



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE
1315 East-West Highway
Silver Spring, Maryland 20910
THE DIRECTOR

The Honorable Dennis J. Kucinich
Chairman, Domestic Policy Subcommittee
Committee on Oversight and Government Reform
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

MAR 26 2010

Dear Mr. Chairman:

In response to your cosigned letter of March 4, 2010, we have collected and are providing the documents and information that you have requested. In addition to the delivery of the documents for your review, the following comments are also provided in response to your questions and to clarify what has been submitted.

International Travel:

The documentation you have requested on international travel conducted by Director Dale Jones and other top officials of the Office for Law Enforcement (OLE) has been provided. Responsive documents are included for Mr. Jones; Deputy Director Mark Spurrier; two headquarters-based Assistant Directors, Mark Paterni and Todd Dubois; and the Special Agents in Charge (SAC) of the six OLE field divisions. The six current Division SACs are: Bill Pickering, Pacific Island Division, Honolulu, HI; Sherrie Tinsley-Myers, Alaska Division, Juneau, AK; Vicki Nomura, Northwest Division, Seattle, WA; Andrew Cohen, Northeast Division, Gloucester, MA; Don Masters, Southwest Division, Long Beach, CA; and Harold Robbins, Southeast Division, St. Petersburg, FL. Because the request was for documentation back to 1999, the OLE has sought to include information on the travel of several former SACs who have retired from the agency at various points since 1999. Some of the information is no longer available because these documents are not retained in the OLE offices, in NOAA Finance, or in archives after 6 years and 8 months. This is also true of documents related to three trips made by the current Deputy Director, Mark Spurrier. We have submitted a brief listing of the three international trips that he has taken.

In your letter of March 4, 2010, and during the hearing on March 2, 2010, your inquiries focused on the use of the Asset Forfeiture Fund to pay for foreign travel. You will see that some of the foreign travel by OLE officials was in fact paid for by the Fund. Travel for several of the trips made by Director Jones over the 10-year period reviewed was paid for through the use of the Fund. The provision of the Magnuson-Stevens Act that establishes the Fund specifies that it may be used for "... (C) any expenses directly related to investigations and civil or criminal enforcement proceedings, including any necessary expenses for equipment, training, travel, witnesses, and contracting services directly related to such investigations or proceedings." Thus the statute itself provides for the use of the Asset Forfeiture Fund for foreign travel by OLE agents and GCEL personnel in support of international enforcement initiatives and training.



Hiring Practices:

The three persons referenced in your letter—Deputy Director Mark Spurrier, Assistant Director Mark Paterni, and SAC Harold “Hal” Robbins—were formerly employed by different cities or counties in the State of Maryland during their careers. They were selected for these management positions based on merit and their overall management and law enforcement experience and qualifications. Though they did not have specific fisheries or natural resources training or specific Federal law enforcement training when hired by the OLE, they had relevant experience that met the requirements of the job announcements.

Your letter references Mr. Jones’ responses during the hearing with regard to the hiring process and the role in the selections of NOAA’s human resources office, known as Workforce Management (WFM). Mr. Jones stated correctly during the hearing that NOAA WFM reviews all applications received and makes the determination as to which applicants are qualified for the position. Under the process used by NOAA, WFM develops a list of qualified applicants from those who apply based on their screening of the applications. WFM provides that list, known as a certificate, to the agency conducting the recruitment, and that agency provides to WFM its final selection recommendation from the list. Mr. Jones does not make the decision about which candidates meet the requirements for inclusion in the certificate.

Mr. Jones confirms that, as Director, he has been the selecting official for all OLE persons hired during his tenure, including these three persons. After receiving certificates for these positions, he provided that list to a panel of two to three other staff members to review and then worked with that panel to conduct interviews of the persons determined to be the most qualified for the positions. Upon making the determination as to who would be selected, he provided that selection to WFM with the request that WFM confirm the selection and proceed with the offer. While some of the other applicants for these positions did have fisheries, natural resource, and/or Federal law enforcement training and experience, that experience was considered in the decision-making process for the final selection, along with the overall management experience of the persons selected for these positions. You have identified three of the 11 senior management officials that Mr. Jones has promoted and hired during his tenure. The eight other officials did have fisheries, natural resources, and/or Federal experience, in addition to strong management qualifications at the time of their selection.

