



Federal Bureau of Investigation

Washington, D.C. 20535

July 27, 2020

[Redacted]

FOIPA Request No. [Redacted]  
Subject: **Reginald Demello** / 2017 Pittsburgh  
Department of Public Works Investigation

This is in response to your Freedom of Information/Privacy Acts (FOIPA) request. The FBI has completed its search for records responsive to your request. Please see the paragraphs below for relevant information specific to your request as well as the enclosed FBI FOIPA Addendum for standard responses applicable to all requests.

Material consisting of two hundred four (204) pages has been reviewed pursuant to Title 5, U.S. Code § 552/552a, and four (4) pages are being released to you. The enclosed documents represent the final release of information responsive to your Freedom of Information/Privacy Acts (FOIPA) request. This material is being provided to you at no charge.

Please refer to the enclosed FBI FOIPA Addendum for additional standard responses applicable to your request. "Part 1" of the Addendum includes standard responses that apply to all requests. "Part 2" includes additional standard responses that apply to all requests for records about yourself or any third party individuals. "Part 3" includes general information about FBI records that you may find useful. Also enclosed is our Explanation of Exemptions.

For questions regarding our determinations, visit the [www.foipa.gov](http://www.foipa.gov) website under "Contact Us." The FOIPA Request number listed above has been assigned to your request. Please use this number in all correspondence concerning your request.

If you are not satisfied with the Federal Bureau of Investigation's determination in response to this request, you may administratively appeal by writing to the Director, Office of Information Policy (OIP), United States Department of Justice, 441 G Street, NW, 6th Floor, Washington, D.C. 20530, or you may submit an appeal through OIP's FOIA STAR portal by creating an account following the instructions on OIP's website: <https://www.justice.gov/foia-star>. Your appeal must be postmarked or electronically transmitted within ninety (90) days of the date of my response to your request. If you submit your appeal by mail, both the letter and the envelope should be clearly marked "Freedom of Information Act Appeal." Please cite the FOIPA Request Number assigned to your request so it may be easily identified.

You may seek dispute resolution services by contacting the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS). The contact information for OGIS is as follows: Office of Government Information Services, National Archives and Records Administration, 8601 Adelphi Road-OGIS, College Park, Maryland 20740-6001, e-mail at [ogis@nara.gov](mailto:ogis@nara.gov); telephone at 202-741-5770; toll free at 1-877-684-6448; or facsimile at 202-741-5769. Alternatively, you may contact the FBI's FOIA Public Liaison by emailing [foipa.publicaffairs@fbi.gov](mailto:foipa.publicaffairs@fbi.gov). If you submit your dispute resolution correspondence by email, the subject heading should clearly state "Dispute Resolution Services." Please also cite the FOIPA Request Number assigned to your request so it may be easily identified.

Sincerely,

Michael G. Seidl  
Acting Section Chief  
Record/Information  
Dissemination Section  
Information Management Division

Enclosure.

## FBI FOIPA Addendum

As referenced in our letter responding to your Freedom of Information/Privacy Acts (FOIPA) request, the FBI FOIPA Addendum includes information applicable to your request. Part 1 of the Addendum includes standard responses that apply to all requests. Part 2 includes additional standard responses that apply to all requests for records on individuals. Part 3 includes general information about FBI records. For questions regarding Parts 1, 2, or 3, visit the [www.fbi.gov/foipa](http://www.fbi.gov/foipa) website under "Contact Us." Previously mentioned appeal and dispute resolution services are also available at the web address.

### Part 1: The standard responses below apply to all requests:

- (i) **5 U.S.C. § 552(c).** Congress excluded three categories of law enforcement and national security records from the requirements of the FOIA [5 U.S.C. § 552(c) (2006 & Supp. IV (2010))] FBI responses are limited to those records subject to the requirements of the FOIA. Additional information about the FBI and the FOIPA can be found on the [www.fbi.gov/foipa](http://www.fbi.gov/foipa) website.
- (ii) **National Security/Intelligence Records.** The FBI can neither confirm nor deny the existence of national security and foreign intelligence records pursuant to FOIA exemptions (b)(1), (b)(3), and PA exemption (j)(2) as applicable to requests for records about individuals [5 U.S.C. §§ 552/552a (b)(1), (b)(3), and (j)(2); 50 U.S.C § 3024(i)(1)]. The mere acknowledgment of the existence or nonexistence of such records is itself a classified fact protected by FOIA exemption (b)(1) and/or would reveal intelligence sources, methods, or activities protected by exemption (b)(3) [50 USC § 3024(i)(1)]. This is a standard response and should not be read to indicate that national security or foreign intelligence records do or do not exist.

