

U.S. Department of Homeland Security
500 12th St., SW
Washington, D.C. 20536



U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement

October 7, 2019

Sunshine Request
PO Box 17391
Ahserville, NC 28816

RE: ICE FOIA Case Number 2019-ICFO-33140

Dear Request:

This letter is the final response to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request to U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), dated March 12, 2019. You have requested:

- total cost of all ICE operations in Buncombe County, NC for all of FY 2017 and 2018? Please provide in a machine-readable format if possible. This information should include salaries, equipment, vehicle expenses like gas, and especially bribes to informants. For all 2017 and 2018 YTD.

ICE has considered your request under the FOIA, 5 U.S.C. § 552.

ICE has conducted a search of the ICE Offices of Homeland Security Investigations (HSI) and for records responsive to your request and no records responsive to your request were found. The Office of Enforcement and Removal Operations (ERO) was also tasked. Their response is below:

- *Please note that ERO Atlanta will not be able to respond to this tasking as we do not track this type of information. Buncombe County, NC is one of many counties we handle on as as-needed basis. We have no permanent staff there or "equipment" that we pay for, nor do we keep records of the counties we are handling on a daily basis. Wedo not utilize informants.*

For your information, Congress excluded three discrete categories of law enforcement and national security records from the requirements of the FOIA. See 5 U.S.C. § 552(c) (2006 & Supp. IV (2010)). This response is limited to those records that are subject to the requirements of the FOIA. This is a standard notification that is given to all our requesters and should not be taken as an indication that excluded records do, or do not, exist.

While an adequate search was conducted, you have the right to appeal this determination that no records exist within Office of Homeland Security Investigations (HSI) that would be responsive

to your request. Should you wish to do so, you must send your appeal and a copy of the original response letter, within 90 days of the date of the letter following the procedures outlined in the DHS FOIA regulations at 6 C.F.R. Part 5 § 5.8. You may submit your appeal electronically at GILDFOIAAppeals@ice.dhs.gov or via regular mail to:

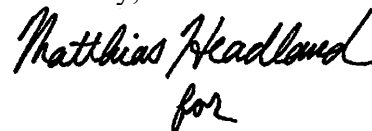
U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement
Office of the Principal Legal Advisor
U.S. Department of Homeland Security
500 12th Street, S.W., Mail Stop 5900
Washington, D.C. 20536-5900

Your envelope and letter should be marked "FOIA Appeal." Copies of the FOIA and DHS regulations are available at www.dhs.gov/foia.

Provisions of FOIA allow DHS to charge for processing fees, up to \$25, unless you seek a waiver of fees. In this instance, because the cost is below the \$25 minimum, there is no charge.

If you need any further assistance or would like to discuss any aspect of your request, please contact the FOIA office and refer to FOIA case number **2019-ICFO-33140**. You may send an e-mail to ice-foia@ice.dhs.gov, call toll free (866) 633-1182, or you may contact our FOIA Public Liaison, Fernando Pineiro, in the same manner. Additionally, you have a right to seek dispute resolution services from the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) which mediates disputes between FOIA requesters and Federal agencies as a non-exclusive alternative to litigation. If you are requesting access to your own records (which is considered a Privacy Act request), you should know that OGIS does not have the authority to handle requests made under the Privacy Act of 1974. You may contact OGIS as follows: Office of Government Information Services, National Archives and Records Administration, 8601 Adelphi Road-OGIS, College Park, Maryland 20740-6001, e-mail at ogis@nara.gov; telephone at 202-741-5770; toll free at 1-877-684-6448; or facsimile at 202-741-5769.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Matthias Headland in black ink.

for
Catrina M. Pavlik-Keenan
FOIA Officer