United States Air Force **Appeal under the Freedom of Information Act** to USAF Response Dated June 10, 2010

FOIA Case Numbers:

Case Number: 2010-04184-F
Case Number: 2010-04185-F
Case Number: 2010-04186-F
Case Number: 2010-04188-F
Case Number: 2010-04189-F
Case Number: 2010-04190-F
Case Number: 2010-04191-F
Case Number: 2010-04193-F
Case Number: 2010-04193-F
Case Number: 2010-04194-F

All Filed: April 26, 2010

Jed Margolin

Appendix AF

Jed Margolin 1981 Empire Rd. Reno, NV 89521-7430 775-847-7845 jm@jmargolin.com

Appendix AF - Table of Contents

<u>I.</u> USAF's Final Response, dated June 10, 2010 to Margolin's FOIA Requests AFA3
II. Margolin's Request for USAF's records made under the Freedom of Information Act, April 26, 2010
III. FOIA Request Case Numbers and Status Pages
IV. Article: How the United States Air Force Plays the Shell Game with the Freedom of Information Act and How They Treat Independent Inventors, by Jed Margolin, at www.jmargolin.com/usaf/usaf_web.htm
<u>V.</u> Email - Darrin Booher
<u>VI.</u> Email - Sherrie Crochunis
<u>VII.</u> Email - Shelly Valliere
<u>VIII.</u> Email - Pennie Carlo AFA82, AFA83, AFA94, AFA95, AFA110, AFA111
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B. Email Attachment: File <i>jm_ris_summary.pdf</i> AFA89
C. Email Attachment: File <i>jm_patrickafb.pdf</i> (Email from Shell Valliere, Patrick AFB)
D. Email Attachment: File <i>jm_uspto_lr.pdf</i> (Security review recommendation by J.B. Schroeder at AFRL/VA) AFA99
E. Email Attachment: File <i>jm_wpafb_booher1.pdf</i> (Insulting email from Darrin Booher)
F. Email Attachment: File <i>jm_wpafb_booher2.pdf</i> , <i>jm_wpafb_booher3.pdf</i> (Email from Margolin to Booher)
G. Email Attachment: File <i>jm_wpafb_booher4.pdf</i> (Email from Booher closing Margolin's FOIA Request) AFA107
H. Email Attachment: File <i>jm_ris_attorneys.pdf</i> (Letter from RIS Attorneys to Optima Technology Group) AFA108



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE HEADQUARTERS, UNITED STATES AIR FORCE WASHINGTON, DC

10 June 2010

HAF/IMIO (FOIA) 1000 Air Force Pentagon Washington DC 20330-0100

Mr. Jed Margolin 1981 Empire Rd Reno NV 89521-7430

Dear Mr. Margolin

This is in response to your April 26, 2010, Freedom of Information Act request for information relating to the use of Synthetic Vision and various U.S. Patents.

The Office of The General Counsel, Intellectual Property Office conducted a proper search for records relating to Items 2 and 5 of your request; however, no information was found. Therefore, a no records determination was made.

Should you decide that an appeal to this decision is necessary, you must write to the Secretary of the Air Force, Thru: HAF/IMIO (FOIA), 1000 Air Force Pentagon, Washington DC 20330-1000 within 60 calendar days from the date of this letter. Include in the appeal, your reasons for reconsideration, and attach a copy of this letter.

Additionally, we requested assistance from the Air Force Historical Research Agency (AFHRA) and the Air Force Flight Test Center for Item 1 with negative results. AFHRA suggest you try NASA, if you have not done so already.

Please contact the undersigned at (703) 693-2736 should you have any questions and refer to case #2010-04186-F. There are no fees associated with the processing of this request in this instance.

Sincerely

JOHN M. ESPINAL FOIA Disclosure Officer

 Jed Margolin
 1981 Empire Rd.
 Reno, NV 89521-7430

Phone: 775-847-7845 Email: <u>jm@jmargolin.com</u> April 26, 2010

United States Air Force Various Departments and Commands

This request is made pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act.

 $\underline{\mathbf{1}}$. I would like all documents relating to the use of Synthetic Vision in the project being reported as the X-37B and/or the X-40A.

Synthetic Vision is defined by the FAA in FAA Title 14 Part 1 as follows:

Synthetic vision means a computer-generated image of the external scene topography from the perspective of the flight deck that is derived from aircraft attitude, high-precision navigation solution, and database of terrain, obstacles and relevant cultural features.

FAA Title 14 Part 1 is available at: http://ecfr.gpoaccess.gov/cgi/t/text/text-idx?c=ecfr&tpl=/ecfrbrowse/Title14/14tab_02.tpl

A mirrored copy is available at: www.jmargolin.com/svr/refs/ref05_faa.pdf

The X-37B project was acquired from NASA where it was known at the X-37.

From: http://www.globalsecurity.org/space/systems/x-37.htm

The X-37 program was discontinued in 2003. The X-40A activities were merged with the X-37, where NASA, the Air Force, and Boeing share the cost of the program evenly. The X-37 program, originally a NASA initiative, was transferred to the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency in 2004. NASA's original X-37 program began in 1999 and ran until September 2004 when NASA transferred the program to DARPA. NASA envisioned building two vehicles, an Approach and Landing Test Vehicle, or ALTV, and an Orbital Vehicle. The ALTV validated flight dynamics and extended the flight envelope beyond the low speed/low altitude tests conducted by NASA from 1998 through 2001 on the X-40A, a sub-scale version of the X-37 developed by Air Force Research Labs. DARPA completed the ALTV portion of the X-37 program in September 2006 by successfully executing a series of captive carry and free flight tests. NASA's X-37 Orbital Vehicle was never built: but its design was the starting point for the Air Force's X-37B Orbital Test Vehicle program. The Air Force's X-37B program builds upon the early development and testing conducted by NASA, DARPA and the Air Force Research Laboratory.

Lest there be any doubt which X-37B project I am referring to, according to Space.com (http://www.space.com/missionlaunches/x-37b-robot-space-plane-blastoff-100422.html):

Air Force Launches Secretive X-37B Space Plane on Mystery Mission

By Leonard David SPACE.com's Space Insider Columnist

posted: 22 April 2010

08:09 pm ET

This story was updated at 8:43 p.m. EDT.

The United States Air Force's secretive X-37B robotic space plane blasted off from Florida late Thursday on a mystery mission shrouded in secrecy for the U.S. military.

The unmanned military Orbital Test Vehicle 1 (OTV-1) – also known as the X-37B – lifted off at 7:52 p.m. EDT (2352 GMT) atop an Atlas 5 rocket on a mission that is expected to take months testing new spacecraft technologies.

- <u>2.</u> I would like all documents relating to AF's discussion of U.S. Patent 5,566,073 **Pilot aid using a synthetic environment.**
- <u>3.</u> I would like all documents relating to AF's discussion of U.S. Patent 5,904,724 **Method and apparatus** for remotely piloting an aircraft.
- <u>4.</u> I would like all documents relating to AF's discussion of pending U.S. Patent Application Publication Number 20080033604 (Serial Number 11/736,356) **System and Method For Safely Flying Unmanned Aerial Vehicles in Civilian Airspace**.
- <u>5.</u> I would like all documents relating to AF's discussion of Provisional U.S. Patent Application Serial Number 61/256,765 **System and Method For Sensing Aircraft and Other Objects**.

Before you answer, I respectfully direct your attention to the President's Memorandum on the Freedom of Information, January 21, 2009, available at GPO Access, a service of the government printing office at: www.gpoaccess.gov/presdocs/2009/DCPD20090009.pdf

Costs

I claim the journalist exemption. The answers to these questions are material to the article/blog I am writing called "How NASA Treats Independent Inventors" at www.jmargolin.com/nasa/nasa.htm and to an upcoming article "How the U.S. Air Force treats Independent Inventors."

Sincere	ly י	you	rs,

/Jed Margolin/

.end

Air Force Freedom of Information

C	reate Appeal (z) Inbox (0) Compose Message Sent Messages Back to List
	FOIA Request Details
Case Number	: 2010-04184-F
Date Requested	: 04/26/2010
Status	: Closed
General Information	
* Requester Service Center	HAF: Headquarters Air Force
* Request Type:	FOIA
* Delivery Mode:	E-mail
* Payment Mode:	
■ Expedite Requested	
Expedite Reason:	
Shipping/Billing Address	ss
Street1:	1981 Empire Rd.
Street2:	-
City:	Reno
State:	Nevada
Country:	United States
ZipCode:	89521-7430

Request Information

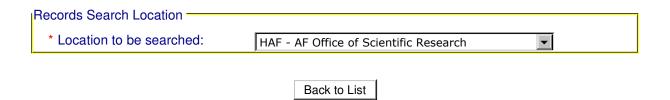
* Description of Request:



Fee Information

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Total Invoice Amount:	\$ 0.00	

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PRIVACY ACT ADVISORY:

Air Force Freedom of Information

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FOIA Request Details

Case Number : 2010-04185-F

Date Requested : 04/26/2010

Status : Closed

General Information

*	Requester	Service	Center:	AFMC
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AFMC: Bases: Arnold, TN, Brooks City-Base, TX, Edwards, CA, Eglin, FL, Gunter, AL,

* Request Type: FOIA

* Delivery Mode: E-mail

* Payment Mode:

Expedite Requested

Expedite Reason:



Shipping/Billing Address

Street1: 1981 Empire Rd.

Street2:

City: Reno
State: Nevada
Country: United States
ZipCode: 89521-7430

Request Information

* Description of Request:



Fee Information



Search Details



PRIVACY ACT ADVISORY:

Air Force Freedom of Information

Create Appeal (z) | Inbox (0) | Compose Message | Sent Messages | Back to List **FOIA Request Details Case Number** : 2010-04186-F : 04/26/2010 **Date Requested Status** : Closed **General Information** HAF * Requester Service Center: HAF: Headquarters Air Force * Request Type: **FOIA** * Delivery Mode: E-mail * Payment Mode: Expedite Requested **Expedite Reason: Shipping/Billing Address** Street1: 1981 Empire Rd. Street2: City: Reno State: Nevada Country: **United States** ZipCode: 89521-7430

Request Information

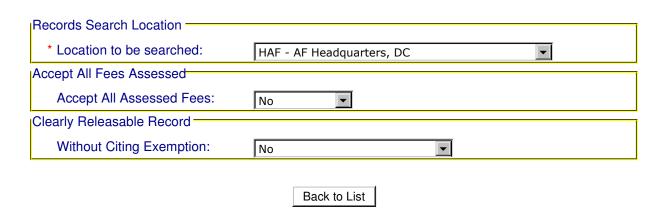
* Description of Request:

1. I would like all documents relating to the use of Synthetic Vision in the project being	_
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Fee Information

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PRIVACY ACT ADVISORY:

Air Force Freedom of Information

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Case Number : 2010-04187-F

Date Requested : 04/26/2010

Status : Closed

*	Requester	Service	Center:	HAF
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HAF: Headquarters Air Force

- * Request Type: FOIA

 * Delivery Mode: E-mail
- * Payment Mode:
- Expedite Requested

Expedite Reason:

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Shipping/Billing Address

Street1: 1981 Empire Rd.

