

Senator Chris Van Hollen
SH-110 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington DC 20510

Tuesday, April 9, 2024

Subject: Refusal of DHS-OIG to Acknowledge the Existence of an Investigation into Secret Service Polygraph Audio Destruction and continued DHS-OIG non responsiveness to FOIA Inquiries.

Dear Senator Van Hollen and Ms. Frierson,

I think the letter from Inspector General Joseph V. Cuffari is disrespectful to your office and position, and to myself as a taxpayer.

If your office is willing to accept this answer from Inspector General Joseph V. Cuffari, and further allow the precedent to be set that it is acceptable for DHS OIG to withhold the status or result of any investigation they see fit from Congress and the American people as required by law, then as your constituent I can ask nothing more of you. If you find this response as reprehensible and unacceptable as I do, I would ask you respond to Inspector General Joseph V. Cuffari and reiterate what constitutes an acceptable response from his office, being the answers your office has repeatedly sought from DHS OIG since 2019 including:

1. Has the investigation DHS-OIG initiated into my polygraph exam been completed?
2. Can DHS-OIG provide your office and your constituent with the Investigation Number for this case?
3. Has the Report of Investigations (ROI) been drafted, issued, or completed for this case? If so, can DHS-OIG provide us with a copy of the ROI?
4. When will this investigation be included in DHS-OIG Semiannual Reports to Congress?
5. Can DHS-OIG acknowledge the existence of this case with a case number and synopsis in their next Semiannual Report to Congress?
6. When will DHS-OIG make a decision on the appeal of my FOIA request?

All this response stated was they received a FOIA request from me which to date they have been non-responsive to for five years. It does even acknowledge the fact that DHS-OIG opened a case into this matter and had a minimum of three OIG federal agents Michael Benedict, Damon Thompson, and Michael Redmond working on that met with myself and attorney Thomas Gagliardo in 2017. Indeed, their response seems to indicate such an investigation never took place. It would seem the DHS OIG investigation disappeared just as quickly as the audio recording of my polygraph examination, and with the same level of complicity on the part of the government.

Can you also please provide a copy of your initial request to the Inspector General to me?

If your office is no longer willing or able to pursue this matter, please let me know. Given my security clearance was seemingly threatened for pursuing and seeking the truth in this matter, it is not difficult to imagine a scenario where similar leverage has been applied by the government to others seeking the truth.

Thank you for your attention in this matter,

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[REDACTED]

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