



File Code: 6270
2015-FS-WO-00325-F

Date: NOV 07 2014

Mr. John Dougherty
Investigative Media
PO Box 501
Rimrock, AZ 86335

Dear Mr. Dougherty:

This letter is in response to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request dated October 13, 2014, which was received in the Washington Office FOIA Service Center on October 21, 2014, and assigned control number 2015-FS-WO-00325-F. You are requesting 'helmet cam' footage taken by Forest Service personnel during the Yarnell Hill fire.

In response to your request, we conducted a search for responsive electronic and hard copy records, everywhere a reasonably knowledgeable professional could expect to find responsive records. We found 21 video files, which contain a total of 43 minutes and one second of footage. 17 video files are being released to you in full; four video files are being released to you in part, with information withheld pursuant to Exemption 6 of the FOIA, 5 U.S.C. § 552 (b)(6). The videos are enclosed on a DVD-ROM disc.

Exemption 6 protects information about individuals in "personnel and medical files and similar files" when the disclosure of such information "would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy." We have determined that the following information must be withheld pursuant to Exemption 6 of the FOIA: the identity of a civilian, an individual's personal phone number, and footage from the scene of firefighter fatalities. The following videos have been edited to remove this information:

1. M2U00266R is redacted from 2:55-2:58 to blur the face of a private party.
2. M2U00273R has the audio removed from 4:38-4:45 and from 5:03-5:20 to protect the discussion of a personal telephone number.
3. M2U00276R has the video blocked from 4:20 until the end of the clip to protect a scene that includes bodies of firefighters. The audio remains for this portion.
4. M2U00277R has the video blocked from 0:15 until the end of the clip to protect a scene that includes bodies of firefighters. The audio remains for this portion.

The FOIA provides you the right to appeal this response. Any appeal must be made in writing, within 45 days from the date of this letter, to the Chief, USDA, Forest Service: 1) by email to wo_foia@fs.fed.us; 2) by regular mail to Mail Stop 1143, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250-1143; 3) by Fed Ex or UPS to 201 14th Street, SW, Washington, DC

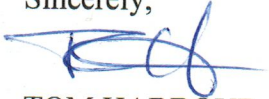


Mr. John Dougherty

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20250-1143 and telephone (202) 205-1542. The term "FOIA APPEAL" should be placed in capital letters on the subject line of the email or on the front of the envelope. To facilitate the processing of your appeal, please include a copy of this letter and/or the FOIA control number assigned to your FOIA request 2015-FS-WO-00325-F.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "T. Harbour", with a stylized flourish extending to the left.

TOM HARBOUR

Director, Fire and Aviation Management

Enclosure