Street2:

City: Reno
State: Nevada
Country: United States
ZipCode: 89521-7430

Request Information

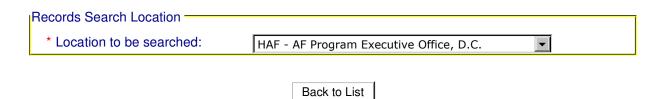
* Description of Request:



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	HAF: Headquarters Air Force	
Request Type:	FOIA	
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Street2:

City: Reno
State: Nevada
Country: United States
ZipCode: 89521-7430

Request Information

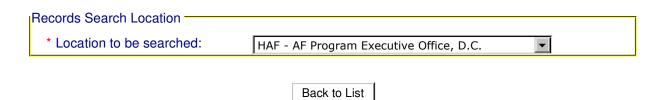
* Description of Request:



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Air Force Freedom of Information

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Date Requested	: 04/26/2010
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General Information	
* Requester Service Cent	er: HAF HAF: Headquarters Air Force
* Request Type:	FOIA
* Delivery Mode:	E-mail
* Payment Mode:	
■ Expedite Requested	
Expedite Reason:	
Shipping/Billing Addre	ess
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State:	Nevada
Country:	United States
ZipCode:	89521-7430

Request Information

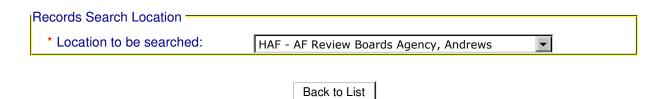
* Description of Request:



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Air Force Freedom of Information

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Case Number	: 2010-04190-F
Date Requested	: 04/26/2010
Status	: Closed
General Information	
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	HAF: Headquarters Air Force
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* Payment Mode:	
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City:	Reno
State:	Nevada
Country:	United States
ZipCode:	89521-7430

Request Information

* Description of Request:



Fee Information

Enter Amount Willing to Pay:

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Fee Waiver Granted:

Attachment: jm_usaf_foia_costs.pdf

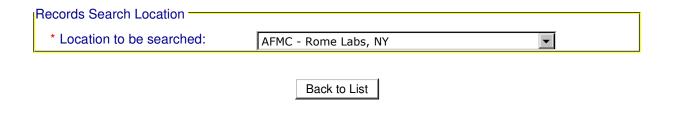
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Journalist Exemption. See attached file.

Total Invoice Amount:

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Search Details



PRIVACY ACT ADVISORY:

Air Force Freedom of Information

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FOIA Request Details

Case Number : 2010-04191-F

Date Requested : 04/26/2010

Status : Closed

General Information

*	Requester	Service Center:	AFSPC
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AFSPC: Bases: HQ AFSPC, CO, Los Angeles, CA, Patrick, FL, Peterson, CO, Vandenberg, CA,

* Request Type: FOIA

* Delivery Mode: E-mail

* Payment Mode:

■ Expedite Requested

Expedite Reason:



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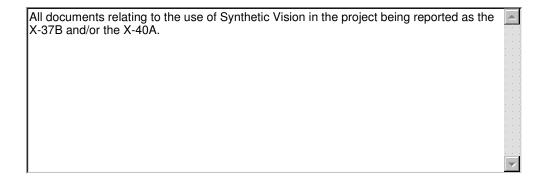
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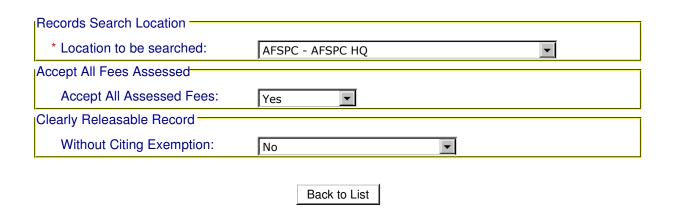
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PRIVACY ACT ADVISORY:

Air Force Freedom of Information

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FOIA Request Details

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* Delivery Mode: E-mail

* Payment Mode:

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Street2:

City: Reno
State: Nevada
Country: United States
ZipCode: 89521-7430

Request Information

* Description of Request:



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FOIA Request Details

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Date Requested : 04/26/2010

Status : Closed

General Information

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AFSPC: Bases: HQ AFSPC, CO, Los Angeles, CA, Patrick, FL, Peterson, CO, Vandenberg, CA,

* Request Type: FOIA

* Delivery Mode: E-mail

* Payment Mode:

■ Expedite Requested

Expedite Reason:



Shipping/Billing Address

Street1: 1981 Empire Rd.

Street2:

City: Reno
State: Nevada
Country: United States
ZipCode: 89521-7430

Request Information

* Description of Request:



Fee Information

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Air Force Freedom of Information

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ZipCode:	89521-7430

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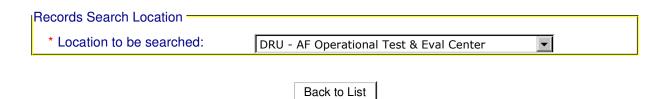
Request Page 2 of 3



Fee Information

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PRIVACY ACT ADVISORY:

AUTHORITY: 5 U.S.C. 301, Departmental Regulations and 5 U.S.C. 552, Freedom of Information Act (FOIA).

Request Page 3 of 3

How the United States Air Force Plays the Shell Game with the Freedom of Information Act and How They Treat Independent Inventors

Jed Margolin

After my experiences with NASA I thought the United States Air Force would at least deal with me honestly and honorably. They didn't.

It started when the launch of the X-37B made the news in April 2010.

There was a fair amount of press coverage about the X-37B launched on April 24, 2010. It was even mentioned on various network radio newscasts.

The X-37 was a NASA project that was started in 1998 and canceled in 2003. Only it wasn't canceled. It was taken Black by transferring it, first to DARPA, and then to the United States Air Force.

It was a big secret until shortly before the launch.



See Air Force X-37B Spacecraft Makes Test Flight from Armed Forces International on April 24, 2010: http://www.armedforces-int.com/news/air_force_x37b_spacecraft_makes_test_flight.html

There is also a nice article at space.com: http://www.space.com/missionlaunches/x-37b-robot-space-plane-launch-100420.html

From the space.com article:

According to released specifications, the X-37B space plane weighs about 11,000 pounds and is just over 29 feet in length. It stands slightly more than 9 1/2 feet in height and has a wingspan just over 14 feet across.

The initial X-37B flight is designed to loiter in space up to 270 days. After retracting its solar array and closing payload doors, the space plane would re-enter in automated mode.

I knew the X-36 and X-38 both used synthetic vision so I wondered if the X-37B also used it.

I filed a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request with the United States Air Force (USAF) in late April 2010 to find out.

This is how it went.

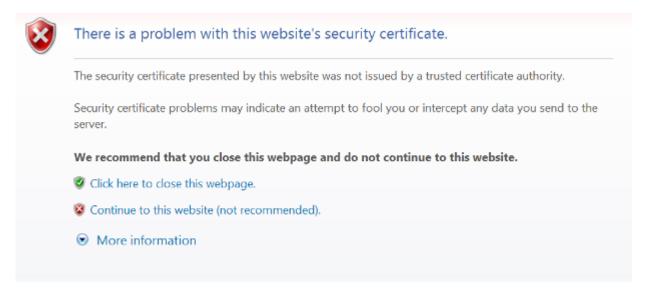
USAF has a web site for making FOIA requests. They don't make it easy.

The main FOIA Web site is http://www.foia.af.mil/

Although it is not apparent at this point, you have to use Microsoft Internet Explorer. You also have to disable all Pop-Up Blockers. Firefox totally doesn't work. If you use Firefox it lets you go through the entire process and then says Internal Error Occured, Close the browser and open new browser.

The FOIA Request page is https://www.efoia.af.mil/palMain.aspx

When I go there I get the ominous warning (but proceed, nonetheless):



It turns out that you have to register.



Air Force Freedom of Information

Home AF FOIA Handbook

Sign In

FOIA Reading Room

Main FOIA Page Contact Us To submit a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request online to the Air Force, you will need to register with the system. But before you do this, take a minute to review the <u>Air Force FOIA handbook</u>. The handbook tells you how to obtain information from the Air Force and the different ways to do so.

PRIVACY ACT ADVISORY:

AUTHORITY: 5 U.S.C. 301, Departmental Regulations and 5 U.S.C. 552, Freedom of Information Act (FOIA).

I registered.

Now when I go there I can sign-in.



<u>H</u>ome A<u>F</u> FOIA Handbook

Sign In

FOIA Reading Room

Main FOIA <u>P</u>age Contact Us

Air Force Freedom of Information

New User? Click here to Register

Please read prior to registering or submitting requests online

Before submitting your request please be sure to check the "FOIA Reading Room" to see if the documents you are requesting have already been published.

Please Note: The preferred browser is Internet Explorer and all popup blockers should be disabled.

FOIA Requests - To submit a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request online to the Air Force, you will need to register with the system. But before you do this, take a minute to review the Air Force FOIA handbook. The handbook tells you how to obtain information from the Air Force and the different ways to do so.

Registered User	
User Name: Password:	
Sign In Forgot User Name or Password?	

See the warning: Please Note: The preferred browser is Internet Explorer and all popup blockers should be disabled.

I think that's new. I don't think it was there the first time I went to the Web page.

I have now signed in.



Home AF FOIA Handbook

Submit FOIA Request Submit FOIA Appeal FOIA Request Status FOIA Appeal Status Change Password My Account Send Mail Sign Out

FOIA Reading Room

Main FOIA Page

Air Force Freedom of Information

Welcome JED MARGOLIN

Sign in Successful.

To continue, please make a selection from the navigation menu on the left side.

PRIVACY ACT ADVISORY:

AUTHORITY: 5 U.S.C. 301, Departmental Regulations and 5 U.S.C. 552, Freedom of Information Act (FOIA).

Here is the first problem when filing a FOIA request with USAF.



AF FOIA Handbook

Submit FOIA Request Submit FOIA Appeal FOIA Request Status FOIA Appeal Status Change Password My Account Send Mail Sign Out

Air Force Freedom of Information

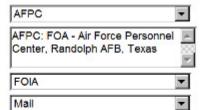
Submit New FOIA Request

Please complete all the required fields marked with an asterisk (*).

Check

General Information

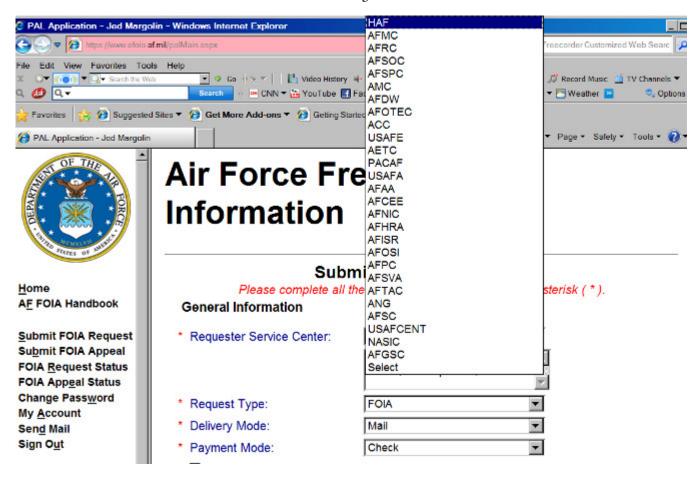
* Requester Service Center:



Request Type: Delivery Mode:

Payment Mode:

You have to specify which of 27 Service Centers to submit your FOIA request to.



And all they give you are the acronyms.

So, I had to look them up. You won't have to because I have put them here. Click Here.

Now, the next part.



When you get to actually making the request, the forms are wonky and difficult to edit. It's difficult to even do a cut-and-paste from a MS Word document. I suggest you compose everything in a document, convert it to PDF, and attach the PDF document. (Say "See attachment" in the boxes.)

Do this for both for the Description of Request and Fee Waiver Request Reason. This assumes you are asking for a Fee Waiver. Note that you can only attach a fee waiver request if you have clicked on Fee Waiver Requested.

Here is a free (and very good) way to make almost anything into a PDF file: http://www.jmargolin.com/nasa/MakingPDF.htm It was written for those making PDF files for filing documents in a Court's Electronic Court Filings (ECF) System.

It looks like we are almost done filing our FOIA request.

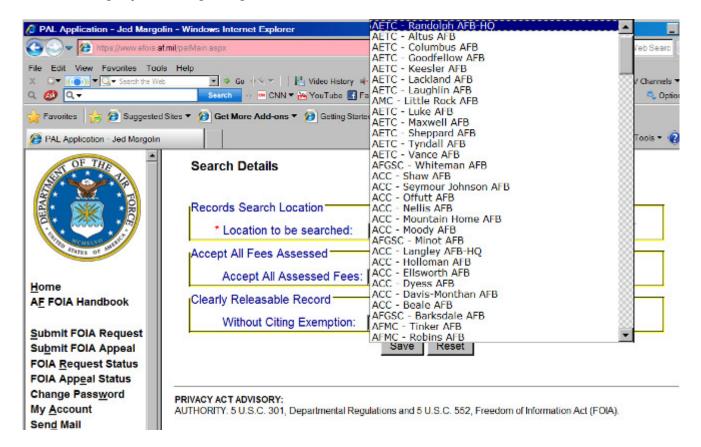
We're not. We're not even close.



