



October 5, 2023

Secretary of the Air Force
THRU: 502 CS/SCOK (FOIA)
2261 Hughes Ave
JBSA-Lackland, TX 78236-9801

RE: Appeal of FOIA request # 2023-05851-F

The Center to Advance Security in America (CASA) appeals the “no records” decision of the Air Force in their response to FOIA request # 2023-05851-F on 26 September 2023.

In its response, the Air Force claims that there are “no records” responsive to the request when the specific public documents referenced in the request contain the very search words which the Air Force claims there are no records for. For example, the August 9, 2022, directive entitled “Officer Source of Commission Applicant Pool Goals” from CQ Brown, Frank Kendall, Gina Ortiz Jones, and John Raymond, uses the terms “White”, “Black”, “Asian”, “Hispanic”, “American Indian”, and “Officer Source of Commission Applicant Pool Goals”, and “diversity and inclusion”. All of these search terms were included in the original FOIA request. In its response, the Air Force claims there were “electronic searches performed” using these keywords and that “no records were found”. This cannot be accurate. Further, the Air Force’s response ignored the other parts of the FOIA request, which asked for communications between Air Force officials and media organizations as well as third party non-profit organizations.

Please reopen the request, continue the search, and promptly process and release all responsive records that are found.

If you have any questions regarding this appeal, please feel free to contact me at james@advancing-america.org.

Sincerely,

James Fitzpatrick
Director
Center to Advance Security in America
1802 Vernon Street NW
PMB2095
Washington, DC 20009