIA reading room. This report documenting Senior Official Misconduct
has been requested for release to the public at least three times under the FOIA, and is
or will likely become the subject of subsequent requests.

Document

Subject

Keywords

- 2. We will notify your office when to remove this report from the reading room.
- 3. If you have any questions concerning this matter, please call me or Ms. Broyles at (703) 545-4591.

Encl

MARGARET F. THOMAS Deputy Legal Advisor

This document can be found at:

https://www.bing.com/search?pglt=139&q=margaret+thomas +saig&cvid=e244e32c2278438bb5c9590e3233710b&gs\_lcrp= EgRIZGdlKgYIABBFGDkyBggAEEUYOTIGCAEQABhAMgYIAhAAG EDSAQg3MjA2ajBqMagCALACAA&FORM=ANNTA1&PC=U531