Do you see the *Location to be searched: ?

Guess how many there are.

The following is just the beginning of the list:



There are 232 locations, of which 102 are Air National Guard units.

Since I did not think the X-37B was developed by the Air National Guard, that left only 130 possible locations for me to send my FOIA request to.

You cannot make your request and click which locations you want it sent to. You can only send it to one location at a time. Then you start over and send it to another location.

Here is the list of locations. I have attempted to group them according to the Centers they are associated with. In some cases I have looked up the web sites for the locations. Click here.

There are some Centers that don't seem to have a Location, such as AFOTEC. It's a mystery.

I filed my FOIA requests on Monday morning, April 26, 2010.

Click here for my FOIA Request.

Click here for my Fee Waiver request.

I sent them to the following centers and locations, and case numbers were assigned:

Case Number: 2010-04184-F

Center: HAF: Headquarters Air Force

Location: HAF AF Office of Scientific Research

Case Number: 2010-04185-F

Center: AFMC: Bases: Arnold, TN, Brooks City-Base, TX, Edwards, CA, Eglin, FL, Gunter, AL,

Hanscom, MA, Hill, UT, Kirtland, NM, Robins, GA, Tinker, OK, Wright-Patterson, OH

Location: AFRC - WPAFB OH 445 AW

Case Number: 2010-04186-F

Center: HAF: Headquarters Air Force Location: HAF AF Headquarters DC

Case Number: 2010-04187-F

Center: HAF: Headquarters Air Force

Location: AF Program Office Executive Office, DC

Case Number: 2010-04188-F

Center: HAF: Headquarters Air Force

Location: AF Program Office Executive Office, DC

Case Number: 2010-04189-F

Center: HAF: Headquarters Air Force

Location: HAF - AF Review Boards Agency, Andrews

Case Number: 2010-04190-F

Center: HAF: Headquarters Air Force Location: AFMC - Rome Labs, NY

Case Number: 2010-04191-F

Center: AFSPC: Bases: HQ AFSPC, CO, Los Angeles, CA, Patrick, FL, Peterson, CO, Vandenberg, CA

Location: AFSPC - AFSPC HQ

Case Number: 2010-04192-F

Center: AFSPC: Bases: HQ AFSPC, CO, Los Angeles, CA, Patrick, FL, Peterson, CO, Vandenberg, CA

Location: AFSPC - Vandenberg AFB

Case Number: 2010-04193-F

Center: AFSPC Bases: HQ AFSPC, CO, Los Angeles, CA, Patrick, FL, Peterson, CO, Vandenberg, CA

Location: AFSPC Patrick AFB

Case Number: 2010-04194-F

Center: HAF: Headquarters Air Force

Location: DRU AF Operational Test & Eval Center

Note that in Case 2010-04185-F it was supposed to go to AFMC (Air Force Materiel Command):

Center: AFMC: Bases: Arnold, TN, Brooks City-Base, TX, Edwards, CA, Eglin, FL, Gunter, AL,

Hanscom, MA, Hill, UT, Kirtland, NM, Robins, GA, Tinker, OK, Wright-Patterson, OH

Instead, it was handled by AFRC:

Location: AFRC - WPAFB OH 445 AW

AFRC is the Air Force Reserve Command.

The organization most likely to be involved in the X-37B project is the Air Force Research Laboratory (AFRL). http://www.af.mil/information/factsheets/factsheet.asp?id=148

This is what they say about their Air Vehicles Directorate.

Air Vehicles Directorate -- With headquarters at Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio, the Air Vehicles Directorate leads the effort to develop and transition superior technology solutions that enable dominant military aerospace vehicles. The emphasis and vision are on technology investments that support cost-effective, survivable aerospace vehicles capable of accurate and quick delivery of a variety of future weapons or cargo anywhere in the world. To achieve this, core technology areas focus on aeronautical sciences, control sciences, structures and integration. The directorate targets advanced concepts to direct the development of vehicle technologies that provide future capabilities in the areas of sustainment, unmanned air vehicles, space access and future strike.

Unfortunately, AFRL is not on the Locations list so you cannot make a request to AFRL.

This is what we have learned so far. If you are a Federal Agency (such as USAF) and you are subject to the Freedom of Information Act, and you want to keep some of your activities out of the reach of the Freedom of Information Act you:

- 1. Set up a system that requires Requestors send a separate request to each location.
- 2. Leave the department to be protected off the list.

That is what USAF has done with AFRL.

Later that day on Monday I received a phone call from someone who identified himself as Technical Sergeant Kennerly.

He said he had noticed that I had filed several FOIA requests that appeared to be identical, and were they in fact identical?

I said, "yes", because the USAF FOIA Web site requires that a separate request be made to each location.

Then I explained to him the basics of Synthetic Vision, and then Technical Sergeant Kennerly said he had some other things he had to do.

On Tuesday Morning, April 27, 2010 I received an email from Darrin Booher ("Booher"), a FOIA Analyst at Wright-Patterson. In it he denied my request for a fee waiver because:

"There is no contribution to an understanding of the subject by the general public, but rather a small segment of interested persons. Requestor doesn't appear to have the capability to, or intention to, disseminate this information to the general public. Furthermore, there is no significant contribution to the public if it were widely released. Therefore, the request for a waiver of fees is denied."

Booher gave me until April 30 to indicate how much money I was willing to pay.

Click here for the Booher email.

Gentle Reader, since you are now reading this, what do you think of my "capability to, or intention to, disseminate this information to the general public" especially if you are reading it on my Web site?

I called Technical Sergeant Kennerly and told him of the Booher email.

Technical Sergeant Kennerly said to ignore it, that my FOIA request was going to be handled by the Pentagon. He also asked me to forward him a copy of the Booher email, which I did. Click here for my email to Technical Sergeant Kennerly.

Nonetheless, I responded to Booher. Click here.

Booher responded by closing my FOIA request without responding to my email. Click here.

I did not think it was a big deal, just the actions of a nasty civilian government bureaucrat. After all, Technical Sergeant Kennerly had told me that my FOIA request was going to be handled by the Pentagon.

In the Air Force, the rank of Technical Sergeant is a big deal.

From Wikipedia (http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Technical Sergeant)

Technical Sergeant, or Tech Sergeant, is the sixth enlisted rank (E-6) in the U.S. Air Force, just above Staff Sergeant and below Master Sergeant. A technical sergeant is a non-commissioned officer and abbreviated as TSgt. Official terms of address are "Technical Sergeant" or "Sergeant", although many use "Tech Sergeant".

Within the enlisted Air Force, promotion to TSgt has historically been the second most difficult rank to achieve (only the rank of Senior Master Sergeant, capped by Federal law, has lower promotion rates) and is the most difficult promotion most career Air Force members achieve. To be considered for a promotion to Technical Sergeant, a Staff Sergeant must have 6 years' time in service and 24 months time in grade, however, 10–12 years time in service is normally when this grade is reached. Technical Sergeants provide technical mentorship to junior enlisted members in preparation for entry into the senior noncommissioned tier and promotion to the rank of Master Sergeant.

With Technical Sergeant Kennerly handling the matter, what could possibly go wrong?

I had correspondence from FOIA officers in other locations.

There was Sherrie Crochunis from Peterson AFB:

Mr. Margolin,

I received three identical FOIA requests for Patrick AFB and I just want to confirm that there should only be one request. I will forward one request (2010-04191-F) onto Patrick AFB for processing and assume the other two (2010-04192-F & 2010-04193-F) are duplicates and close them out on 28 April, if I don't hear otherwise from you.

Thank you,

Sherrie Crochunis AFSPC FOIA & Privacy Act Manager

Click here for our correspondence.

I received an email from Shelly Valliere, Wing FOIA/PA Manager at Patrick. She did not have a problem granting me a fee waiver. Then she kicked it upstairs.

The SAF FOIA office at the Pentagon will respond to your FOIA request (reference: Case No. 2010-04186-F). Therefore, we have closed Case No. 2010-04191-F here at Patrick AFB. All future inquiries/correspondence concerning Case No. 2010-04186-F should come from that office.

I have been told that "SAF" is "Secretary of the Air Force."

Click here for Ms. Valliere's emails.

I received an email from Pennie Carlo, Pubs & Forms Manager, AFRL/RIOI. This appears to be the elusive AFRL but I don't know how this relates to Mr. Booher, FOIA Analyst at Wright-Patterson.

Click here for our correspondence.

It looked like it was going to be productive, but ends with Ms. Carlo kicking it upstairs to Headquarters.

Upon transfer of your case #2010-04190-F, we were informed that this is a duplicate of case #2010-04842-F which is already being handled by HAF/IMIO. For this reason we will close case #2010-04190-F at the Rome FOIA office.

This is the response I received from the Pentagon on June 10 (Click here for the response):

Dear Mr. Margolin

This is in response to your April 26, 2010, Freedom of Information Act request for information relating to the use of Synthetic Vision and various U.S. Patents.

The Office of The General Counsel, Intellectual Property Office conducted a proper search for records relating to Items 2 and 5 of your request; however, no information was found. Therefore, a no records determination was made.

Should you decide that an appeal to this decision is necessary, you must write to the Secretary of the Air Force, Thru: HAF/IMIO (FOIA), 1000 Air Force Pentagon, Washington DC 20330-1000 within 60 calendar days from the date of this letter. Include in the appeal, your reasons for reconsideration, and attach a copy of this letter.

Additionally, we requested assistance from the Air Force Historical Research Agency (AFHRA) and the Air Force Flight Test Center for Item 1 with negative results. AFHRA suggest you try NASA, if you have not done so already.

Please contact the undersigned at (703) 693-2736 should you have any questions and refer to case #2010-04186-F. There are no fees associated with the processing of this request in this instance.

Sincerely

Signed by ESPINAL.JOHN. M.1184810375 JOHN M. ESPINAL FOIA Disclosure Officer

Note that this only applies to Case 2010-04186-F

Case Number: 2010-04186-F

Center: HAF: Headquarters Air Force Location: HAF AF Headquarters DC

It does not apply to any of the other ones, so it does not address departments such as AFRL which is the most likely suspect for having documents related to the X-37B project.

The USAF blew me off. Technical Sergeant Kennerly's role in this is not exactly known but is substantial.

This FOIA request was only about the use of synthetic vision in the X-37B. It's not like I asked about the secret stuff, like what is the X-37B for? Is the cargo bay for bringing stuff up? Is it for bringing stuff down? Is it for delivering weapons? All it has to do is drop titanium rods with a tapered front and small controllable vanes at the back for maneuvering. Maybe with an ablative coating. The kinetic energy delivered from orbit would be devastating. Is it for anti-satellite activities? Being about to pull up right next to LEO and MEO satellites makes disabling a satellite easier and less detectable than firing something from the ground. I suggest the USAF put out the cover story that the purpose of the X-37B is to investigate the feasibility of inorbit refueling of satellites. They could maneuver it wherever they wanted without being accused of having a nefarious purpose. It wouldn't violate any Space Treaties. It would be a benign and peaceful use.

I haven't asked about the use of Synthetic Vision in the F-22 and F-35, or the Common Ground Stations for the Predator and Global Hawk UAVs.

USAF has created a cumbersome method of implementing its duties under the Freedom of Information Act by requiring a request be made separately to each location.

Then it complains when identical requests are made to a number of locations.

Then it plays the Shell Game so it can say it does not have responsive documents.

The purpose of the Freedom of Information Act is to allow citizens to understand how their government works.

By gaming the Freedom of Information Act USAF has shown how Government works.

Jed Margolin Reno, NV June 28, 2010

From: "Booher, Darrin L Civ USAF AFMC 88 CG/SCOKI" < Darrin.Booher@WPAFB.AF.MIL>

To: <jm@jmargolin.com>

Sent: Tuesday, April 27, 2010 4:44 AM Subject: Ref: FOIA request 2010-04185-F ST3

Mr. Margolin,

We received you FOIA request, dated 26 Apr 10, in our office at Wright-Patterson AFB, OH on 26 Apr 10. The control number assigned to your request is 2010-04185-F ST3. I am the analyst assigned to your request, please contact me if you have any questions. In your request you had requested a Fee Waiver, after consideration from our FOIA Manager, the following information is supplied:

"There is no contribution to an understanding of the subject by the general public, but rather a small segment of interested persons. Requestor doesn't appear to have the capability to, or intention to, disseminate this information to the general public. Furthermore, there is no significant contribution to the public if it were widely released. Therefore, the request for a waiver of fees is denied."

