



Office of the Chief
Records Officer for the
U.S. Government

Sent Via Email. No Hard Copy to Follow.

July 2, 2021

Mr. Maurice King
Department of the Defense
Department of the Navy
1000 Navy Pentagon, 5E170
Washington, DC 22350
maurice.king@navy.mil

Dear Mr. King:

The National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) has been notified of a potential unauthorized destruction of records at the Department of the Navy. A member of the public has alleged that the Navy's Office of Judge Advocate General (DON JAG) has destroyed FOIA case processing records (see enclosure).

NARA requests that the Navy investigate this matter to determine if all applicable FOIA records were provided at the time of the request and whether responsive records were/or will be destroyed in accordance with the appropriate records disposition schedules. Please note that per 36 CFR 1230.14, if records have been destroyed without NARA's proper authorization, the agency must report these incidents promptly to NARA.

NARA requests that you provide NARA with a response within 30 days in accordance with 36 CFR 1230.16. Your report should include a description of the records; the records schedule disposition citation that covers the files; details regarding the records destruction incident and recovery efforts; and a statement of the safeguards that have been or will be implemented to prevent future unauthorized disposals of such records. If you have any questions, please contact me at laurence.brewer@nara.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Laurence R. Brewer". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'L'.

LAURENCE BREWER
Chief Records Officer
for the U.S. Government

Enclosure



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October 19, 2021

Mr. Maurice King
Department of the Defense
Department of the Navy
1000 Navy Pentagon, 5E170
Washington, DC 22350
maurice.king@navy.mil

Dear Mr. King:

The National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) has received the Department of the Navy's response regarding NARA's request for further information pertaining to an allegation of the Office of Judge Advocate General's unauthorized destruction of FOIA case processing records (UD-2021-0033). During your investigation, the Navy determined that all applicable FOIA records were provided to the requestor and that related FOIA responsive records have been maintained in accordance with approved NARA schedule authorities.

Based on the information that you provided, the reporting requirements of 36 CFR 1230.14 have been met. NARA considers this matter closed. If you have any questions, please contact me at laurence.brewer@nara.gov. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

LAURENCE BREWER
Chief Records Officer
for the U.S. Government