

governmentattic.org

"Rummaging in the government's attic"

Description of document:	List of Federal Communications Commission (FCC) Office of Inspector General (OIG) Investigations Closed during 2023 and 2024
Requested date:	10-February-2025
Release date:	28-April-2025
Posted date:	12-May-2025
Source of document:	Freedom of Information Act Request Federal Communications Commission Office of the Inspector General 45 L Street NE, Room 3.317 Washington, D.C. 20554 <u>ArkCase FOIA</u> <u>FOIA.gov</u>

The governmentattic.org web site ("the site") is a First Amendment free speech web site and is noncommercial and free to the public. The site and materials made available on the site, such as this file, are for reference only. The governmentattic.org web site and its principals have made every effort to make this information as complete and as accurate as possible, however, there may be mistakes and omissions, both typographical and in content. The governmentattic.org web site and its principals shall have neither liability nor responsibility to any person or entity with respect to any loss or damage caused, or alleged to have been caused, directly or indirectly, by the information provided on the government agencies using proper legal channels. Each document is identified as to the source. Any concerns about the contents of the site should be directed to the agency originating the document in question. GovernmentAttic.org is not responsible for the contents of documents published on the website.

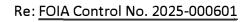


OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

45 L Street NE, Washington, DC 20554 www.fcc.gov/inspector-general

March 28, 2025

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL



This letter responds to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request for "[a] list of the FCC Office of Inspector General INVESTIGATIONS closed during calendar years 2023 and 2024" that should include "the case number, the subject of the investigation, the category of the investigation, the open date, and the closing date" from the FCC Office of Inspector General (OIG). Your request was received February 10, 2025, and perfected on February 11, 2025, and has been assigned FOIA Control No. 2025-000601.

FCC OIG searched all records subject to FOIA for responsive records. We located two, one-page records responsive to your request, and they are enclosed. Please note: FCC OIG closed case lists do not include the open date, and thus, that was not provided. Some material on the pages produced were redacted for the reasons discussed below.

The Records responsive to your request were redacted under FOIA Exemption 6.¹ Exemption 6 protects "personnel and medical files and similar files the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy." Balancing the public's right to disclosure against the individual's right to privacy, we have determined that release of this information would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy. The redacted information includes the name and personally identifying information of individuals who were the subject of an investigation. We have determined it is reasonably foreseeable disclosure would harm the privacy interest of the person mentioned in these records, which Exemption 6 is intended to protect.



^{1 5} U.S.C. § 552(b)(6).

The Records responsive to your request were redacted under Exemption 7(C), which protects "records or information compiled for law enforcement purposes [the production of which] could reasonably be expected to constitute an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy." ² Balancing the public's right to disclosure against the individual's right to privacy, we have determined that release of this information would constitute an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy. The redacted information includes the names and personally identifying information of individuals who were subject to investigation. These names were compiled during the course of an investigation and in instances such as this, the balance favors not releasing these names. We have determined it is reasonably foreseeable disclosure would harm the FCC OIG or the Federal government's law enforcement activities, which Exemption 7 is intended to protect.

The FOIA requires that "any reasonably segregable portion of a record" must be released after appropriate application of the Act's exemptions.³ The statutory standard requires the release of any portion of a record that is nonexempt and that is "reasonably segregable" from the exempt portion. However, when nonexempt information is "inextricably intertwined" with exempt information, reasonable segregation is not possible.⁴ The redactions made are consistent with our responsibility to determine if any segregable portions can be released. To the extent non-exempt material is not released, it is inextricably intertwined with exempt material.

We also reviewed redacted records to determine if discretionary release is appropriate.⁵ The materials protected from disclosure under Exemption 6 are not appropriate for discretionary release in light of the personal privacy interests involved. The materials protected from disclosure under Exemption 7 are not appropriate for discretionary release in light of the law enforcement sensitivities involved.