The following is a brief overview and background for the qualifications of each of these employees for your reference:

Mark Spurrier, Deputy Director

Mark Spurrier has 34 years of law enforcement experience, joining NOAA OLE as the Deputy Director in November 1999. His law enforcement career began in 1975 with the Baltimore County Police Department, from which he retired in 1998 as the Director of Legal Services within the Office of the Chief. Immediately prior to accepting his position with NOAA OLE, Mr. Spurrier was the Director of Police and Community Programs and also served as the acting Department Chair of Interdisciplinary Programs within the School of Business and Professional Studies at Johns Hopkins University. Mr. Spurrier received his Juris Doctor degree from the University of Baltimore in [REDACTED] and is a member of the Maryland Bar. He is a nationally

Exemption
(b)(6)

recognized authority in the areas of employee disciplinary processes, sexual harassment, and the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Mark Paterni, Assistant Director, HQ

Mark Paterni has almost 38 years of law enforcement experience, joining NOAA OLE as Assistant Director for Support Services in June 2002. Prior to joining NOAA, Mr. Paterni was a police officer with the Howard County Police Department in Howard County, MD, for 30 years, retiring in 2002 as Deputy Chief of Police. He earned his bachelor's degree from the University of Notre Dame in Indiana and his master's degree from Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore.

Hal Robbins, Special Agent in Charge, Southeast Division

Hal Robbins has served as SAC of NOAA OLE's Southeast Division since June 2004. Prior to joining NOAA, Mr. Robbins served in various positions, including deputy police chief, for the St. Petersburg, FL, Police Department for 21 years; as a chief of police in Annapolis, MD, for 5 years; and as executive director of the Florida Police Chiefs Association in Tallahassee, FL, for 8 years. He received his bachelor's and master's degrees in criminal justice from the University of South Florida. Mr. Robbins served in the United States Navy from [REDACTED] through [REDACTED] and was discharged honorably as an E-5. He received the Vietnam Campaign Medal (three devices), the Vietnam Service Medal, National Defense Medal, and a Meritorious Unit Commendation.

Exemption
(b)(6)

We have conferred with WFM to attempt to get copies of the certification lists and any other documents pertaining to the hiring and selection process that are responsive to your request. WFM does not retain such documents for more than 3 years. All three of these persons were hired over 5 years ago. We have provided you with the documents that WFM gave us as well as some additional documents that had been retained in the OLE office. They include an interview schedule and a draft selection letter for the Deputy Director's position from 1999 and some interview questions, notes, certificate lists, and some resumes from the SAC selection when Mr. Robbins was hired in 2004. Please note that the process in 2004 included a simultaneous recruitment for both the Southeast SAC selection and the Northeast SAC selection. Some applicants applied for both positions and some for only one or the other.

Accreditation:

The NOAA OLE applied for and began the process to be accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement (CALEA) in July of 1997, nearly 2 years prior to Mr. Jones being hired as the Chief. The recruitment and advertisement for the position of Chief of the NOAA Office for Law Enforcement included experience with the accreditation process as a desirable qualification for position candidates. The agency's application to become accredited was also affirmed and cited as a management improvement in a 1998 report issued by the Office of the Inspector General pertaining to the NOAA Office for Law Enforcement, also before Mr. Jones became Chief.

The role of CALEA is to enhance law enforcement as a profession. The program is open to all law enforcement agencies, on a domestic and international basis. It provides a process to systematically conduct an internal review and assessment of the agencies' policies and

procedures, and make adjustments wherever necessary to meet a body of accepted standards. The standards upon which the Law Enforcement Accreditation Program is based reflect the current thinking and experience of law enforcement practitioners and researchers. Major law enforcement associations, leading educational and training institutions, governmental agencies, as well as law enforcement executives internationally acknowledge CALEA's Standards for Law Enforcement Agencies and its Accreditation Program as benchmarks for today's law enforcement agency.

