



UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
STATION PLACE
100 F STREET, NE
WASHINGTON, DC 20549-2465

Office of FOIA Services

January 20, 2022

Mr. Richard R. Lawless
30279 Redding Avenue
Murrieta, CA 92563

RE: Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), 5 U.S.C. § 552
Request No. **22-00428-FOIA**

Dear Mr. Lawless:

This letter is in reference to your request, dated November 1, 2021, and received in this office on November 2, 2021, seeking:

"[A]ny internal SEC emails that mention the words 'Puerto Rico' and 'Bonds' along with any one of the following words;

'Fraud'
'Ponzi'
'Scheme'
'Fraudulent'
'Criminal'
'illegal'

Between **January 1, 2015** and **October 31, 2021**"

We will be unable to respond to your request within the Freedom of Information Act's twenty day statutory time period, as there are unusual circumstances which impact on our ability to quickly process your request. Therefore, we are invoking the 10 day extension. These unusual circumstances are: (a) the need to search for and collect records from an organization geographically separated from this office; (b) the potential volume of records responsive to your request; and (c) the need for consultation with one or more other offices having a substantial interest in either the determination or the subject matter of the records. For these reasons, we will process your case consistent with the order in which we received your request.

Mr. Richard R. Lawless
January 20, 2022
Page 2

22-00428-FOIA

We have identified approximately 268,000 emails¹ that may be responsive to your request. Under the FOIA, you are considered an "Other Use" requester. As such, you are entitled to two (2) hours of search time and 100 pages of document duplication free of charge. However, in accordance with the fee provisions of the FOIA Improvement Act of 2016, all search time will be waived in this instance since we did not process your request within the 20-day statutory time period. Therefore, you will not be charged any search fees for this request. Further, because any responsive records would be provided to you electronically, there will be no duplication fees associated with your request.

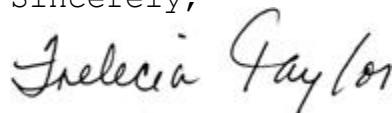
Since the records are voluminous, if requested, we would process them in our Complex track. Under 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(6)(D)(i) agencies may provide for multi-track processing of requests for records based on the amount of work or time (or both) involved in processing requests. The SEC's regulation implementing multi-track processing is located at 17 CFR § 200.80(d)(4).

At present we anticipate that it may take thirty-six months or more before we can begin to process a request placed in our Complex track.

If you are interested in having us place your request in our Complex track, please write or call me by **February 3, 2022** and identify the records of interest to you.

If you have any questions, or if you would like to discuss ways in which you can narrow the scope of your request to possibly avoid placement in our Complex track, please contact me at taylorf@sec.gov or (202) 551-8349. You may also contact me at foiapa@sec.gov or (202) 551-7900. You may also contact the SEC's FOIA Public Service Center at foiapa@sec.gov or (202) 551-7900. For more information about the FOIA Public Service Center and other options available to you please see the attached addendum.

Sincerely,



Felecia Taylor
FOIA Lead Research Specialist

Enclosure

¹ The search results may have yielded several false hits and/or duplicates, which we cannot determine until we begin our review of the records.

ADDENDUM

For further assistance you can contact a SEC FOIA Public Liaison by calling (202) 551-7900 or visiting <https://www.sec.gov/oso/help/foia-contact.html>.

SEC FOIA Public Liaisons are supervisory staff within the Office of FOIA Services. They can assist FOIA requesters with general questions or concerns about the SEC's FOIA process or about the processing of their specific request.

In addition, you may also contact the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) at the National Archives and Records Administration to inquire about the FOIA dispute resolution services it offers. OGIS can be reached at 1-877-684-6448 or via e-mail at ogis@nara.gov. Information concerning services offered by OGIS can be found at their website at [Archives.gov](https://www.archives.gov). Note that contacting the FOIA Public Liaison or OGIS does not stop the 90-day appeal clock and is not a substitute for filing an administrative appeal.