### Part 2: The standard responses below apply to all requests for records on individuals:

- (i) **Requests for Records about any Individual—Watch Lists.** The FBI can neither confirm nor deny the existence of any individual's name on a watch list pursuant to FOIA exemption (b)(7)(E) and PA exemption (j)(2) [5 U.S.C. §§ 552/552a (b)(7)(E), (j)(2)]. This is a standard response and should not be read to indicate that watch list records do or do not exist.
- (ii) **Requests for Records for Incarcerated Individuals.** The FBI can neither confirm nor deny the existence of records which could reasonably be expected to endanger the life or physical safety of any incarcerated individual pursuant to FOIA exemptions (b)(7)(E), (b)(7)(F), and PA exemption (j)(2) [5 U.S.C. §§ 552/552a (b)(7)(E), (b)(7)(F), and (j)(2)]. This is a standard response and should not be read to indicate that such records do or do not exist.

### Part 3: General Information:

- (i) **Record Searches.** The Record/Information Dissemination Section (RIDS) searches for reasonably described records by searching those systems or locations where responsive records would reasonably be found. A reasonable search normally consists of a search for main files in the Central Records System (CRS), an extensive system of records consisting of applicant, investigative, intelligence, personnel, administrative, and general files compiled and maintained by the FBI in the course of fulfilling law enforcement, intelligence, and administrative functions. The CRS spans the entire FBI organization and encompasses the records of FBI Headquarters (FBIHQ), FBI Field Offices, and FBI Legal Attache Offices (Legats) worldwide and includes Electronic Surveillance (E-SUR) records. For additional information about our record searches visit [www.fbi.gov/foipa](http://www.fbi.gov/foipa).
- (ii) **FBI Records.** Founded in 1908, the FBI carries out a dual law enforcement and national security mission. As part of this dual mission, the FBI creates and maintains records on various subjects, however, the FBI does not maintain records on every person, subject, or entity.
- (iii) **Requests for Criminal History Records or Rap Sheets.** The Criminal Justice Information Services (CJIS) Division provides Identity History Summary Checks – often referred to as a criminal history record or rap sheets. These criminal history records are not the same as material in an investigative "FBI file." An Identity History Summary Check is a listing of information taken from fingerprint cards and documents submitted to the FBI in connection with arrests, federal employment, naturalization, or military service. For a fee, individuals can request a copy of their Identity History Summary Check. Forms and directions can be accessed at [www.fbi.gov/cjis](http://www.fbi.gov/cjis). Additionally, requests can be submitted electronically at [www.fbi.gov/cjis](http://www.fbi.gov/cjis). For additional information, please contact CJIS directly at (304) 625-5590.
- (iv) **The National Name Check Program (NNCP).** The mission of NNCP is to analyze and report information in response to name check requests received from federal agencies, for the purpose of protecting the United States from foreign and domestic threats to national security. Please be advised that this is a service provided to other federal agencies. Private citizens cannot request a name check.

## EXPLANATION OF EXEMPTIONS

### SUBSECTIONS OF TITLE 5, UNITED STATES CODE, SECTION 552

- (b)(1) (A) specifically authorized under criteria established by an Executive order to be kept secret in the interest of national defense or foreign policy and (B) are in fact properly classified to such Executive order.
- (b)(2) related solely to the internal personnel rules and practices of an agency;
- (b)(3) specifically exempted from disclosure by statute (other than section 552b of this title), provided that such statute (A) requires that the matters be withheld from the public in such a manner as to leave no discretion on issue, or (B) establishes particular criteria for withholding or refers to particular types of matters to be withheld;
- (b)(4) trade secrets and commercial or financial information obtained from a person and privileged or confidential;
- (b)(5) inter-agency or intra-agency memorandums or letters which would not be available by law to a party other than an agency in litigation with the agency;
- (b)(6) personnel and medical files and similar files the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy;
- (b)(7) records or information compiled for law enforcement purposes, but only to the extent that the production of such law enforcement records or information ( A ) could reasonably be expected to interfere with enforcement proceedings, ( B ) would deprive a person of a right to a fair trial or an impartial adjudication, ( C ) could reasonably be expected to constitute an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy, ( D ) could reasonably be expected to disclose the identity of confidential source, including a State, local, or foreign agency or authority or any private institution which furnished information on a confidential basis, and, in the case of record or information compiled by a criminal law enforcement authority in the course of a criminal investigation, or by an agency conducting a lawful national security intelligence investigation, information furnished by a confidential source, ( E ) would disclose techniques and procedures for law enforcement investigations or prosecutions, or would disclose guidelines for law enforcement investigations or prosecutions if such disclosure could reasonably be expected to risk circumvention of the law, or ( F ) could reasonably be expected to endanger the life or physical safety of any individual;
- (b)(8) contained in or related to examination, operating, or condition reports prepared by, or behalf of, or for the use of an agency responsible for the regulation or supervision of financial institutions; or
- (b)(9) geological and geophysical information and data, including maps, concerning wells.