Traffic enforcement, court security, and a number of other CALEA standards are not pertinent to the mission and role of the NOAA OLE. In the assessment process, those standards that do not apply are simply verified as such and then categorized as "not applicable by function" and the agency is not required to meet those standards. The most recent agency CALEA assessment occurred in 2009. Out of the 459 standards, the agency was in compliance with all 283 applicable standards and 176 standards were determined to be not applicable by function. CALEA standards cover a wide variety of areas within the following general categories: law enforcement role, organization, management, fiscal, personnel, operations, support, property control, evidence, and many others.

Other Federal and other natural resources law enforcement agencies participate in the program and are currently accredited. The current Federal agencies involved in the program include the Tennessee Valley Authority, United States Capitol Police, and the United States Mint Police. Participating natural resources agencies include the Hawaii Department of Land and Natural Resources Enforcement, Missouri State Water Patrol, and the Washington Department of Fish & Wildlife Enforcement Program. There are no other Federal natural resource agency participants that we are aware of.

Dale Jones has not served as an assessor for CALEA during his tenure with the Federal Government. He was trained as an assessor during his tenure with the City of Hagerstown, MD, between 1994 and 1998 and participated in only one "on site" assessment process on behalf of CALEA. That was in September of 1998. Though Mr. Jones does not know the actual honorarium amount he received for those services, the current amount paid by CALEA for such services is \$135 per day. On-site assessments are typically 3 days. Any such activity would have been approved by the city and done only on personal time. None of the other top officials with OLE have served as an assessor.

Office of Professional Responsibility:

A summary of the Office of Professional Responsibility (OPR) investigations that you have requested is provided for the period between 1999 and 2010. These incidents involve over 100 different reports of misconduct during that time frame. They involve a wide variety of incidents, which range from improper care of equipment through violations of laws. Approximately 60% of the incidents were concluded in a manner that cleared the employee and approximately 40% were concluded with some finding of fault on behalf of the employee accused. In those cases, discipline ranged from reprimand through suspensions and terminations.

Document Destruction:

You have requested a copy of documents Mr. Jones provided to the agents of the Inspector General's Office with regard to their inquiry into documents authorized to be shredded by Director Jones. The documents that you have requested are being provided. The documents consist of a series of e-mail messages, including several that were distributed by the OLE staff announcing the plans to schedule the document destruction through the services of a commercial shredding company and the subsequent plans to do so. Also included is an e-mail message to the agents of the Inspector General's office with a list attached that details a list of the files that were purged as well as a notation of those that were retained. That list includes approximately 170 files total, approximately 41 of which were retained.

Follow-up responses to questions that were raised at the hearings on March 2, 2010:

During the hearing on March 2, 2010, Representative Tierney requested information regarding the follow-up on the concerns raised at the meetings he held with NOAA in October 2005. The parties planned to meet so that the specifics of the allegations being made could be documented and investigated. However, as stated during the hearings, Mr. Jones and Ms. Ferrante were not able to meet after a number of attempts to make arrangements to do so. Because they were unable to hold the follow-up meetings to get the details of the complaints, the OLE was not able to conduct meaningful investigations of the complaints. Some limited follow-up was conducted, however most of the concerns raised at that time involved incidents related to the Gloucester Seafood Display Auction (GSDA) or associated incidents. During the course of the most recent case involving GSDA, the judge ordered that all documents and information submitted during discovery be sealed. This included the documents related to the complaints made by Ms. Ferrante and the follow-up that the OLE did actually conduct on the issues raised.

Representative Frank requested that Mr. Jones follow up on the concerns raised during the testimony of Mr. Burgess on March 2, 2010. NOAA has brought enforcement actions against Mr. Burgess at least 10 times between 1986 and 2009, for violations including, but not limited to, fishing with undersized mesh, landing fish unlawfully, and fishing in excess of his days-at-sea allocation on multiple trips. The case that he testified about on March 2 involved 13 illegal trips during which he fished in excess of his days-at-sea allocation and involved a series of communications with our office during the time period of November 20 to December 3, 2007. We are providing a time line that includes specific details regarding the events surrounding the concerns he raised in that case.

