



U.S. Department of Justice

Office of Information and Privacy

20020482DOJ003

Telephone: (202) 514-3642

Washington, D.C. 20530

NOV 19 2002

William Ferroggiaro, Director
Freedom of Information Project
The National Security Archive
Gelman Library, Suite 701
2130 H Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20037

Re: AG/02-R0887
DAG/03/R0034
ASG/02-R0888
OLP/02-R0889
OIP/02-R0890
MAP:TSW:MLF

RECEIVED NOV 22 2002

Dear Mr. Ferroggiaro:

This is an interim response to your Freedom of Information Act request dated September 3, 2002, and received in this Office on September 11, 2002, for records pertaining to the Department of Justice's implementation of Attorney General Ashcroft's October 12, 2001 memorandum on the Freedom of Information Act (Ashcroft memorandum). We are processing your request on behalf of the Offices of the Attorney General, Deputy Attorney General, Associate Attorney General, Legal Policy, and Information and Privacy.

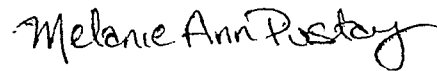
With regard to records maintained by the Office of Information and Privacy, in an October 28, 2002 telephone conversation with Marilyn Falksen of this Office, you clarified your request to include only records pertaining to the FOIA Officers Conference held in October of 2001; formal guidance this Office provided to other Department components or federal agencies regarding the implementation of the Ashcroft memorandum; any reports or studies that show the effect of the Ashcroft memorandum on the processing of FOIA requests; memoranda/e-mail to senior Department offices regarding the implementation of the Ashcroft memorandum; and samples of this Office's training outlines pertaining to the Ashcroft memorandum.

We have completed our search in the Office of Legal Policy. Please be advised that no responsive records were located in that Office. We are continuing to search for responsive records in the Offices of the Attorney General, Deputy Attorney General, Associate Attorney General, and Information and Privacy and will contact you again as we complete those searches and make our disclosure determinations.

If you consider my response on behalf of the Office of Legal Policy to be a denial of this request, you may administratively appeal by writing to the Co-Director, Office of Information and

Privacy, United States Department of Justice, Flag Building, Suite 570, Washington, D.C. 20530-0001, within sixty days from the date of this letter. Both the letter and the envelope should be clearly marked "Freedom of Information Act Appeal."

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Melanie Ann Pustay". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned to the right of the typed name.

Melanie Ann Pustay
Deputy Director