With that, DOD 5400.7/AF Supplement 1, states that a willingness to pay statement must be included:

Fee Issue: Request must indicate a willingness to pay fees associated with the processing of your request. As described in DoD Regulation 5400.7/Air Force Supplement, Paragraph C1.4.2. DoD FOIA Program, "Requestors should indicate a willingness to pay fees associated with the processing of their request or, in the alternative, why a waiver of fees may be appropriate." You will be contacted if the cost to provide the requested document(s) exceeds the amount authorized by you.

There are three fee categories:

- 1. Commercial: Search and review time is chargeable at \$44.00 per hour and reproduction is chargeable at fifteen cents per page.
- 2. Educational or Noncommercial Scientific Institution or News Media, or Union: The first 100 copies are free, additional copies are fifteen cents per page. No charge for search or review. News media must be able to justify that they are actively gathering news for an entity that is organized and operated to publish or broadcast news to the public, such as a publication contract.
- 3. All Others: The first 2 hours of search and review time are free. The remaining search and review time beyond 2 hours is chargeable at \$44.00 per hour. The first 100 pages are free. Reproduction beyond 100 pages is chargeable at fifteen cents per page.

Please respond to this correspondence indicating which fee category is appropriate for you and the dollar amount that you are willing to pay by 30 Apr 10, if you do not respond by this date, we will consider your request closed. In some instances (cost to provide requested documents

exceed \$250.00 or the requester has no prior payment history), payment may be requested before any documents are released to you.

DARRIN BOOHER, CIV, DAF FOIA Analyst 88 CS/SCOKIF 3810 Communications Blvd. Wright-Patterson AFB OH 45433 (937) 257-2719 FAX:(937) 522-3096

From: "Jed Margolin" <jm@jmargolin.com>
To: <chris.kennerly@pentagon.af.mil>
Sent: Tuesday, April 27, 2010 12:06 PM

Subject: Fw: Mr. Booher's email Dear Tech Sergeant Kennerly,

Thank you for the very nice conversation we had yesterday.

I received an email this morning from Mr. Darrin L. Booher at Wright Patterson this morning.

It was not so nice.

He wrote:

"There is no contribution to an understanding of the subject by the general public, but rather a small segment of interested persons. Requestor doesn't appear to have the capability to, or intention to, disseminate this information to the general public. Furthermore, there is no significant contribution to the public if it were widely released. Therefore, the request for a waiver of fees is denied."

He hasn't seen my article "How the United States Air Force Treats Independent Inventors." I have only now started writing it.

His statement, "Requestor doesn't appear to have the capability to, or intention to, disseminate this information to the general public[,]" suggests he hasn't seen my web site (www.jmargolin.com), and in particular, my article on NASA (How NASA Treats Independent Inventors).

Either that or he has decided to deliberately insult me.

I recommend he also visit my other Web sites: www.cordevistahoa.org and www.storeycountywindfarms.org

I set up these Web sites to address issues that are important to my County (Storey County, NV).

<u>www.cordevistahoa.org</u> documents how a Developer came into my County (population 4,600) and proposed to build housing for 50,000 people.

One of the issues was water. Water is always an issue here in the West, especially in Nevada. We don't have much. The Developer refused to say where he was going to get water for 50,000 people. He also was not honest about the issue of soil contamination from the site's previous owners, which included Curtis Wright and Aerojet.

The Storey County Planning Commission publicly thanked me for putting up the Web site, saying it had helped them make their decision. (A grassroots movement against the project also helped.)

The Planning Commission turned down the Developer's application. The Storey County Commissioners accepted the Planning Commission's recommendations. The Developer sued Storey County. The Developer lost. The Developer appealed to the Nevada Supreme Court. Before the case was heard the Developer settled with the County. The Developer agreed to follow the existing zoning and the County agreed to allow for green energy development.

www.storeycountywindfarms.org contains the documents for a BLM project with Great Basin Wind to put up a wind farm of 69 enormous wind turbines. Some of them would be less than 1 mile from Virginia City.

(The entire town of Virginia City is a National Historic Landmark.)

Some of the towers would be less than 1 mile from my neighborhood, which Great Basin Wind left off their map.

The project appears to be stalled:

http://www.blm.gov/nv/st/en/fo/carson_city_field/blm_programs/planning/new_comstock_wind.html

Part of the reason for this may be because I showed that Great Basin Wind lied on their project application.

For Mr. Booher to question my abilities, my intentions, or my resolve is a mistake.

Mr. Booher's email follows.

Regards,

Jed Margolin

---- Original Message -----

From: "Booher, Darrin L Civ USAF AFMC 88 CG/SCOKI" < Darrin.Booher@WPAFB.AF.MIL>

To: < im@jmargolin.com>

Sent: Tuesday, April 27, 2010 4:44 AM

Subject: Ref: FOIA request 2010-04185-F ST3

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DARRIN BOOHER, CIV, DAF FOIA Analyst 88 CS/SCOKIF 3810 Communications Blvd. Wright-Patterson AFB OH 45433 (937) 257-2719 FAX:(937) 522-3096 DSN: 787-2719

From: "Jed Margolin" < jm@jmargolin.com>

To: "Booher, Darrin L Civ USAF AFMC 88 CG/SCOKI" < Darrin.Booher@WPAFB.AF.MIL>

Cc: <chris.kennerly@pentagon.af.mil>
Sent: Monday, May 03, 2010 7:50 AM

Subject: Re: Read: FOIA request 2010-04185-F ST3

---- Original Message -----

From: "Booher, Darrin L Civ USAF AFMC 88 CG/SCOKI" < Darrin.Booher@WPAFB.AF.MIL>

To: "Jed Margolin" < margolin@jmargolin.com >

Sent: Monday, May 03, 2010 3:58 AM

Subject: RE: Read: FOIA request 2010-04185-F ST3

> Mr. Margolin,

> Please consider this request closed.

>

> DARRIN BOOHER, CIV, DAF

> FOIA Analyst > 88 CS/SCOKIF

> 3810 Communications Blvd.

> Wright-Patterson AFB OH 45433

> (937) 257-2719

> FAX:(937) 522-3096

> DSN: 787-2719

>

Dear Mr. Booher.

I suggest you ask TSgt Kennerly if you really want to close my FOIA Request.

Jed Margolin

P.S. - Considering the amount of coverage the national media gave to the X-37B launch your statement that the subject appeals only to a "small segment of interested persons" is obviously wrong. See this article in the LA Times. The article was published even before the X-37B was launched. http://articles.latimes.com/2010/apr/21/business/la-fi-0422-space-plane-20100421

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From: "Booher, Darrin L Civ USAF AFMC 88 CG/SCOKI" < Darrin.Booher@WPAFB.AF.MIL>

Sent: Monday, May 03, 2010 7:53 AM

Attach: ATT14220.txt

Subject: Read: Read: FOIA request 2010-04185-F ST3

Your message

To: Booher, Darrin L Civ USAF AFMC 88 CG/SCOKI

Cc: Kennerly, Chris TSgt HAF/IMIO

Subject: Re: Read: FOIA request 2010-04185-F ST3

Sent: Mon, 3 May 2010 10:50:01 -0400

was read on Mon, 3 May 2010 10:53:32 -0400

From: "Booher, Darrin L Civ USAF AFMC 88 CG/SCOKI" < Darrin.Booher@WPAFB.AF.MIL>

"Jed Margolin" <margolin@jmargolin.com> To:

Monday, May 03, 2010 3:58 AM Sent:

RE: Read: FOIA request 2010-04185-F ST3 Subject:

Mr. Margolin,

Please consider this request closed.

DARRIN BOOHER, CIV, DAF FOIA Analyst 88 CS/SCOKIF 3810 Communications Blvd. Wright-Patterson AFB OH 45433 (937) 257-2719 FAX:(937) 522-3096

DSN: 787-2719

----Original Message----

From: Jed Margolin [mailto:margolin@jmargolin.com]

Sent: Tuesday, April 27, 2010 11:39 AM

To: Booher, Darrin L Civ USAF AFMC 88 CG/SCOKI Subject: Read: FOIA request 2010-04185-F ST3

This is a receipt for the mail you sent to < im@jmargolin.com > at 4/27/2010 4:44 AM

This receipt verifies that the message has been displayed on the recipient's computer at 4/27/2010 8:38 AM

From: "AFSPC FOIA" <afspc.foia@peterson.af.mil>

Sent: Monday, April 26, 2010 11:44 AM

Subject: AFSPC FOIA Request

Mr. Margolin,

I received three identical FOIA requests for Patrick AFB and I just want to confirm that there should only be one request. I will forward one request (2010-04191-F) onto Patrick AFB for processing and assume the other two (2010-04192-F & 2010-04193-F) are duplicates and close them out on 28 April, if I don't hear otherwise from you.

Thank you, Sherrie Crochunis AFSPC FOIA & Privacy Act Manager AFSPC/A6NK DSN 692-2503 COMM 719-554-2503

From: "Jed Margolin" <jm@jmargolin.com>

To: "AFSPC FOIA" <afspc.foia@peterson.af.mil>

Sent: Thursday, April 29, 2010 1:08 AM

Subject: Re: AFSPC FOIA Request

Dear Ms. Crochunis,

Short Version: The second request to AFMC Patrick AFB was because I lost my place on my list and submitted it twice.

The third request to Patrick is for AFNIC Patrick AFB which may be a separate facility requiring a separate FOIA Request. If it does, then there are two FOIA Requests.

Longer Version:

After I registered to file a FOIA Request on Sunday I found that the USAF FOIA Web site requires making a separate request to each Command.

There are 27 Commands to choose from, with no explanation of what they are: HAF, AFMC, AFRC, AFSOC, AFSPC, AMC, AFDW, AFOTEC, ACC, USAFE, AETC, PACAF,

USAFA, AFAA, AFCEE, AFNIC, AFHRA, AFISR, AFOSI, AFPC, AFSVA, AFTAC, ANG,

AFSC, USAFCENT, NASIC, AFGSC.

Perhaps you know what they are, but I am a civilian and I had to look up each one.

The ones I identified as likely commands that might have had something to do with the X-37B were HAF, AFMC, AFAA, AFNIC, AFHRA, and AFISR.

Then I discovered that if I filled in the form by cutting and pasting from a Microsoft Word document, editing the result -even a little bit- deleted large portions of text. Thus I did both parts of the form with attachments.

And then I discovered that, not only did I have to specify which Command, I had to specify which facility. By my count there are 129 separate facilities plus 101 ANG units. I felt it was unlikely that the X-37B was developed by the Air National Guard so that left only 129 facilities to look up. I looked up a number of them on Sunday.

After I chose the first one I clicked on Save, and got the error message: "Internal Error Occurred, Close the browser and open new browser."

I tried that and got the same result.

After an email to <u>af.foia@pentagon.af.mi</u> (on Sunday the mailto: link was improperly formed) I was informed that the site worked only with Microsoft Internet Explorer and I needed to turn the pop-up blocker completely off.

On Monday morning I looked up the remaining 129 facilities and narrowed my list down to ten facilities.

After my first submission to AFMC Patrick I lost my place on the list and submitted a second once.

Then when I tried to submit the FOIA Request to AFNIC Patrick I discovered there is no AFNIC Patrick on the Web site list so I submitted it to AFMC Patrick again.

If AFNIC Patrick requires a separate request please send it to them.

Sincerely yours,

Jed Margolin

BTW -

- 1. Both Firefox and MSIE report a problem with your Web site's Security Certificate. It reports: "The security certificate presented by this website was not issued by a trusted certificate authority." I proceeded anyway.
- 2. I was not able to determine where AFRL is. One Web site says ROME NY but I don't see it on the list. http://www.wpafb.af.mil/news/story.asp?id=123198513
- 3. Several of the FOIA Requests I submitted have been closed. I assume it is because in my conversation with TSgt Kennerly he said that the Pentagon would be handling it.