As detailed in that timeline, NOAA informed Mr. Burgess on November 20 that he had a negative days-at-sea balance of 5.23 days. Nonetheless, Mr. Burgess continued to fish during this time. On November 29, Mr. Burgess was contacted by NOAA and informed that he had exceeded his days-at-sea allocation and advised him not to fish until the matter was resolved. Three days later, Mr. Burgess's attorney contacted the Agency seeking to resolve the matter. Mr. Burgess settled the case with NOAA by admitting liability for the violation and agreeing to forfeit 10.58 days at sea from his days-at-sea allocation. In addition, Mr. Burgess agreed to pay a civil monetary penalty of \$25,000, an amount that was less than the value of fish he harvested

during the unauthorized fishing trips that he conducted without a days-at-sea balance. At Mr. Burgess's request, the case was expedited to allow him to return to fishing.

Finally, I would like to make note of some of the important steps we are taking as we further develop a more effective and fair enforcement program for all of NOAA's authorities in response to the January 21 Inspector General's report.

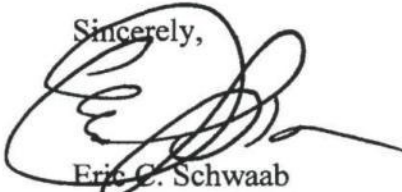
Among other things, NOAA has already transferred oversight of the Asset Forfeiture Fund, which holds fines imposed by NOAA, from NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service to the NOAA Comptroller and proposed a rule that places the burden of justifying a particular civil penalty or permit sanction on NOAA rather than the respondent, in cases before administrative law judges. We have also instituted a freeze on the hiring of criminal investigators until a work force analysis is completed and approved by Under Secretary Jane Lubchenco that will address the appropriate mix of criminal investigators and civil enforcement officers.

Additionally, the NOAA Office of Communications and External Affairs has developed a detailed Communications Plan to improve outreach to and communications with fishermen, with particular attention in the Northeast. Proposed strategies include fishermen forums, a web-portal and repository, and compliance guides. In addition to the communications plan, we have identified a neutral, well-respected facilitator—the U.S. Institute for Dispute Resolution—and are developing plans for an Enforcement Summit to be held in June 2010.

A number of other action steps, with detailed plans, are outlined in NOAA's Response to the Inspector General Report dated March 18, 2010, and Appendices.

Thank you for your consideration of this information. If you have additional questions, please contact John Gray, Director of Legislative and Intergovernmental Affairs, at (202) 482-4981, and we will assure that you are provided with the information requested.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Eric C. Schwaab", written over a circular scribble.

Eric C. Schwaab
Assistant Administrator
for Fisheries

DOCUMENT DESTRUCTION

Shredding

Subject: Shredding

From: Michelle Dufay <Michelle.Dufay@noaa.gov>

Date: Tue, 27 Oct 2009 16:10:55 -0400

To: nmfs.ole.hq@noaa.gov

Hi All,

Please respond to this email if you have a substantial amount of shredding and you wish to take advantage of the assistance of professional shredders.

Thanks!
Michelle

Subject: Re: Shredding

From: Dale Jones <dale.jones@noaa.gov>

Date: Tue, 27 Oct 2009 16:30:56 -0400

To: Michelle Dufay <Michelle.Dufay@noaa.gov>

How soon would we need to have it ready? I probably have "tons" of things that I could pull from file drawers if I had the time to prep it... say a few days lead time.

Michelle Dufay wrote:

Hi All,

Please respond to this email if you have a substantial amount of shredding and you wish to take advantage of the assistance of professional shredders.

Thanks!
Michelle

Subject: Re: Shredding

From: Dale Jones <dale.jones@noaa.gov>

Date: Tue, 27 Oct 2009 16:43:45 -0400

To: Michelle Dufay <Michelle.Dufay@noaa.gov>

OK - perhaps that would get me motivated!