### SUBSECTIONS OF TITLE 5, UNITED STATES CODE, SECTION 552a

- (d)(5) information compiled in reasonable anticipation of a civil action proceeding;
- (j)(2) material reporting investigative efforts pertaining to the enforcement of criminal law including efforts to prevent, control, or reduce crime or apprehend criminals;
- (k)(1) information which is currently and properly classified pursuant to an Executive order in the interest of the national defense or foreign policy, for example, information involving intelligence sources or methods;
- (k)(2) investigatory material compiled for law enforcement purposes, other than criminal, which did not result in loss of a right, benefit or privilege under Federal programs, or which would identify a source who furnished information pursuant to a promise that his/her identity would be held in confidence;
- (k)(3) material maintained in connection with providing protective services to the President of the United States or any other individual pursuant to the authority of Title 18, United States Code, Section 3056;
- (k)(4) required by statute to be maintained and used solely as statistical records;
- (k)(5) investigatory material compiled solely for the purpose of determining suitability, eligibility, or qualifications for Federal civilian employment or for access to classified information, the disclosure of which would reveal the identity of the person who furnished information pursuant to a promise that his/her identity would be held in confidence;
- (k)(6) testing or examination material used to determine individual qualifications for appointment or promotion in Federal Government service the release of which would compromise the testing or examination process;
- (k)(7) material used to determine potential for promotion in the armed services, the disclosure of which would reveal the identity of the person who furnished the material pursuant to a promise that his/her identity would be held in confidence.



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[REDACTED] conversation [REDACTED] corroborated that LaRocca utilized his friendship with [REDACTED] bidding on contracts through the Pittsburgh Department of Public Works (DPW). There is no evidence to support claims made by [REDACTED] that members of the DPW were involved in manipulating bids or awarded contracts as the result of bribes or favoritism. [REDACTED]

b7C

[REDACTED] accepting monies or favors in exchange for granting contracts. The [REDACTED] proved unable to secure a point of contact within the DPW and arranged to secure contracts through [REDACTED] threatening and enacting violence towards competing company [REDACTED]

**The April 12 phone call between LaRocca and [REDACTED]**

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It is believed that the mention of "Doc" during the 13 minute call on April 12, 2017 between [REDACTED] and LaRocca was referencing Thomas "Sonny" Ciancutti with a birth date of [REDACTED]. Confidential source #6842 has confirmed that Ciancutti often uses the alias "Doc" amongst his friends. LaRocca's reference to "Nico" is believed to be Reginald "Nico" Demelio. Both Demelio and LaRocca are known associates of the LaRocca-Genovese LCN crime family that Ciancutti heads from [REDACTED] Edwards Rd., New Kensington PA.

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LaRocca: The surgeon bugging ...that...you know...that fucking blimp ran his mouth.

[REDACTED] It is all they talk about anymore...just everyone.

LaRocca: No he...thing is that catheter tube fuck with him so shit I mean

[REDACTED]: Right right.

b7B

LaRocca: What a mess though...man I just...[unintelligible] Nico wouldn't of cleared that or just shut up about it now these dudes need results...thats how.

[REDACTED] That spot by the trolley tracks by the swap meet guys place. remember who used too work across the street thats who you need right now he can have that done in [REDACTED]

It is believed that LaRocca's reference to "the surgeon" was a derivative alias for "Doc" and that LaRocca was in fact referring to Ciancutti. Medical records support [REDACTED]

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**The April 15 meeting with LaRocca, Hartford, [REDACTED]**

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Continuation of FD-302 of [redacted] . On 06/18/2017 . Page 35 of 204

[redacted] discussed the January 15<sup>th</sup> meeting attended by Hartford and LaRocca that took place at Michells Restaurant, located at 304 Ross St, Pittsburgh, PA. During the interview, [redacted] stated that "Brad" (later identified as James "Brad" LaRocca) with the birth date [redacted] could secure city contracts in the Hill District region of Pittsburgh. The contracts would be granted to the most viable company using a sealed-bid proposal. The specific jobs being bid on pertained to the demolition of 14 properties located in or around the Hill District area. LaRocca stated at that time that he would have "Nico's crew knock it out by the end of the week" [redacted]. Demelio is known to have a construction company that employees a "crew" of demolition contractors. The Pennsylvania Department of State lists Demelio as the current owner of North Atlantic Constuction, with the primary place of business located at 454 Oneida St., Pittsburgh, PA.

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[REDACTED]

Continuation of FD-302 of [REDACTED] . On 06/18/2017 . Page 78 of 204

[REDACTED]

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Demelio instructed [REDACTED] to destroy any records pertaining to the Brentwood job because of concerns that an investigation was pending, said

[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] He was "certain as fuck" that Rizzo would "leak to Jimmy" how much money he cleared and he did not want to "get taxed" because the job was net 60 and he would ultimately be "paying out of pocket", if he settled his debt before the city issued payment, said [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

b7E

Records with the Allegheny County Treasurer show that Demelio did in fact pay the 2016 property tax for [REDACTED] in the amount of four thousand eleven dollars and nineteen cents (\$4011.19) utilizing a Visa debit card [REDACTED] on July 29<sup>th</sup>, 2016.

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[REDACTED]

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