---- Original Message -----

From: "AFSPC FOIA" <afspc.foia@peterson.af.mil>

Sent: Monday, April 26, 2010 11:44 AM

Subject: AFSPC FOIA Request

> Mr. Margolin,

>

- > I received three identical FOIA requests for Patrick AFB and I just want
- > 10
- > confirm that there should only be one request. I will forward one request

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> AFSPC FOIA & Privacy Act Manager
> AFSPC/A6NK
> DSN 692-2503
> COMM 719-554-2503
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From: "AFSPC FOIA" <afspc.foia@peterson.af.mil>

Sent: Thursday, April 29, 2010 6:17 AM Subject: RE: AFSPC FOIA Request

Mr. Margolin,

I can definitely understand your confusion and frustration if you're not familiar with the AF structure.

AFNIC is at Scott AFB in Illinois, so I'm a little confused when you say AFNIC Patrick, because Patrick AFB is in Florida. AFNIC belongs to AF Space Command (AFSPC) and Patrick AFB belongs to AF Space Command (AFSPC), but I believe what you are looking for might be found at Patrick AFB, that would be my best guess between the two bases. I have already forwarded your original request to Patrick AFB and they are already in the process of working the request. If you concur we will just process the one request at Patrick AFB and close the other two. Please confirm.

Thank you, Sherrie Crochunis AFSPC FOIA & Privacy Act Manager AFSPC/A6NK DSN 692-2503 COMM 719-554-2503

-----Original Message-----

From: Jed Margolin [mailto:jm@jmargolin.com]

Sent: Thursday, April 29, 2010 2:09 AM

To: AFSPC FOIA

Subject: Re: AFSPC FOIA Request

Dear Ms. Crochunis,

Short Version: The second request to AFMC Patrick AFB was because I lost my place on my list and submitted it twice.

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Microsoft Word document, editing the result -even a little bit- deleted large portions of text. Thus I did both parts of the form with attachments.

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BTW -

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2. I was not able to determine where AFRL is. One Web site says ROME NY but

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From: "Jed Margolin" <jm@jmargolin.com>

To: "AFSPC FOIA" <afspc.foia@peterson.af.mil>

Sent: Thursday, April 29, 2010 9:07 AM Subject: Re: AFSPC FOIA Request

Ms. Crochunis.

- > I have already forwarded your original request to Patrick AFB and they are already
- > in the process of working the request. If you concur we will just process the one
- > request at Patrick AFB and close the other two. Please confirm.

Yes, I concur.

When I went to AFNIC's web site http://www.afnic.af.mil/ Air Force Network Integration Center, I learned from http://www.afnic.af.mil/main/welcome.asp

Directs the integration of systems onto the Air Force network to achieve integrated and interoperable Air Force concepts of operation capabilities.

Provides seamless connectivity for the command and control of air and space forces. Drives innovative information superiority solutions for Air Force warfighters by generating progressive standards, architectures, and force structure policies and guidance.

Advocates Air Force-wide communications and information planning, resourcing, testing, training, implementation, and sustainment.

The home page has the article: <u>Air Force officials launch Atlas V carrying X-37B Orbital</u> Test Vehicle

That looked promising.

I see now that it was under the heading: AFSPC News.

Oops.

When I went to the Patrick AFB Web site (http://www.patrick.af.mil/) I also saw the article (under Media Center)

45th Space Wing Launches Atlas V Carrying X-37B Orbital Test Vehicle
So I sent a request to them (I think.)

When I went to the Peterson AFB Web site (http://www.peterson.af.mil/) I again saw the article Air Force officials launch Atlas V carrying X-37B Orbital Test Vehicle | VIDEO

And I see now that it was also under the heading: AFSPC News. Oops again. Thank you for your patience. Regards, Jed Margolin ---- Original Message -----From: "AFSPC FOIA" <afspc.foia@peterson.af.mil> Sent: Thursday, April 29, 2010 6:17 AM Subject: RE: AFSPC FOIA Request > Mr. Margolin, > I can definitely understand your confusion and frustration if you're not > familiar with the AF structure. > AFNIC is at Scott AFB in Illinois, so I'm a little confused when you say > AFNIC Patrick, because Patrick AFB is in Florida. AFNIC belongs to AF Space > Command (AFSPC) and Patrick AFB belongs to AF Space Command (AFSPC), but I > believe what you are looking for might be found at Patrick AFB, that would > be my best guess between the two bases. I have already forwarded your > original request to Patrick AFB and they are already in the process of > working the request. If you concur we will just process the one request at > Patrick AFB and close the other two. Please confirm. > Thank you, > Sherrie Crochunis > AFSPC FOIA & Privacy Act Manager > AFSPC/A6NK > DSN 692-2503 > COMM 719-554-2503 > ----Original Message-----> From: Jed Margolin [mailto:jm@jmargolin.com] > Sent: Thursday, April 29, 2010 2:09 AM > To: AFSPC FOIA > Subject: Re: AFSPC FOIA Request > Dear Ms. Crochunis, > Short Version: The second request to AFMC Patrick AFB was because I lost my > place on my list and submitted it twice. > The third request to Patrick is for AFNIC Patrick AFB which may be a > separate facility requiring a separate FOIA Request. If it does, then there > are two FOIA Requests.

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>> DSN 692-2503
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>>
>>
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From: "Valliere, Shelly L Civ USAF AFSPC 45 SCS/SCX" <Shelly.Valliere@patrick.af.mil>

To: <jm@jmargolin.com>

Sent: Wednesday, April 28, 2010 4:28 AM

Attach: Ack Ltr.doc

Subject: FOIA Request - Case No. 2010-04191-F

Dear Mr. Margolin,

This memo is acknowledgement of receipt of your FOIA request (see attached memo).

Your request was received on 27 Apr 10. Your case has been assigned No 2010-04191-F. We will respond to your request by 24 May 10. Your fee waiver has been granted.

If you have any questions concerning your request, you may contact me at (321)494-2341. Please reference your assigned case number when making inquiries.

v/r

From: "Valliere, Shelly L Civ USAF AFSPC 45 SCS/SCX" <Shelly.Valliere@patrick.af.mil>

To: <jm@jmargolin.com>

Sent: Wednesday, May 12, 2010 8:20 AM Subject: Closure of FOIA Request 2010-04191-F

Dear Mr. Margolin,

The SAF FOIA office at the Pentagon will respond to your FOIA request (reference: Case No. 2010-04186-F). Therefore, we have closed Case No. 2010-04191-F here at Patrick AFB. All future inquiries/correspondence concerning Case No. 2010-04186-F should come from that office.

The FOIA Manager can be reached at (703)696-4929. There are no fees associated with Case No. 2010-04191-F.

If you have any questions, please call me at (321)494-2341.

v/r

Shelly Valliere Wing FOIA/PA Manager 45 SCS/SCX COMM: (321)494-2341

----Original Message----

From: Valliere, Shelly L Civ USAF AFSPC 45 SCS/SCX

Sent: Wednesday, April 28, 2010 7:29 AM

To: 'im@imargolin.com'

Subject: FOIA Request - Case No. 2010-04191-F

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To: "jm@jmargolin.com" <'jm@jmargolin.com'>
Sent: Thursday, May 27, 2010 10:17 AM
Subject: Correction: FOIA Request 2010-04191-F

Mr. Margolin,

Mr. John Espinal, HAF/IMIO, is the Action Officer for case #2010-04186-F. He can be reached at (703)696-4929 if you have any questions. Sorry for the confusion.

v/r

Shelly Valliere Wing FOIA/PA Manager 45 SCS/SCX COMM (321) 494-2341

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v/r

From: "Carlo, Pennie L Civ USAF AFMC AFRL/RIOI" < Pennie.Carlo@rl.af.mil>

To: <jm@jmargolin.com>

Sent: Monday, May 03, 2010 12:24 PM **Subject:** FOIA REQUEST 2010-04190-F

Good Afternoon Mr. Margolin,

I have reviewed the request you sent regarding the information below:

I would like all documents relating to the use of Synthetic Vision in the project being reported as the X-37B and/or the X-40A

I have been unable to find records responsive to your request. I have sent the request forward to legal, contracting and the mission divisions for evaluation. Unless you can send me a contract #, the name of a program manager, or some other defining information, we will be forced to close this request as no records found.

Please advise.

Thank you for your assistance. Pennie

Pennie Carlo, AFRL/RIOI Pubs & Forms Manager (315) 330-7786; DSN 587-7786

From: "Jed Margolin" < jm@jmargolin.com>

To: "Carlo, Pennie L Civ USAF AFMC AFRL/RIOI" < Pennie.Carlo@rl.af.mil>

Sent: Monday, May 03, 2010 3:30 PM
Attach: jm_ris_dod.pdf; jm_ris_summary_ris.pdf
Subject: Re: FOIA REQUEST 2010-04190-F

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Dear Pennie Carlo AFRL/RIOI,

The company *Rapid Imaging Software* produced the Synthetic Vision software for the X-38 when it was a NASA project. It is likely that Rapid Imaging Software would have also done Synthetic Vision for the X-37 / X37B / X-40.

The database at http://www.fedspending.org produces a number of results for the company "Rapid Imaging Software."

One is for a DOD project in FY2004. See attached file *jm_ris_dod.pdf*

I do not know which number is the contract number.

Since the X-37B was a black project the contracting may have been done through NASA or maybe even the Department of Transportation. See attached file **im ris summary.pdf**.

Or, since it was a black project, you may not have access to the information.

The existence of the project is not a secret anymore (http://latimesblogs.latimes.com/technology/robots/), only its purpose.

Synthetic Vision is not a secret. Synthetic Vision is already used on UAVs like the Shadow 200, as well as on commercial aircraft with the pilot onboard. See https://buy.garmin.com/shop/shop.do?pID=37630.

Mike Abernathy of Rapid Imaging Software has collaborated with AFRL on several papers relating to Synthetic Vision. For example,

from the paper **Synthetic vision system for improving unmanned aerial vehicle operator situation awareness**, page 3:

(http://www.dtic.mil/cgi-bin/GetTRDoc?

AD=ADA436272&Location=U2&doc=GetTRDoc.pdf):

2. COLLABORATION ON CANDIDATE UAV SYNTHETIC VISION SYSTEM

The Air Force Research Laboratory's Warfighter Interface Division has engaged in an undertaking to design

and evaluate the military utility of conformal interactive synthetic vision overlay concepts tailored to UAV operations.

Using detailed knowledge of current Air Force UAV operations along with established human factors design practices,

several initial interface concepts have been generated and supporting hardware architecture developed. In parallel,

Rapid Imaging Software, Inc., under a NASA research contract, has developed a synthetic vision product called the

SmartCam3D System (SCS) to improve the situation awareness of NASA UAV operators. The SCS has been

engineered to be tested in operational UAV environments and has been evaluated by operators during multiple flights of

the NASA X-38 UAV and the Army Shadow UAV. The present collaboration brings these two resources together to

design and evaluate tailored synthetic visual overlays for various Air Force UAV and C2 applications, including those

involving teleoperated and small UAV applications.

Did he do that for free?

Regards,

Jed Margolin

---- Original Message -----

From: Carlo, Pennie L Civ USAF AFMC AFRL/RIOI

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I have reviewed the request you sent regarding the information below:

I would like all documents relating to the use of Synthetic Vision in the project being reported as the X-37B and/or the X-40A

I have been unable to find records responsive to your request. I have sent the request forward to legal, contracting and the mission divisions for evaluation. Unless you can send me a contract #, the name of a program manager, or some other defining information, we will be forced to close this request as no records found.