Michelle Dufay wrote:

I can set it up for any time, so we can definitely take your little project into consideration.

Dale Jones wrote:

How soon would we need to have it ready? I probably have "tons" of things that I could pull from file drawers if I had the time to prep it... say a few days lead time.

Michelle Dufay wrote:

Hi All,

Please respond to this email if you have a substantial amount of shredding and you wish to take advantage of the assistance of professional shredders.

Thanks!
Michelle

Subject: Shredding

From: Michelle Dufay <Michelle.Dufay@noaa.gov>

Date: Wed, 04 Nov 2009 10:52:35 -0500

To: Dale Jones <Dale.Jones@noaa.gov>

Hi Dale,

It can take folders, staples, paper clips, and even spiral notebooks. I asked for a written list of their rules, and should receive it shortly via email, which I will forward.

Michelle

Re: Shredding

Subject: Re: Shredding

From: Dale Jones <dale.jones@noaa.gov>

Date: Wed, 04 Nov 2009 11:04:08 -0500

To: Michelle Dufay <Michelle.Dufay@noaa.gov>

OK - that will make it fast!

Michelle Dufay wrote:

Hi Dale,

It can take folders, staples, paper clips, and even spiral notebooks. I asked for a written list of their rules, and should receive it shortly via email, which I will forward.

Michelle

Subject: [Fwd: Shred-It Do's & Dont's]

From: Michelle Dufay <Michelle.Dufay@noaa.gov>

Date: Wed, 04 Nov 2009 13:29:25 -0500

To: Dale Jones <Dale.Jones@noaa.gov>, Mark.Paterni@noaa.gov, Stuart.Cory@noaa.gov, Kurt Dutton <Kurt.Dutton@noaa.gov>, Jo Ann McLean <Joann.Mclean@noaa.gov>, Tim Reed <T.Reed@noaa.gov>, Lesli Bales-Sherrod <Lesli.Bales-Sherrod@noaa.gov>, Daniel.A.Johnson@noaa.gov

Hi All,

FYI, here is a list of rules regarding the shredding that we will soon be getting together for the Shred It people.

Thanks,
Michelle

Shred-It Do's & Dont's.eml **Content-Type:** message/rfc822
Content-Encoding: 7bit

Subject: Shred-It Do's & Dont's

From: Carol-Lynn Ray <carollynn.ray@shredit.com>

Date: Wed, 04 Nov 2009 11:58:35 -0500

To: Michelle.Dufay@noaa.gov

CC: Carol-Lynn Ray <carollynn.ray@shredit.com>, Chris Blackwell <chris.blackwell@shredit.com>

Thank You,

Carol-Lynn Ray
Accounts Receivable Specialist
Sales and Office Coordinator

Shred-It - Washington DC
T: 301-315-0070 ext. 211
F: 301-315-1003
E: carollynn.ray@shredit.com

Making sure it's secure.

Do's & Don'ts in container.pdf



Shred-It USA Inc
850 East Gude Dr Suite H
Rockville, MD 20850
Tel: (301) 301-315-0070
Fax: (301) 301-315-1003

Confidential Paper Shredding & Recycling Do's & Don'ts

- **DO Place in Container**

- *White Paper
- *Colored Paper
- *File Folders
- *Window Envelopes
- *Staples & Paper Clips are ok
- *Brochures
- *Invoices
- *Transparencies
- *Plastic Cards (i.e. credit cards)
- *Newspapers & Magazines
- *Receipts

- **Can Shred, But Needs to be Separate (Contamination Fee will be Applied)**

- *CDs
- *Diskettes
- *Laminated Items
- *Hard Drives

- **DO NOT Place in Container**

- *Food Waste
- *Hanging Folders
- *Metal Objects
- *Batteries/ Cell Phones
- *Plastic Objects
- *Binders with Plastic covering
- *Rubber Bands
- *Paint
- *Flammable Materials
- *Printer Cartridges
- *Glass of any sort

Subject: Shredding

From: Michelle Dufay <Michelle.Dufay@noaa.gov>

Date: Thu, 19 Nov 2009 15:25:19 -0500

To: nmfs.ole.hq@noaa.gov

Hi All,

FYI, the Shred It Company will be here tomorrow morning around 9:30 a.m. If you have any documents to contribute, you can drop them off in my cubicle before then. There are plastic garbage bags in the kitchen closet for your convenience.