We are required by both the FOIA and the Commission's own rules to charge requesters certain fees associated with the costs of searching for, reviewing, and duplicating the sought after information.⁶ To calculate the appropriate fee, requesters are classified as: (1) commercial use requesters; (2) educational requesters, non-commercial scientific organizations, or representatives of the news media; or (3) all other requesters.⁷

Pursuant to section 0.466(a)(8) of the Commission's rules, you have been classified for fee purposes under category (3) as an "all other requester."⁸ As an "all other requester," the Commission assesses charges to recover the full, reasonable direct cost of searching for and reproducing records that are responsive to the request; however, you are entitled to be

- ³ 5 U.S.C. § 552(b) (sentence immediately following exemptions).
- ⁴ Mead Data Cent. Inc. v. Dep't of the Air Force, 566 F.2d 242, 260 (D.C. Cir. 1977).

⁵ See President's Memorandum for the Heads of Executive Departments and Agencies, Freedom of Information Act, 74 Fed. Reg. 4683 (2009).

⁶ See 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(4)(A), 47 C.F.R. § 0.470.

² 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(7)(C).

⁷ 47 C.F.R. § 0.470.

⁸ 47 CFR § 0.466(a)(8).

furnished with the first 100 pages of reproduction and the first two hours of search time without charge under section 0.470(a)(3)(i) of the Commission's rules.⁹ The production in response to your request required fewer than two hours of search time, and was provided in electronic form. Therefore, you will not be charged any fees.

You may seek review by filing an application for review with the Office of General Counsel. An application for review must be *received* by the Commission within 90 calendar days of the date of this letter.¹⁰ You may file an application for review by mailing the application to Federal Communications Commission, Office of General Counsel, 45 L Street NE, Washington, DC 20554, or you may file your application for review electronically by e-mailing it to <u>FOIA-Appeal@fcc.gov</u>. Please caption the envelope (or subject line, if via e-mail) and the application itself as "Review of Freedom of Information Action."

If you would like to discuss this response before filing an application for review to attempt to resolve your dispute without going through the appeals process, you may contact the Commission's FOIA Public Liaison for assistance at:

FOIA Public Liaison Federal Communications Commission Office of the Managing Director Performance Evaluation and Records Management 45 L Street NE, Washington, DC 20554 202-418-0440 FOIA-Public-Liaison@fcc.gov

If you are unable to resolve your FOIA dispute through the Commission's FOIA Public Liaison, the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS), the Federal FOIA Ombudsman's office, offers mediation services to help resolve disputes between FOIA requesters and Federal agencies. The contact information for OGIS is:

Office of Government Information Services National Archives and Records Administration 8601 Adelphi Road–OGIS College Park, MD 20740-6001 202-741-5770 877-684-6448 ogis@nara.gov https://www.archives.gov/ogis

⁹ 47 CFR § 0.470(a)(3)(i).

¹⁰ 47 C.F.R. §§ 0.461(j), 1.115; 47 C.F.R. § 1.7 (documents are considered filed with the Commission upon their receipt at the location designated by the Commission).

Sincerely,

Fare Dandis

Fara Damelin Digitally signed by FARA DAMELIN Date: 2025.04.28 17:01:05 -04'00'

