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Description of document: Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Senior Watch Officer (SWO) Log for National Operations Center related to the Charlottesville Unite the Right rally and counterprotests, August 2017

Requested date: 30-April-2021

Release date: 31-August-2021

Posted date: 14-June-2022

Source of document: Freedom of Information Act Request
Privacy Office, Mail Stop 0655
Department of Homeland Security
2707 Martin Luther King Jr. AVE SE
Washington, DC 20528-065
Fax: 202-343-4011
E-mail: foia@hq.dhs.gov
[DHS FOIA Public Access Portal \(PAL\)](#)

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**Homeland
Security**

Privacy Office, Mail Stop 0655

August 31, 2021

SENT BY ELECTRONIC MAIL

Re: 2021-HQFO-00867

This is the electronic final response to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request to the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), dated and received by this office on April 30, 2021. You are seeking a copy of pages from the Senior Watch Officer (SWO) Log for the National Operations Center, DHS Office of Operations Coordination and Planning, related to the Charlottesville Unite the Right rally and counterprotests, August 11-12, 2017 and for three days before and three days afterward..

A search of DHS Office of Operations Coordination and Planning (OPS) for documents responsive to your request produced a total of two pages. Of those pages, I have determined that portions of the pages are partially releasable pursuant to Title 5 U.S.C. § 552 (b)(7)(E), FOIA Exemption b7(E).

Enclosed are two pages with certain information withheld as described below:

Exemption 7(E) protects records compiled for law enforcement purposes, the release of which would disclose techniques and/or procedures for law enforcement investigations or prosecutions, or would disclose guidelines for law enforcement investigations or prosecutions if such disclosure could reasonably be expected to risk circumvention of the law. I determined that disclosure could reasonably be expected to risk circumvention of the law. Additionally, the techniques and procedures at issue are not well known to the public.

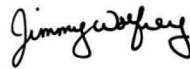
You have a right to appeal the above withholding determination. Should you wish to do so, you must send your appeal and a copy of this letter, within 90 days of the date of this letter, to: Privacy Office, Attn: FOIA Appeals, U.S. Department of Homeland Security, 2707 Martin Luther King Jr. Avenue, SE, Mail Stop 0655, Washington, D.C. 20528-0655, following the procedures outlined in the DHS FOIA regulations at 6 C.F.R. Part 5 § 5.5(e)(2). Your envelope and letter should be marked "FOIA Appeal." Copies of the FOIA and DHS FOIA 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.

You may contact the DHS FOIA Public Liaison at 202-343-1743 for any further assistance and to discuss any aspect of your request. You may also contact OGIS at the National Archives and Records Administration to inquire about the FOIA mediation services they offer. The contact information for OGIS is 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.

If you need to contact our office again about this matter, please refer to 2021-HQFO-00867. This office can be reached at FOIA@HQ.DHS.GOV or call 202-343-1743 or toll free 1-866-431-0486.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jimmy Wolfrey".

Jimmy Wolfrey
Senior Director, FOIA Operations & Management

Enclosure: Responsive Documents, 2 pages

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1346	U//FOUO	<p>NOC 0572-17: (12 Aug) Public Safety Incident – Charlottesville, VA: WHSR called requesting information on event. We have no additional information other than what media is reporting.</p> <p>1353: MMC Jabber reporting car has struck a number of people walking on the downtown mall in Charlottesville, VA.</p> <p>1425: WHSR called wanting to get contact information for Dr. Stern at Virginia Office Emergency Management. SWO contacted the EOC and got the contact information. Passed it to WHSR but they had gotten the same info. WH (Mr. Bossert) already contacted Dr. Stern.</p> <p>1434: Request from Florida desk asking for intel on any spillover into other areas of the country.</p> <p>1437: Call from OSD LNO asking about a shooting taking place also, question from their Secretary. No information at this time.</p> <p>1506: SWO sent email notification to leadership and WHSR.</p> <p>1516: WHSR call; requested information on vehicles and the comment about high rate of speed.</p> <p>1548: WHSR call; accident or intentional not known.</p> <p>1725: WHSR called regarding reports of Police Helicopter down in Charlottesville.</p> <p>1649: Rcvd DHS I&O to the VA Fusion Center email: "I currently do not have any information regarding the motivation of the subject that drove into the crowd."</p> <p>1657: Rcvd FEMA SITREP on Charlottesville Update #1.</p> <p>1713: Rcvd MMC notification via Jabber: "helicopter may have gone down near Birdwood Golf Course."</p> <p>1718: Rcvd MMC notification via Jabber: "ABC reporter says helicopter was Virginia State Police property working the scene."</p> <p>1725: Rcvd MMC notification via Jabber: "two fatalities being repeated."</p> <p>1755: (b)(7)(E)</p> <p>(b)(7)(E) We have not shared the subjects name or identity outside of the NOC."</p> <p>1756: Rcvd MMC Update 2.</p> <p>1759: WHSR call; requesting information update on Police Helicopter crash.</p> <p>1810: SWO sent email update to leadership and WHSR.</p> <p>1818: Rcvd Veterans Administration requesting biographical information on suspect.</p> <p>1819: NOC monitored VA State Police news conference.</p> <p>1822: Rcvd Veterans Administration email requesting name and plus one information on suspect.</p> <p>1831: SWO email NDD requesting authorization to forwarded requested information to Veterans Administration.</p> <p>1836: SWO called Veterans Administration and provided requested data verbally.</p> <p>1839: Rcvd FAA CMC Report, "Virginia Trooper 1, Bell 407, crashed under unknown circumstances 7 miles SSW of Charlottesville, VA. Two fatalities."</p> <p>1847: Rcvd MMC notification via Jabber: "The Gov. clarified that the 3 includes the helo crash victims."</p> <p>1907: Rcvd VA Fusion Center SITREP Update: "Vigil planned for 2000 ET, Alt Right planning press conference, unconfirmed reports of alt-right walking around with AK-47s."</p> <p>1939: Rcvd NGCC SITREP #2.</p> <p>2055: WHSR called and requested SWO provide update. SWO provided update and notified that a NOC Note would be sent soon and that NOC would forward the VA Fusion Center SITREP.</p> <p>2101: ASWO forwarded VA Fusion Center SITREP Update to WHSR.</p> <p>2119: Rcvd NCCIC email, "Charlottesville Police Department Denial of Service Attack."</p> <p>2143: Rcvd MMC IOI update 3.</p> <p>2146: (b)(7)(E)</p> <p>(b)(7)(E)</p> <p>2156: SWO sent email update to leadership and WHSR.</p> <p>2200: VA Fusion Center called and confirmed that requested cyber support from NCCIC.</p> <p>2214: WHSR called and requested update on cyber attack on Charlottesville Police Department. SWO informed WHSR that the attack was less severe than a Denial of Service and was in fact Spear Fishing.</p> <p>2231: SWO sent email update to leadership and WHSR.</p> <p>2233: Rcvd VA Fusion Center 2200 ET SITREP.</p>
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EXTRACT FROM 13 AUGUST 2017 DHS NOC SWO LOG

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	U//FOUO	13 Aug 0117: Rcvd VA Fusion Center 0000 ET SITREP. 0141: SWO forwarded VA Fusion Center 0000 ET SITREP to WHSR. 1720: SWO/NDD determined no further reporting warranted. Closed
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