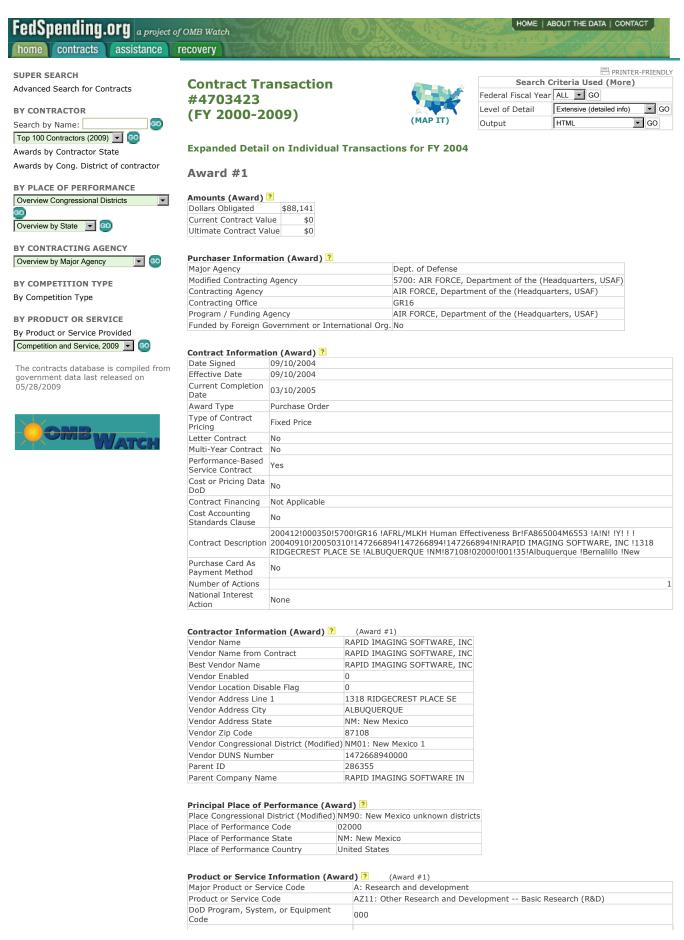
Please advise.

Thank you for your assistance.

Pennie

Pennie Carlo, AFRL/RIOI

Pubs & Forms Manager (315) 330-7786; DSN 587-7786



Appendix AFA86

DoD Claimant Program Code	C9E
Principal NAICS Code	541710: Research and Development in the Physical, Engineering, and Life Sciences
Govt. Furnished Equipment or Property	No
Use of EPA Designated Products	Not Required
Sea Transportation	No
Contract Bundling Reason	Not a bundled requirement
Consolidated Contract	No

Record Information (Award) ?

Identifying Agency ID	9700: DEFENSE, Department of
Procurement Instrument ID	FA865004M6553
Modification Number	0
Transaction Number	0
Fiscal Year	2004
XML Schema Version	1.2.1

ard #1)
Not competed
C: Not Competed
1
Yes
No
SP1: Simplified Acquisition
NONE: No set aside used.

Contract Marketing Data (Award) ?

Fee Paid For Use of IDV \$0

Number of Employees	0
Annual Revenue	\$0
Small Business	Yes
8A Firm	No
Hist. Underutilized Business Zone (HUBZone) Firm	No
Small Disadvantaged Business	No
Sheltered Workshop (JWOD Provider)	No
Historically Black College or University	No
Educational Institution	No
Woman Owned Business	Yes
Veteran Owned Business	No
Service Disabled Veteran Owned Firm	No
Local Government	No
Minority Institution	No
American Indian Owned Business	No
State Government	No
Federal Government	No
Minority Owned Business	No
Asian-Pacific American Owned Business	No
Tribal Government	No
Black American Owned Business	No
Native American Owned Business	No
Subcontinent Asian (Asian-Indian) American Owned Business	No
Nonprofit Organization	No
Hispanic American Owned Business	No
Emerging Small Business	No
Hospital	No

Legislative Mandates (Award) ? (Award #1) Walsh-Healy Act No Service Contract Act No Davis-Bacon Act No

Preference Programs (Award) ?

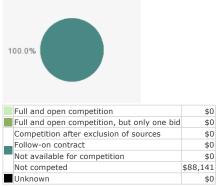
Clinger-Cohen Act No

Business Size Determination	Small Business
Subcontracting Plan	Plan Not Required
Price Evaluation Percent Difference	0
Reason Not Awarded to Small Disadvantaged Business	Other Reason

Total transactions for fiscal year 2004: 1

Competition summary for entire search for fiscal year 2004:

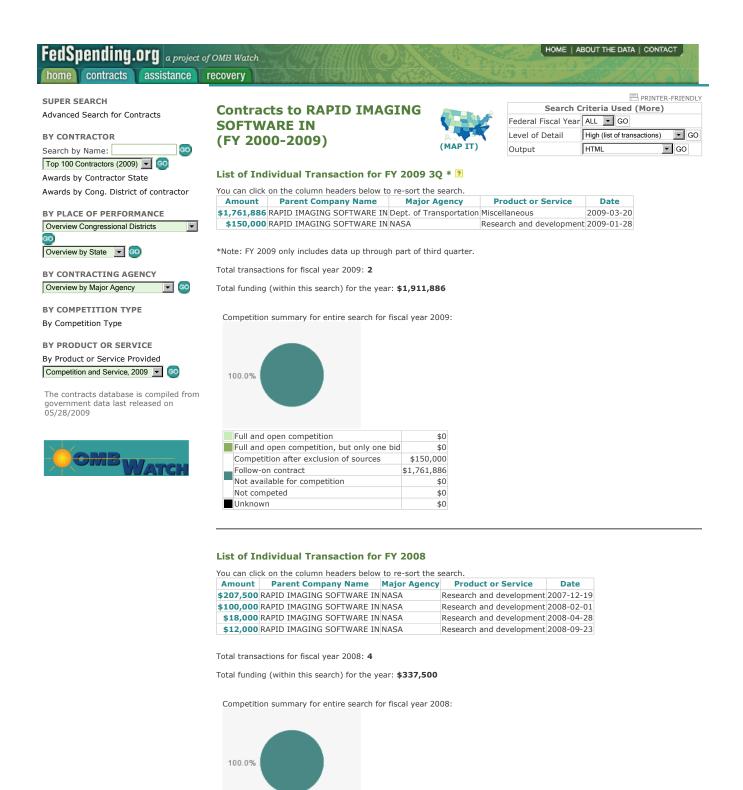
Total funding (within this search) for the year: \$88,141



END OF REPORT Search Criteria Used Federal Fiscal Year ALL GO This search was done on May 3, 2010. Assigned Record ID 4703423 Sort By No sort (individual transaction record) The contracts database is compiled from government data last released on 05/28/2009 Number of records Only the first 500 for each year (MAP IT) Extensive (detailed info) GO Level of Detail This search result was produced as a project of Output HTML **▼** GO OMB Watch. The data was obtained from the Federal Procurement Data System (FPDS) - Next Generation and other federal government sources through Eagle Eye

Publishers, Inc. Eagle Eye also provided identification of parent companies and other data improvements.

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List of Individual Transaction for FY 2007

Full and open competition, but only one bid Competition after exclusion of sources

Full and open competition

Not available for competition

Follow-on contract

Not competed

Unknown

\$0

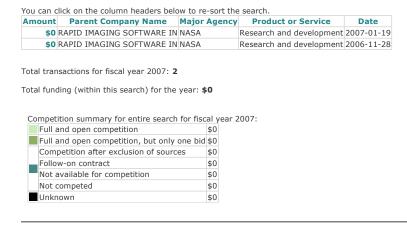
\$0

\$0

\$0

\$0

\$337,500

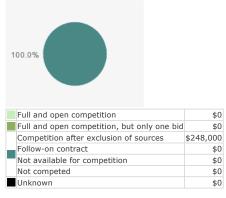


List of Individual Transaction for FY 2006

Total transactions for fiscal year 2006: 1

Total funding (within this search) for the year: \$248,000

Competition summary for entire search for fiscal year 2006:

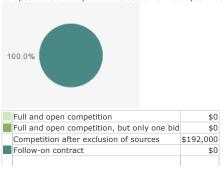


List of Individual Transaction for FY 2005

Total transactions for fiscal year 2005: 4

Total funding (within this search) for the year: \$192,000

Competition summary for entire search for fiscal year 2005:



Appendix AFA90

Not available for competition	\$0
Not competed	\$0
Unknown	\$0

List of Individual Transaction for FY 2004

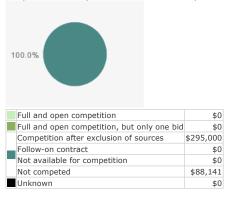
You can click on the column headers below to re-sort the search.

Amount	Parent Company Name	Major Agency	Product or Service	Date
\$105,000	RAPID IMAGING SOFTWARE IN	NASA	Research and development	2003-10-01
\$88,141	RAPID IMAGING SOFTWARE IN	Dept. of Defense	Research and development	2004-09-10
\$70,000	RAPID IMAGING SOFTWARE IN	NASA	Research and development	2004-01-14
\$60,000	RAPID IMAGING SOFTWARE IN	NASA	Research and development	2003-10-01
\$60,000	RAPID IMAGING SOFTWARE IN	NASA	Research and development	2003-10-01

Total transactions for fiscal year 2004: 5

Total funding (within this search) for the year: \$383,141

Competition summary for entire search for fiscal year 2004:



List of Individual Transaction for FY 2003

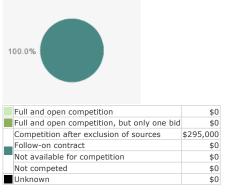
You can click on the column headers below to re-sort the search.

	Amount	Parent Company Name	Major Agency	Product or Service	Date
9	\$100,000	RAPID IMAGING SOFTWARE IN	NASA	Research and development	2003-02-15
	\$100,000	RAPID IMAGING SOFTWARE IN	NASA	Research and development	2003-04-15
	\$95,000	RAPID IMAGING SOFTWARE IN	NASA	Research and development	2003-08-15

Total transactions for fiscal year 2003: 3

Total funding (within this search) for the year: \$295,000

Competition summary for entire search for fiscal year 2003:



List of Individual Transaction for FY 2002

You can click on the column headers below to re-sort the search.

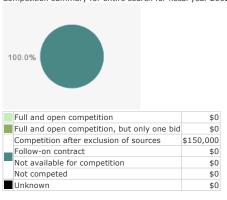
Amount	Parent Company Name	Major Agency	Product or Service	Date
\$80,000	RAPID IMAGING SOFTWARE IN	NASA	Research and development	2002-09-15
\$70,000	RAPID IMAGING SOFTWARE IN	NASA	Research and development	2001-12-15

Appendix AFA91

Total transactions for fiscal year 2002: 2

Total funding (within this search) for the year: \$150,000

Competition summary for entire search for fiscal year 2002:



List of Individual Transaction for FY 2001

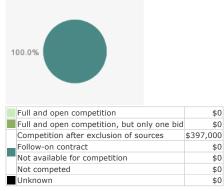
You can click on the column headers below to re-sort the search.

Amount	Parent Company Name	Major Agency	Product or Service	Date
\$215,000	RAPID IMAGING SOFTWARE IN	NASA	Research and development	2000-11-15
\$129,000	RAPID IMAGING SOFTWARE IN	NASA	Research and development	2001-01-15
\$53,000	RAPID IMAGING SOFTWARE IN	NASA	Research and development	2001-09-15

Total transactions for fiscal year 2001: 3

Total funding (within this search) for the year: \$397,000

Competition summary for entire search for fiscal year 2001:



List of Individual Transaction for FY 2000

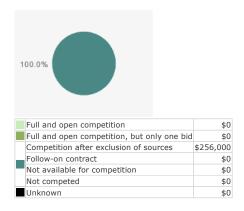
You can click on the column headers below to re-sort the search.

Amount	Parent Company Name	Major Agency	Product or Service	Date
\$155,000	RAPID IMAGING SOFTWARE IN	NASA	Research and development	2000-02-15
\$101,000	RAPID IMAGING SOFTWARE IN	NASA	Research and development	1999-11-15

Total transactions for fiscal year 2000: 2

Total funding (within this search) for the year: \$256,000

Competition summary for entire search for fiscal year 2000:



END OF REPORT Search Criteria Used Federal Fiscal Year ALL GO This search was done on May 3, 2010. Assigned Parent Company ID 286355 Sort By Dollar Amount of Transaction The contracts database is compiled from Number of records Only the first 500 for each year government data last released on 05/28/2009 High (list of transactions) GO Level of Detail This search result was produced as a project of **OMB Watch**. The data was obtained from

the Federal Procurement Data System (FPDS) - Next Generation and other federal government sources through Eagle Eye Publishers, Inc. Eagle Eye also provided identification of parent companies and other data improvements.

