

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

ROBERT MOORE, et al.

Plaintiff,

v.

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY,

Defendant.

Case No. 20-cv-01027-RCL

**SUPPLEMENTAL DECLARATION OF VANNA BLAINE,
INFORMATION REVIEW OFFICER, FOR THE
LITIGATION INFORMATION REVIEW OFFICE,
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY**

I, VANNA BLAINE, hereby declare and state:

1. I submit this supplemental declaration in order to confirm that none of the withheld information has been previously released.

2. I currently serve as the Information Review Officer ("IRO") for the Litigation Information Review Office ("LIRO") at the Central Intelligence Agency ("CIA"). I have worked in the information review and release field since 2014 and in other capacities at the CIA since 2007.

3. As IRO for the Litigation Information Review Office, I am a senior CIA official and hold original classification authority at the TOP SECRET level under written delegation of authority pursuant to Section 1.3(c) of Executive Order 13526, 75 Fed. Reg. 707 (Jan. 5, 2010) (discussed in further detail

below). Under this delegated authority, I am authorized to assess the current and proper classification of CIA information, up to and including TOP SECRET information, based on the classification criteria of Executive Order 13526 and applicable regulations. Among other things, I am responsible for the classification review of CIA documents and information that may be the subject of court proceedings or public requests for information under the Freedom of Information Act ("FOIA") and the Privacy Act of 1974, 5 U.S.C. § 552a. As part of my official duties, it is my responsibility to ensure that any determinations as to the release or withholding of any such documents or information are proper and do not jeopardize the national security. Through the exercise of my official duties, I have become familiar with this civil action and the underlying FOIA request. I make the following statements based upon my personal knowledge and information made available to me in my official capacity.

I. (b) (6) Exemption

4. The Agency invoked Exemption (b) (6) to withhold identifying information of U.S. Government officials¹ and third-party individuals² unaffiliated with the Agency that were named

¹ C00046678; C00437028; C00465476; C00495799; C06002273; C06002566; C06010742; C06010860; C06010917; C06010920; C06444587; C06471810; C06471815; C06471817; C06891138; C06898446; C06914416; C03100305

² C06914415

in the responsive records. The third-party individuals consisted of private citizens not affiliated with the U.S. Government.

5. As noted in the initial declaration, the Agency invoked exemption (b)(6) to protect the personally identifying information of individuals named in the responsive records to protect their privacy interests and avoid subjecting them and/or their families to unwanted contact and publicity, harassment or embarrassment.

6. The responsive records did not contain sufficient detail to determine whether the named individuals are living or deceased from face of the records. Additionally, the records do not provide sufficient additional identifying information such that the Agency could ascertain, with any degree of certainty, an individual's status. Internet searches of individual names, without more, are also not instructive on this point. Moreover, the dates of the records, on their own—which date from 1952 onwards—do not definitively indicate that persons mentioned therein would be deceased. Likewise, there is insufficient information to indicate the seniority of government officials mentioned in the records. However, I note that none of the names identified were known to be senior U.S. Government officials.

7. I note that, although the Agency is not able to definitively ascertain life status or a person's position with the U.S. Government based on the information provided in the

documents, that is not to say there is no privacy interest in their names.

8. For example, CIA personnel participating in the intelligence collection and/or analysis surrounding this request could face unwanted contact or harassment by press and other interested parties for information related to this or other similar inquiries. Exposing CIA or U.S. Government affiliation also potentially exposes the individuals and their families to general unwanted contact or harassment based on this affiliation.³ Similarly, releasing the personally identifiable information of third-party individuals opens them up to potentially unwanted contact and questioning by members of the press and other inquiring parties.

9. Consequently, the Agency determined that both U.S. Government-affiliated and third-party individuals retain a privacy interest and redacted their names pursuant to Exemption (b) (6).

10. In light of the above facts and considerations, the interests of withholding individual identities outweighs any public interest in their disclosure. Importantly, the disclosure of the personally identifying information in the responsive records would not shed any light on the activities or operations

³I note that, with respect to personally identifying information about CIA personnel, such information is also protected from disclosure by exemption (b) (3) in conjunction with Section 6 of the CIA Act of 1949.

of the Federal government related to this request. With respect to CIA personnel, Congress specifically struck the balancing of interests in favor of withholding their identities when it enacted Section 6 of the CIA Act. With respect to U.S. Government personnel and private citizens, they maintain an interest in not being contacted or harassed related to this matter. As a result, I have determined that the release of this information would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of these individuals' personal privacy.

* * *

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed this 23rd day of February 2022.



Vanna Blaine
Information Review Officer
Litigation Information Review Office
Central Intelligence Agency