

## U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT WASHINGTON, D.C. 20410-0500

OFFICE OF THE GENERAL COUNSEL

February 14, 2003

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

RECEIVED FEB 2 8 2003

RE: Freedom of Information Act Request FOIA Control No.: FI-358193

Dear Mr. Ferroggiaro:

This letter is in response to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request dated September 4, 2002. In that request, you requested the following:

All Records, including but not limited to guidance or directives, memoranda, training materials, or legal analyses, concerning the US Department of Housing and Urban Development's implementation of US Attorney General John Ashcroft's October 12, 2001 memorandum on the US Freedom of Information Act.

When responding to a FOIA request, HUD searches for responsive documents existing up to the date the request is received in the Department's FOIA Division. Your request was received on September 4, 2002.

A search of Headquarters' records by knowledgeable staff failed to locate records responsive to your request. Marylea W. Byrd, Assistant General Counsel, Freedom of Information Act Division, was the official responsible for this determination.

You may appeal this determination within 30 days from the date of this letter if you believe that the material is not subject to the stated exemption. Your appeal should include copies of your original request and this response, and discussion of the reasons supporting the appeal. The envelope should be plainly marked to indicate that it contains a Freedom of Information Act request for review. If you should decide to appeal, please send your appeal to:

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Freedom of Information Act Appeal Assistant General Counsel for

FI-358193

Procurement and Administrative Law 451 7<sup>th</sup> Street SW, Room 10176 Washington, DC 20410-0500

Telephone: (202) 708-0622

Your FOIA request, including your identity and any information made available, is releasable to the public under subsequent Freedom of Information Act requests. In responding to these requests, the Department does not release personal privacy information such as home address, telephone number, or social security number, all of which are protected from disclosure under Exemption 6.

Thank you for your interest in the Department's policies and programs.

Sincerely,

\_Carole W. Wilson

Associate General Counsel

Office of Litigation