Fara Damelin Inspector General

Enclosures cc: FCC FOIA Office

Page | 4

Federal Communications Commission Office of Inspector General

FOIA Report for All Cases in All States between 01/01/2023 and 01/10/2024

CASE NUMBER	CASE TITLE	PROGRAM	STATE	
OIG-E-12-0075	(b) (b), (b) (7)(C)	E-Rate	New York	03/31/2023
OIG-E-14-0030	(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)	E-Rate	Tennessee	06/13/2023
OIG-E-18-0002	DISCOUNT DISCREPANCY	E-Rate	New Jersey	09/13/2023
	UNITED STATES OF AMERICAN EX. REL. HARRY NORTON V BLUE RIDGE MOUNTAIN ELECTRICAL CORPORATION (QUI TAM)	Broadband	Georgia	03/01/2023
OIG-E-21-0006	BALTIMORE CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS	E-Rate	Maryland	09/13/2023
OIG-E-22-0003	SBPPSD	E-Rate	Louisiana	09/29/2023
OIG-B-22-0011	COMCAST ACP INVESTIGATION	Broadband	New Jersey	06/21/2023
OIG-E-22-0013	FCPS ECF LAPTOPS	E-Rate	Virginia	09/13/2023
OIG-AU-23- 0002	MARQUEE BROADCASTING, INC	Auctions	Kentucky	11/13/2023
OIG-I-23-0013	DOJ PRESS RELEASE FOR GCI SETTLEMENT	Internal	District of Columbia	07/18/2023

Federal Communications Commission Office of Inspector General FOIA Report for All Cases in All States between 01/01/2024 and 12/31/2024

CASE NUMBER	CASE TITLE	PROGRAM	STATE	CLOSING DATE
DIG-LI-12-0042	TAG MOBILE, LLC	Low Income	Texas	9/27/2024
NG-X-14-0032	FEDERAL LICENSING SERVICES, INC	External	Pennsylvania	9/4/2024
HG-LI-14-0037	UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, EX REL. CLIFFORD L. TUBBS	Lew Income 1 1	Fionida	8727/2024
DIG-AU-15-0023	U.S. CELLULAR/KING STREET WIRELESS	Auctions	Oklahoma	4/23/2024
DIG-LI-15-0031	TRACFONE/ELITE MARKETING	Low Income	Florida	9/27/2024
DIG-E-15-0032	NATIONWIDE HASIDIC SCHOOL INVESTIGATION	E-Rate	District of Columbia	4/23/2024
DIG-E-16-0006	ONEGA TECHNOLOGY CENTER INC.	E-Rate) Oklahoma	9/25/2024
DIG-E-16-0012	SOUTH CENTRAL OHIO COMPUTER ASSOCIATION	E-Rate	Ohio	3/21/2024
DIG-RH-17-0003	SPECTRACORP	Rural Healthcare	District of Columbia	9/4/2024
DIG-E-19-0005		E-Rate	Florida	9/27/2024
WG-4-12-0009	CIGIE INVESTIGATION OF CFTC OIG	Internal	District of Columbia	4/22/2024
DIG-X-20-0002	QUITAM	External	Pennsylvania	9/4/2024
DIG-RH-20-0005	TELEQUALITY COMMUNICATIONS, INC.	Rumi Healthcare	District of Columbia	3/21/2024
NG-AU-20-0006	ADVANTAGE SPECTRUM	Auctions	Oklahoma	4/23/2024
DIG-RH-20-0008	GENERAL COMMUNICATION, INC.	Rural Healthcare	Alasta	3/22/2024
IG-T-20-0010	CLEARCAPTIONS QUI TAM	TRS	California	4/24/2024
MG-RH-22-0006	WINDSTREAM COMMUNICATIONS LLC	Rural Healthcare	Arkansas	3/21/2024
DIG-1-23-0004	UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE	Internal	District of Columbia	4/24/2024
DIG-RH-23-0005	US EX REL, TAYLOR V. TELEQUALITY COMMUNICATIONS, LLC, ENA, AND NEW RIVER VALLEY COMMUNITY SERVICES	Rural Healthcare	Virginia	9/25/2024
IG-E-23-0007		E-Rate	Florida	9/25/2024
IG-E-23-0017	HERMON SCHOOL DISTRICT	E-Rzie	Maine	8/26/2024
DIG-1-24-0006	FCC REGISTRATION NUMBER (FRN) FRAUD	Internal	District of Columbia	12/17/2024
G-X-24-0008	VIAERO WIRELESS	External	Nebraska	9/25/2024

Date Report Run: Thursday, March 27, 2025