April 11, 2012

MR. JASON LEOPOLD

███████████████████

Subject: LEOPOLD, JASON

FOIPA No. 1173446

Dear Mr. Leopold:

The enclosed documents were reviewed under the Freedom of Information/Privacy Acts (FOIPA), Title 5, United States Code, Section 552/552a. Deletions have been made to protect information which is exempt from disclosure, with the appropriate exemptions noted on the page next to the excision. In addition, a deleted page information sheet was inserted in the file to indicate where pages were withheld entirely. The exemptions used to withhold information are marked below and explained on the enclosed Form OPCA-16a:

Section 552		Section 552a
☐(b)(1)	☐(b)(7)(A)	☐(d)(5)
☐(b)(2)	☐(b)(7)(B)	☐(j)(2)
☐(b)(3)_____	☒(b)(7)(C)	☐(k)(1)
_____	☐(b)(7)(D)	☐(k)(2)
_____	☒(b)(7)(E)	☐(k)(3)
_____	☒(b)(7)(F)	☐(k)(4)
☐(b)(4)	☐(b)(8)	☐(k)(5)
☐(b)(5)	☐(b)(9)	☐(k)(6)
☒(b)(6)		☐(k)(7)

3 **page(s)** were reviewed and 3 **page(s)** are being released.

☐ Document(s) were located which originated with, or contained information concerning other Government agency(ies) [OGA]. This information has been:

☐ referred to the OGA for review and direct response to you.

☐ referred to the OGA for consultation. The FBI will correspond with you regarding this information when the consultation is finished.

☐ In accordance with standard FBI practice, this response neither confirms nor denies the existence of your subject's name on any watch lists.

☒ You have the right to appeal any denials in this release. Appeals should be directed in writing to the Director, Office of Information Policy, U.S. Department of Justice, 1425 New York Ave., NW, Suite 11050, Washington, D.C. 20530-0001. Your appeal must be received by OIP within sixty (60) days from the date of this letter in order to be considered timely. The envelope and the letter should be clearly marked "Freedom of Information Appeal." Please cite the FOIPA Number assigned to your request so that it may be easily identified.

☐ The enclosed material is from the main investigative file(s) in which the subject(s) of your request was the focus of the investigation. Our search located additional references, in files relating to other individuals, or matters, which may or may not be about your subject(s). Our experience has shown, when ident. references usually contain information similar to the information processed in the main file(s). Because of our significant backlog, we have given priority to processing only the main investigative file(s). If you want the references, you must submit a separate request for them in writing, and they will be reviewed at a later date, as time and resources permit.

☒ See additional information which follows.

Sincerely yours,

David M. Hardy
Section Chief
Record/Information
    Dissemination Section
Records Management Division

Enclosure(s)

Enclosed please find records that were processed from file 190-HQ-C1667538. This is the final release for this request and the material is being provided to you and no charge.

(Rev. 05-01-2008)

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Precedence: ROUTINE   Date: 08/29/2011   b6
                                                                             b7C
To: Records Management   Attn: [ ]
                                   Winchester/ICRC
     Tampa   Attn: CDC [ ]

From: Tampa
       Brevard RA
       Contact: SA [ ]   b6
                                                                            b7C

Approved By: [ ]

Drafted By: [ ] :wdt

Case ID #: 190-HQ-C1667538   (~~Pending~~)

Title: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION PRIVACY ACT DOCUMENTS 2011
        FREEDOM OF INFORMATION PRIVACY ACT REQUEST
        REGARDING HESHAM ABU ZUBAIDAH
        FOIPA REQUEST NUMBER 1164662-000

Synopsis: To provide lead coverage.

Reference: 190-HQ-C1667538 Serial 273

Details: The above referenced lead requested the Brevard RA
interview Hesham Abu Zubaidah to determine if his FOIPA
authorization to Jason Leopold was made voluntarily and if he
would like the information processed and released.

        On 8/26/2011, SA [ ] met with Hesham Abu Zubaidah
at his residence, [ ]. Also
present during much of the meeting was [ ]   b6
[ ] Abu Zubaidah was advised that [ ]   b7C
[ ]   b7E
[ ]   b7F
[ ] Abu Zubaidah advised he did
understand. Abu Zubaidah answered yes when asked if he wanted
the information processed and released. Abu Zubaidah advised
signing the privacy statement for Leopold was voluntary.

        Abu Zubaidah stated he signed the privacy statement for
Leopold in hopes an article written by Leopold would help him

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10-14-2011 BY uc/baw 60324

To: Records Management   From: Tampa
Re: 190-HQ-C1667538, 08/29/2011

gain status in the US and obtain a green card. Abu Zubaidah
advised the article is not something he wants written, but he
feels he has no other option. Abu Zubaidah currently has no
status in the US and is fearful he could be deported at any
moment.   b6
                                                              b7C
                                Abu Zubaidah feels he has   b7E
proven he is not a terrorist and considers himself an American. b7F
Abu Zubaidah fears he   if he does not
gain status in the US. He hopes the article will be read by
someone who can help him with this matter.

        Leopold contacted Abu Zubaidah   after
                                              Several
years ago   b6
                                  various government officials b7C
and news organizations.   stated Leopold appears very
eager to write a story about Abu Zubaidah and has contacted many
individuals and organizations regarding Abu Zubaidah's past.

        Brevard RA considers this lead covered.

To: Records Management   From: Tampa
Re: 190-HQ-C1667538, 08/29/2011

LEAD(s):

Set Lead 1:   (Action)

RECORDS MANAGEMENT

    AT WASHINGTON, DC

      Be advised, Hesham Abu Zubaidah voluntarily signed the privacy statement for Jason Leopold regarding Leopold's FOIPA request. Abu Zubaidah advised he understood his information would no longer be protected by the FBI. When asked, Abu Zubaidah advised he does want his information processed and released.

Set Lead 2:   (Info)

TAMPA

    AT TAMPA, FL

      Be advised, Hesham Abu Zubaidah voluntarily signed the privacy statement for Jason Leopold regarding Leopold's FOIPA request. Abu Zubaidah advised he understood his information would no longer be protected by the FBI. When asked, Abu Zubaidah advised he does want his information processed and released.

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