



United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SOLICITOR
Washington, D.C. 20240

IN REPLY REFER TO:
Appeal No. 2015-019

June 22, 2015

Donald L. Cameron

(b) (6)

66214

Dear Mr. Cameron:

This responds to the September 29, 2014, Freedom of Information Act ("FOIA") appeal ("appeal") that you filed with the Department of the Interior ("Department"), which it received on November 18, 2014 (the date the Department received all of the documents that you are required to submit in order to file an appeal). Your appeal, which the Department assigned as **Appeal Number 2015-019**, concerns your July 6, 2014, FOIA request to the Office of Inspector General ("OIG") that sought "documentation and substantiation...of specific claims and assertions contained in an 'Investigation Report of [the] Brown Foundation for Education [] Equity, Excellence, and Research' [("Brown Foundation")]." You also requested "written responses to specific questions relating to statements included in Special Agent Scott Holstein's report of January 30, 2014."

In response to your FOIA request, the OIG advised you that "the FOIA does not require agencies to do research for you, to analyze data, to answer written questions, or to create records in response to a request." The OIG also advised you that since your request did not reasonably describe the records you were seeking, it would not proceed further with the processing of the request until you further clarified the documents you were seeking. You responded to the OIG's request for clarification, which the OIG interpreted as you seeking "the Audrey Jones audit [(which is related to the Brown Foundation investigation)] and its work papers." In light of this clarification, the OIG referred you to a non-Departmental website to view the "Audrey Jones audit" and advised you that it does not possess the work papers for the audit, "as they are not OIG documents."

You filed this appeal and further clarified that you are seeking copies of Special Agent Holstein's "work papers in support of and justification of his report published January 30, 2014, which supports the findings of the Audrey Jones audit" of the Brown Foundation.

From reading all of the documentation that you submitted with the appeal, it is not at all clear that you aimed your initial FOIA request and subsequent clarification at obtaining Special Agent Holstein's "work papers." Since you have now clarified that you are seeking these "work papers," **by copy of this letter, the Department will forward your further clarified request to the OIG for processing.** The OIG will correspond directly with you regarding this matter, subject to the time limits applicable to the processing of new requests.¹

¹ See 5 U.S.C. § 552 (a)(6)(A)(i) (requiring an agency to determine within 20 workdays after the receipt of a FOIA request whether it will comply with such a request).

This completes the Department's response to your appeal. If you have any questions regarding this matter, please call the FOIA Appeals Office at (202) 208-5339.

Sincerely,



Darrell R. Strayhorn
FOIA & Privacy Act Appeals Officer
Department of the Interior

cc: Kevin Krebs, FOIA Officer, OIG (**FOR ACTION**)
Cindy Cafaro, Departmental FOIA Officer