



Office of the Chief  
Records Officer for the  
U.S. Government

***Sent Via Email. No Hard Copy to Follow.***

December 10 , 2021

Mr. Maurice King  
Department of the Defense  
Department of the Navy  
1000 Navy Pentagon, 5E170  
Washington, DC 22350  
maurice.king@navy.mil

Dear Mr. King:

The National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) has been notified of a potential unauthorized destruction of records at the Department of the Navy. A member of the public has alleged that the Navy's Bureau of Medicine (BUMED) has destroyed FOIA case processing records and notes of an April 1, 2014 FOIA request to BUMED that sought records of Walter Reed's FY2013 Annual FOIA report submission to Navy. These records were also requested on December 24, 2017 FOIA Request "DON 18 AS - FOIA Case Records of Request: Walter Reed Annual FOIA Submissions" (Agency Case # DON-NAVY-2018-002619). This unauthorized disposition case differs from UD-2021-0017.

NARA requests that the Navy investigate this matter to determine if all applicable records were provided at the time of the request and whether responsive records were, or will be, destroyed in accordance with the appropriate records disposition schedules. Please note that per 36 CFR 1230.14, if records have been destroyed without NARA's proper authorization, the agency must report these incidents promptly to NARA.

NARA requests that you provide NARA with a response within 30 days in accordance with 36 CFR 1230.16. Your report should include a description of the records; the records schedule disposition citation that covers the files; details regarding the records destruction incident and recovery efforts; and a statement of the safeguards that have been or will be implemented to prevent future unauthorized disposals of such records. If you have any questions, please contact me at [laurence.brewer@nara.gov](mailto:laurence.brewer@nara.gov). Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Laurence V. Brewer". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'L' and a distinct 'V'.

LAURENCE BREWER  
Chief Records Officer  
for the U.S. Government



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December 13, 2024

Tonya Price  
Department of Defense  
Department of the Navy  
1000 Navy Pentagon  
Washington, DC 22350

Dear Ms. Price:

The National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) acknowledges receipt of the Department of Navy's (DON) report regarding the alleged unauthorized disposition of case processing records of FOIA request DON 18-AS (DON-NAVY-2018-002619).

According to the report, the Navy Records Officer researched the matter and could not find any evidence that any records were lost or altered. According to the Navy's FOIA office, all records responsive to the request were provided to the requester under previous FOIA responses and are available online through Navy's FOIA Secure Release Portal. Since no records were lost or altered, we understand that no recovery efforts or safeguard were necessary per 36 CFR 1230.14.

I appreciate your attention to this matter. If you have any questions or wish to discuss this further, please contact the Records Management Oversight and Reporting Program by email at [UnauthorizedDisposition@nara.gov](mailto:UnauthorizedDisposition@nara.gov).

Sincerely,

WILLIAM FISCHER  
Chief Records Officer  
for the U.S. Government (Acting)