Output

HTML

▼ GO

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From: "Carlo, Pennie L Civ USAF AFMC AFRL/RIOI" < Pennie.Carlo@rl.af.mil>

To: <jm@jmargolin.com>

Sent: Monday, May 24, 2010 11:40 AM

Subject: FOIA Request Good Afternoon Jed,

Thank you for taking the time to clarify your request. Could you please forward the documents we discussed, so that I can properly forward your request to the 711th at Wright-Patterson AFB. If instead you decide to specify your request into smaller more succinct pieces, please let me know as soon as possible that you would like to withdraw this request at this time.

Thank you for your patience. v/r
Pennie

Pennie Carlo, AFRL/RIOI Pubs & Forms Manager (315) 330-7786; DSN 587-7786

From: "Jed Margolin" < jm@jmargolin.com>

To: "Carlo, Pennie L Civ USAF AFMC AFRL/RIOI" < Pennie.Carlo@rl.af.mil>

Sent: Monday, May 24, 2010 12:04 PM

Attach: jm_patrickafb.pdf; jm_uspto_lr.pdf; jm_wpafb_booher1.pdf; jm_wpafb_booher2.pdf;

jm_wpafb_booher3.pdf; jm_ris_attorneys.pdf

Subject: Re: FOIA REQUEST 2010-04190-F

Dear Ms. Carlo,

It was a pleasure talking to you today.

I have attached the following emails for your files.

1. *jm_patrickafb.pdf*

Email from Shell Valliere, Patrick AFB, explaining that since the SAF FOIA office will be responding to my FOIA request she has closed the case at Patrick AFB.

2. *jm_uspto_lr.pdf*

The USPTO letter from the Department of Licensing and Review showing that patent application Serial Number 11726356 (Publication Number 20080033604) **System and Method For Safely Flying Unmanned Aerial Vehicles in Civilian Airspace** was sent to several agencies for a Security Review.

One of them was J.B. Schroeder at AFRL/VA.

3. *jm_wpafb_booher1.pdf*

Insulting email from Darrin Booher ((Booher, Darrin L Civ USAF AFMC 88 CG/SCOKI Darrin.Booher@WPAFB.AF.MIL) where he stated:

"There is no contribution to an understanding of the subject by the general public, but rather a small segment of interested persons. Requestor doesn't appear to have the capability to, or intention to, disseminate this information to the general public. Furthermore, there is no significant contribution to the public if it were widely released. Therefore, the request for a waiver of fees is denied."

4. *jm_wpafb_booher2.pdf*

My response to Mr. Booher.

5. jm_wpafb_booher3.pdf

Although Mr. Booher read my email he did not respond to it and closed my FOIA case at WPAFB.

6. I have brought a legal action against NASA for their refusal to comply with the Freedom of Information Act. My Second Amended Complaint may be instructive because it shows Mike Abernathy's (Rapid Imaging Software) involvement with NASA.

```
see doc016.pdf Motion For Leave to File Amended Complaint
see doc016-1.pdf Second Amended Complaint
see doc016-2.pdf Appendix Volume 1
see doc016-3.pdf Appendix Volume 2_1
see doc016-4.pdf Appendix Volume 2_2
see doc016-5.pdf Appendix Volume 3
```

For the past several years Mr. Abernathy has also been involved with AFRL. He listed AFRL researchers Mark Draper and Gloria Calhoun as coauthors in the article **Synthetic Vision Technology for Unmanned Systems: Looking Back and Looking Forward** which appeared in the December 2008 issue of AUVSI's Unmanned Systems magazine. The article is a spurious history of Synthetic Vision.

The AUVSI article and my response are available at http://www.jmargolin.com/svr/auvsi_response_index.htm

7. *jm_ris_attorneys.pdf*

AFRL may be interested in a letter that Mr. Abernathy's attorneys sent to Optima Technology Group in October 2006.

In it he says:

As you know. RIS refuses to allow its products to be used as a pilot aid, and RIS product licenses specifically prohibit use for piloting. None of RIS's customers use its software for piloting, for very good reason. Serious military regulations control placement of anything - synthetic vision included in a pilot workstation. Before anything can be placed on the display in front of a pilot, it has to have met stringent criteria (MIL-STD 1787C, DO-178B, etc.), it must have been thoroughly ground tested, and it must have been fully flight tested. RIS software has never been through this process, and thus is prohibited. from use for piloting. Accordingly, UAV manufacturers have purchased RIS products for use on the sensor operator console, but none for the pilot console. This is a matter of Army doctrine and applies to Shadow, Warrior and Hunter.

If AF is using Mr. Abernathy's software you might want to ask him if he has rewritten it to meet the standards mentioned in the letter.

Sincerely yours,

Jed Margolin 1981 Empire Rd. Reno, NV

775-847-7845

From: "Valliere, Shelly L Civ USAF AFSPC 45 SCS/SCX" <Shelly.Valliere@patrick.af.mil>

To: <jm@jmargolin.com>

Sent: Wednesday, May 12, 2010 8:20 AM Subject: Closure of FOIA Request 2010-04191-F

Dear Mr. Margolin,

The SAF FOIA office at the Pentagon will respond to your FOIA request (reference: Case No. 2010-04186-F). Therefore, we have closed Case No. 2010-04191-F here at Patrick AFB. All future inquiries/correspondence concerning Case No. 2010-04186-F should come from that office.

The FOIA Manager can be reached at (703)696-4929. There are no fees associated with Case No. 2010-04191-F.

If you have any questions, please call me at (321)494-2341.

v/r

Shelly Valliere Wing FOIA/PA Manager 45 SCS/SCX COMM: (321)494-2341

----Original Message-----

From: Valliere, Shelly L Civ USAF AFSPC 45 SCS/SCX

Sent: Wednesday, April 28, 2010 7:29 AM

To: 'im@imargolin.com'

Subject: FOIA Request - Case No. 2010-04191-F

Dear Mr. Margolin,

This memo is acknowledgement of receipt of your FOIA request (see attached memo).

Your request was received on 27 Apr 10. Your case has been assigned No 2010-04191-F. We will respond to your request by 24 May 10. Your fee waiver has been granted.

If you have any questions concerning your request, you may contact me at (321)494-2341. Please reference your assigned case number when making inquiries.

v/r

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE ACCESS ACKNOWLEDGEMENT / SECRECY ORDER RECOMMENDATION FOR PATENT APPLICATION

Application Serial No: DP11736356

Filing Date:

Date Referred: 05/02/2007

I hereby acknowledge that the Department of Defense reviewers has inspected this application in administration of 35 USC 181 on befalf of the Agencies/Commands specified below. DoD reviewers will not divulge any information from this application for any purpose other than administration of 35 USC 181.

Defense Agency	Recommendation	Reviewer Name	Date Reviewed
Army	Secrecy Not Recommended	Alan Klein	09/04/2007
Air Force	Secrecy Not Recommended	Richard Lambert	10/10/2007
AFRL/VA		J.B. Schroeder	
Navy	Secrecy Not Recommended	Lawana Brady	08/24/2007

Type of Recommendations:	SNR: Secrecy Not Recommended
	SR: Secrecy Recommended
	NC: No Comment

Instructions to Reviewers:

- 1. All DoD personnel reviewering this application will be listed on this form regardless of whether they are making a secrecy order recommendation.
- 2. This form will be forwarded to USPTO once all assigned DoD entities have provided their secrecy order recommendation.

Time for Completion of Review:

Pursuant to 35 USC 184, the subject matter of this application may be filed in a foreign country for the purposed of filing a patent application without a license anytime after the expriation of six (6) months from filing date unless the application becomes the subject of a secrecy order.

The USPTO publishes patent application at 18 months from the earliest claimed filing date. The USPTO will delay the publication of a patent application made available to a defense agency under 35 USC 181 until no earlier than 6 months from the filing date or 90 days from the date of referral to that agency. This application will be cleared for publication 6 months from the filing date or 90 days from the above Date Referred, whichever is later, unless a response is is provided to the USPTO regarding the necessary recommendations as to the imposition of a secrecy order.

DoD Completion of Review: Final

Forwarded to USPTO: 10/11/2007 By: Luis Marrero

From: "Booher, Darrin L Civ USAF AFMC 88 CG/SCOKI" < Darrin.Booher@WPAFB.AF.MIL>

To: <jm@jmargolin.com>

Sent: Tuesday, April 27, 2010 4:44 AM Subject: Ref: FOIA request 2010-04185-F ST3

Mr. Margolin,

We received you FOIA request, dated 26 Apr 10, in our office at Wright-Patterson AFB, OH on 26 Apr 10. The control number assigned to your request is 2010-04185-F ST3. I am the analyst assigned to your request, please contact me if you have any questions. In your request you had requested a Fee Waiver, after consideration from our FOIA Manager, the following information is supplied:

"There is no contribution to an understanding of the subject by the general public, but rather a small segment of interested persons. Requestor doesn't appear to have the capability to, or intention to, disseminate this information to the general public. Furthermore, there is no significant contribution to the public if it were widely released. Therefore, the request for a waiver of fees is denied."

With that, DOD 5400.7/AF Supplement 1, states that a willingness to pay statement must be included:

Fee Issue: Request must indicate a willingness to pay fees associated with the processing of your request. As described in DoD Regulation 5400.7/Air Force Supplement, Paragraph C1.4.2. DoD FOIA Program, "Requestors should indicate a willingness to pay fees associated with the processing of their request or, in the alternative, why a waiver of fees may be appropriate." You will be contacted if the cost to provide the requested document(s) exceeds the amount authorized by you.

There are three fee categories:

- 1. Commercial: Search and review time is chargeable at \$44.00 per hour and reproduction is chargeable at fifteen cents per page.
- 2. Educational or Noncommercial Scientific Institution or News Media, or Union: The first 100 copies are free, additional copies are fifteen cents per page. No charge for search or review. News media must be able to justify that they are actively gathering news for an entity that is organized and operated to publish or broadcast news to the public, such as a publication contract.
- 3. All Others: The first 2 hours of search and review time are free. The remaining search and review time beyond 2 hours is chargeable at \$44.00 per hour. The first 100 pages are free. Reproduction beyond 100 pages is chargeable at fifteen cents per page.

Please respond to this correspondence indicating which fee category is appropriate for you and the dollar amount that you are willing to pay by 30 Apr 10, if you do not respond by this date, we will consider your request closed. In some instances (cost to provide requested documents

exceed \$250.00 or the requester has no prior payment history), payment may be requested before any documents are released to you.

DARRIN BOOHER, CIV, DAF FOIA Analyst 88 CS/SCOKIF 3810 Communications Blvd. Wright-Patterson AFB OH 45433 (937) 257-2719 FAX:(937) 522-3096

DSN: 787-2719

From: "Jed Margolin" < jm@jmargolin.com>

To: "Booher, Darrin L Civ USAF AFMC 88 CG/SCOKI" < Darrin.Booher@WPAFB.AF.MIL>

Cc: <chris.kennerly@pentagon.af.mil>
Sent: Monday, May 03, 2010 7:50 AM

Subject: Re: Read: FOIA request 2010-04185-F ST3

---- Original Message -----

From: "Booher, Darrin L Civ USAF AFMC 88 CG/SCOKI" < Darrin.Booher@WPAFB.AF.MIL>

To: "Jed Margolin" < margolin@jmargolin.com >

Sent: Monday, May 03, 2010 3:58 AM

Subject: RE: Read: FOIA request 2010-04185-F ST3

> Mr. Margolin,

> Please consider this request closed.

>

> DARRIN BOOHER, CIV, DAF

> FOIA Analyst > 88 CS/SCOKIF

> 3810 Communications Blvd.

> Wright-Patterson AFB OH 45433

> (937) 257-2719

> FAX:(937) 522-3096

> DSN: 787-2719

>

Dear Mr. Booher.

I suggest you ask TSgt Kennerly if you really want to close my FOIA Request.