Thanks,
Michelle

Subject: Additional Information

From: Michelle Dufay <michelle.dufay@noaa.gov>

Date: Fri, 11 Dec 2009 15:25:51 -0500

To: gsebben@oig.doc.gov

Hi Greg,

As I told you on the phone, I felt the need to provide this additional information with regard to Dale Jones. At least a year ago, Dale told me about a project that he needed to do, which was to go through several drawers in his office containing files that he estimated to be over 10 years old. It is my belief, and it occurred to me at the time, that I had provided Dale with the perfect opportunity to at last conquer that long delayed project.

The idea to volunteer this information is my own; I was not asked or encouraged by anyone to provide it.

Please let me know if I can be of any further assistance.

Michelle

Subject: Requested Information on Purged Files

From: Dale Jones <dale.jones@noaa.gov>

Date: Mon, 14 Dec 2009 11:17:48 -0500

To: "Sebben, Greg" <gsebben@OIG.DOC.GOV>, "Nobles, Jennifer" <jnobles@OIG.DOC.GOV>

Greg and Jennifer,

Attached is a list of the file folders that reflects the general content of the files the were purged and shredded from my office a few weeks ago. As stated in the meeting with you last Thursday, I would never have imagined that anyone would seriously suspect that this activity was in any way inappropriate, regardless of the ongoing review by your office. Needless to reiterate that I was a bit surprised by the fact that this was considered as a potential issue. Given that the review has been in progress for over six months, the fact that the fund audit was initiated / announced several months ago and that this was clearly a very large and "open" exercise; even in retrospect, it is difficult for me to believe that such an exercise would be perceived as being inappropriate. That said, these files were very old files, most of which were well over five years old and some of which actually even predated my occupancy of the office over ten years ago. The majority of the files included informational documents on programs, services, organizations and other more general information. Some of them were draft or submitted proposals on operational, procedural or budget matters generated either by this office or submitted to this office from the field. These file cabinets did not contain Human Resources or Workforce Management related files or documents. They were not the type of files that would have been governed or covered by any of the document retention requirements. Many of them were duplicative information or documents that were printed in "hard copy" for use at the time of consideration but which were otherwise already retained in data files. Some were scanned into my computer and retained as PDF files and others were information that remains readily available in existing reports or through other readily available sources. In short, I simply was purging unused and infrequently or seldom accessed older files that were redundant, out dated, obsolete, antiquated or expired. Nothing that would have been relevant to the matters subject to the ongoing review by your office was disposed of. I hope that this is helpful or otherwise responsive to your needs. Dale

File List - purged documents.doc **Content-Type:** application/msword
Content-Encoding: base64

Monday, December 14, 2009

List of Purged File Drawers by File Name (note that items followed by and "r" were those retained in the drawers.)

Four Drawer Credenza -

Drawer #1

Agreements

Accident Claim

ACCSP Statistics

Admin Office

Marine Fishery Advisory Committee

AFA

Department of Agriculture

Aircraft - r

AK - Amendment 75

Appreciation Letters - r

Artic Wind Salmon Samples

Associations

Air Marshalls - r

AFMFC

Assessment Centers

Awards

Bios

Briefing Notes - r

CCAMLR - r

CAFRA

CALEA

Canada

CARA

Charities

Children's Pool - r

Coast Guard info

NOAA OLE USCG Liaison MOU - r

USCG Use of Force - r

Cooperative Enforcement - r

Joint Project Agreement r

Congressional Reports

Consensual Monitors - r

COPPS OLE

Coral Spending Plan

Cost Benefit Draft

Councils

Courses

Crab Enforcement

Credentials – r
Customs – r
Compendium Update #3
Computer Info
Congressional Affairs
Congress – r
Deemed Exports – r
Divisions
PI – Western Pacific Map
NW Division – Work force Analysis