Jed Margolin

P.S. - Considering the amount of coverage the national media gave to the X-37B launch your statement that the subject appeals only to a "small segment of interested persons" is obviously wrong. See this article in the LA Times. The article was published even before the X-37B was launched. http://articles.latimes.com/2010/apr/21/business/la-fi-0422-space-plane-20100421

---- Original Message -----From: Jed Margolin

To: chris.kennerly@pentagon.af.mil Sent: Tuesday, April 27, 2010 12:06 PM

Subject: Fw: Mr. Booher's email

Dear Tech Sergeant Kennerly,

Thank you for the very nice conversation we had yesterday.

I received an email this morning from Mr. Darrin L. Booher at Wright Patterson this morning.

It was not so nice.

He wrote:

"There is no contribution to an understanding of the subject by the general public, but rather a small segment of interested persons. Requestor doesn't appear to have the capability to, or intention to, disseminate this information to the general public. Furthermore, there is no significant contribution to the public if it were widely released. Therefore, the request for a waiver of fees is denied."

He hasn't seen my article "How the United States Air Force Treats Independent Inventors." I have only now started writing it.

His statement, "Requestor doesn't appear to have the capability to, or intention to, disseminate this information to the general public[,]" suggests he hasn't seen my web site (www.jmargolin.com), and in particular, my article on NASA (How NASA Treats Independent Inventors).

Either that or he has decided to deliberately insult me.

I recommend he also visit my other Web sites: www.cordevistahoa.org and www.storeycountywindfarms.org

I set up these Web sites to address issues that are important to my County (Storey County, NV).

<u>www.cordevistahoa.org</u> documents how a Developer came into my County (population 4,600) and proposed to build housing for 50,000 people.

One of the issues was water. Water is always an issue here in the West, especially in Nevada. We don't have much. The Developer refused to say where he was going to get water for 50,000 people. He also was not honest about the issue of soil contamination from the site's previous owners, which included Curtis Wright and Aerojet.

The Storey County Planning Commission publicly thanked me for putting up the Web site, saying it had helped them make their decision. (A grassroots movement against the project also helped.)

The Planning Commission turned down the Developer's application. The Storey County Commissioners accepted the Planning Commission's recommendations. The Developer sued Storey County. The Developer lost. The Developer appealed to the Nevada Supreme Court. Before the case was heard the Developer settled with the County. The Developer agreed to follow the existing zoning and the County agreed to allow for green energy development.

<u>www.storeycountywindfarms.org</u> contains the documents for a BLM project with Great Basin Wind to put up a wind farm of 69 enormous wind turbines. Some of them would be less than 1 mile from Virginia City. (The entire town of Virginia City is a National Historic Landmark.)

Some of the towers would be less than 1 mile from my neighborhood, which Great Basin Wind left off their map.

The project appears to be stalled:

http://www.blm.gov/nv/st/en/fo/carson city field/blm programs/planning/new comstock wind.html

Part of the reason for this may be because I showed that Great Basin Wind lied on their project application.

For Mr. Booher to question my abilities, my intentions, or my resolve is a mistake.

Mr. Booher's email follows.

Regards,

Jed Margolin

---- Original Message -----

From: "Booher, Darrin L Civ USAF AFMC 88 CG/SCOKI" < Darrin.Booher@WPAFB.AF.MIL>

To: < im@jmargolin.com>

Sent: Tuesday, April 27, 2010 4:44 AM

Subject: Ref: FOIA request 2010-04185-F ST3

Mr. Margolin,

We received you FOIA request, dated 26 Apr 10, in our office at Wright-Patterson AFB, OH on 26 Apr 10. The control number assigned to your request is 2010-04185-F ST3. I am the analyst assigned to your request, please contact me if you have any questions. In your request you had requested a Fee Waiver, after consideration from our FOIA Manager, the following information is supplied:

"There is no contribution to an understanding of the subject by the general public, but rather a small segment of interested persons. Requestor doesn't appear to have the capability to, or intention to, disseminate this information to the general public. Furthermore, there is no significant contribution to the public if it were widely released. Therefore, the request for a waiver of fees is denied."

With that, DOD 5400.7/AF Supplement 1, states that a willingness to pay statement must be included:

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- 1. Commercial: Search and review time is chargeable at \$44.00 per hour and reproduction is chargeable at fifteen cents per page.
- 2. Educational or Noncommercial Scientific Institution or News Media, or Union: The first 100 copies are free, additional copies are fifteen cents per page. No charge for search or review. News media must be able to justify that they are actively gathering news for an entity that is organized and operated to publish or broadcast news to the public, such as a publication contract.
- 3. All Others: The first 2 hours of search and review time are free. The remaining search and review time beyond 2 hours is chargeable at \$44.00 per hour. The first 100 pages are free. Reproduction beyond 100 pages is chargeable at fifteen cents per page.

Please respond to this correspondence indicating which fee category is appropriate for you and the dollar amount that you are willing to pay by 30 Apr 10, if you do not respond by this date, we will consider your request closed. In some instances (cost to provide requested documents exceed \$250.00 or the requester has no prior payment history), payment

may be requested before any documents are released to you.

DARRIN BOOHER, CIV, DAF FOIA Analyst 88 CS/SCOKIF 3810 Communications Blvd. Wright-Patterson AFB OH 45433 (937) 257-2719 FAX:(937) 522-3096 DSN: 787-2719

From: "Booher, Darrin L Civ USAF AFMC 88 CG/SCOKI" < Darrin.Booher@WPAFB.AF.MIL>

Sent: Monday, May 03, 2010 7:53 AM

Attach: ATT14220.txt

Subject: Read: Read: FOIA request 2010-04185-F ST3

Your message

To: Booher, Darrin L Civ USAF AFMC 88 CG/SCOKI

Cc: Kennerly, Chris TSgt HAF/IMIO

Subject: Re: Read: FOIA request 2010-04185-F ST3

Sent: Mon, 3 May 2010 10:50:01 -0400

was read on Mon, 3 May 2010 10:53:32 -0400

From: "Booher, Darrin L Civ USAF AFMC 88 CG/SCOKI" < Darrin.Booher@WPAFB.AF.MIL>

"Jed Margolin" <margolin@jmargolin.com> To:

Monday, May 03, 2010 3:58 AM Sent:

RE: Read: FOIA request 2010-04185-F ST3 Subject:

Mr. Margolin,

Please consider this request closed.

DARRIN BOOHER, CIV, DAF FOIA Analyst 88 CS/SCOKIF 3810 Communications Blvd. Wright-Patterson AFB OH 45433 (937) 257-2719 FAX:(937) 522-3096

DSN: 787-2719

----Original Message-----

From: Jed Margolin [mailto:margolin@jmargolin.com]

Sent: Tuesday, April 27, 2010 11:39 AM

To: Booher, Darrin L Civ USAF AFMC 88 CG/SCOKI Subject: Read: FOIA request 2010-04185-F ST3

This is a receipt for the mail you sent to < im@jmargolin.com > at 4/27/2010 4:44 AM

This receipt verifies that the message has been displayed on the recipient's computer at 4/27/2010 8:38 AM

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October 13, 2006

Robert Adams, CEO Optima Technology Group 2222-1830 Michelson Dr. Irvine, CA 92612

Margolin Patent Nos. 5,566,073 and 5,904,724

Dear Mr. Adams:

We represent Rapid Imaging Software, Inc. (RIS), which has referred to us your letter of September 19, 2006. At the outset, we are unable to discern that Optima has an interest in the patents it attempts to assert. Assuming that it does, however, and has merely neglected to record its interests, RIS does not infringe the Margolin patents.

As you know, RIS creates computer software, and does not use or manufacture UAV systems or ground control stations. RIS software is used in UAVs to provide situation awareness for sensor operators. It is not used for piloting air vehicles. The sensor operator does not pilot the aircraft, and instead sits at a separate workstation operating a payload containing one or more cameras, which may be controlled using a joystick to point the camera package during search or tracking operations.

As you know, RIS refuses to allow its products to be used as a pilot aid, and RIS product licenses specifically prohibit use for piloting. None of RIS's customers use its software for piloting, for very good reason. Serious military regulations control placement of anything—synthetic vision included—on a pilot workstation. Before anything can be placed on the display in front of a pilot, it has to have met stringent criteria (MIL-STD 1787C, DO-178B, etc.), it must have been thoroughly ground tested, and it must have been fully flight tested. RIS software has never been through this process, and thus is prohibited from use for piloting. Accordingly, UAV manufacturers have purchased RIS products for use on the sensor operator console, but none for the pilot console. This is a matter of Army doctrine and applies to Shadow, Warrior and Hunter.

SUTIN THAYER WBROWNE

A PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION LAWYERS

> Robert Adams, CEO October 13, 2006 Page 2

Nor does RIS have its software in a form that would make it marketable for piloting. RIS software products are all based on the Microsoft Windows operating system. This offers many advantages, but is inappropriate to piloting aircraft because it is a not a POSIX compliant real-time operating system. POSIX compliance is required by flight safety regulations. To create such a version would entail a one- to two-year conversion program in which RIS has not invested.

It is important to realize that the market for RIS products is quite different from the relaxed civilian world. If a military pilot chose to use synthetic vision in spite of military regulations or in defiance of a software license agreement, his career would be damaged or destroyed. Military pilots cherish their wings and would not consider risking them on something like synthetic version.

Finally, it appears from your correspondence that you regard research activities like NASA's X-38 prototypes (before the program was cancelled in 2002) as infringing the Margolin patents. This was not the case because of the claim limitations of the Margolin patents. However all RIS work for government agencies, including NASA, was authorized and consented to by the U.S. Government, and is protected under 28 U.S.C. § 1498(a). As you are aware, any remedies you may have are against the government and are circumscribed by that statute and related law.

Although we need not discuss the invalidity of the Margolin patents given the above circumstances, you should be aware that both patents were anticipated by profound prior art dating back to 1977. If it should ever become necessary, we are confident that both would be held invalid.

Very truly yours.

Benjamin Allison Santa Fe Office

BA:gmr Enclosures 841473

cc: Mike Abernathy

From: "Jed Margolin" < jm@jmargolin.com>

To: "Carlo, Pennie L Civ USAF AFMC AFRL/RIOI" < Pennie.Carlo@rl.af.mil>

Sent: Tuesday, May 25, 2010 8:54 AM

Subject: Re: FOIA Request

Dear Pennie.

> If instead you decide to specify your request into smaller more succinct pieces, please let me know as soon as possible that you would like to withdraw this request at this time.

I would like to keep it as is. Breaking it in smaller pieces would only make more work for everyone.

Sincerely yours,

Jed

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---- Original Message -----

From: Carlo, Pennie L Civ USAF AFMC AFRL/RIOI

To: jm@jmargolin.com

Sent: Monday, May 24, 2010 11:40 AM

Subject: FOIA Request

Good Afternoon Jed,

Thank you for taking the time to clarify your request. Could you please forward the documents we discussed, so that I can properly forward your request to the 711th at Wright-Patterson AFB. If instead you decide to specify your request into smaller more succinct pieces, please let me know as soon as possible that you would like to withdraw this request at this time.

Thank you for your patience.

v/r Pennie

Pennie Carlo, AFRL/RIOI Pubs & Forms Manager (315) 330-7786; DSN 587-7786

From: "Carlo, Pennie L Civ USAF AFMC AFRL/RIOI" < Pennie.Carlo@rl.af.mil>

To: <jm@jmargolin.com>

Sent: Friday, May 28, 2010 9:05 AM Subject: FOIA case 2010-01490-F CLOSURE

Dear Mr. Margolin:

Upon transfer of your case #2010-04190-F, we were informed that this is a duplicate of case #2010-04842-F which is already being handled by HAF/IMIO. For this reason we will close case #2010-04190-F at the Rome FOIA office.

If you have any questions concerning this matter, call this office at (315) 330-7786 or e-mail us at the above address. Reference FOIA number 2010-04190-F when making inquiries.

Sincerely,

Pennie L. Carlo Freedom of Information Act Manager AFRL/RIOI

FOIA Case No: 2010-04190-F

Pennie Carlo, AFRL/RIOI Pubs & Forms Manager (315) 330-7786; DSN 587-7786