Drawer #2
Directories
DOC Enforcement Group
Demo Project – r
Domicile Storage – r
Ecosystem Goal
Ecosystems Management
EEOAC – r
EMIS Replacement – r
ESA
Ethics – r
Exec Decision Process
FAO – r
Equipment
FFA
FINCEN
Firearms - r
Fish – Several Species
Fish and Wildlife Annual Report –r
Fisheries Stats
FLETC – r
Forensics – r
FTO training
Funds
GCEL Case Guidance
General Counsel
GETS Service Card
Gifts and Reports
Graphics
Gulf of Mexico Fisheries Management Council
Harassment Policy
HAZMAT
Highly Migratory Species
High Seas Driftnet
High Seas Fishing

Hurricane Katrina
Homeland Security
ID and Protection of Habitat
IFQs
Incident Response Plan
Incident Command Center
Inservice 2002
Interpol
Justice
Legislation
Magnuson Stevens – r
Marine Mammal Commission
MMPA
Media
Management Council
MOTR (PD-27) – r
Meeting Material
MHLC
MOA Guidelines – r

Drawer #3
Medical Standards – r
Monitoring Control and Surveillance – r
MPAs
NAFO – VMS
NAPA Review and DOCs
National Academy of Public Administration
National Broadcast Requests
NCIC
NEOM
NEPA
NESDIS – r
News Releases / Articles
NMFS
NOS Meeting
NPOA
Observers
Oceans Commission
OIG – r
Operating Plans – NOAA
Parking – BWI
Patagonian
Pelagic Observer
Permits
Phone System
Policy – Telework Policy – r

Pribilof Fur Seal
PR Priorities
Program Review Team
Proposals
Purchasing
Psychological Services
Quarterly Review
Radar Project – r
Radios – r
Recruitment and Retention Program – r
RPS/ESA/MMPA
Regions
Regional Stake Holders Meetings
Reports
Regulatory Streamlining
Roles and Deployment Study
Reg files
Regulations Recommendations
Retirement
Request National Broadcast
Sanctuaries
National Marine Sanctuaries Act – reauthorization
Science Centers
Security Upgrades
Seizures
Shark Fin – import / export
Ship Strike
Small Boat Program
Social Security Administration – r

Drawer #4
Software
Species / Fisheries – r
Sport Fishing Tournament
State Directors Meeting
Stake Holder Feedback
Supreme Court Cases – r
Surveillance Equipment
Survey Feedback
Talking Points
Toothfish Awards
Transition
Training Program record
Training – r
Travel
UNEP

VMS

Weigh Master Proposal

Western Pacific Regional Management – r

Workforce Analysis

Workforce Restructuring

Work relate Prog Outreach/Development

WTC – 9-11 – r

Two Drawer Credenza

Drawer # 1 – International files (not yet purged)

Drawer #2 - Budget files

Numerous draft and proposed budget request files purged. Retained only document print outs for specific years.

Subject: RE: Requested Information on Purged Files
From: "Sebben, Greg" <gsebben@OIG.DOC.GOV>
Date: Mon, 14 Dec 2009 11:32:02 -0500
To: "Jones, Dale" <Dale.Jones@noaa.gov>
CC: "Nobles, Jennifer" <jnobles@OIG.DOC.GOV>

Dale - thank you for information, we appreciate it. Greg

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

From: Dale Jones [mailto:Dale.Jones@noaa.gov]
Sent: Monday, December 14, 2009 11:18 AM
To: Sebben, Greg; Nobles, Jennifer
Subject: Requested Information on Purged Files

Greg and Jennifer,
Attached is a list of the file folders that reflects the general content of the files that were purged and shredded from my office a few weeks ago. As stated in the meeting with you last Thursday, I would never have imagined that anyone would seriously suspect that this activity was in any way inappropriate, regardless of the ongoing review by your office. Needless to reiterate that I was a bit surprised by the fact that this was considered as a potential issue. Given that the review has been in progress for over six months, the fact that the fund audit was initiated / announced several months ago and that this was clearly a very large and "open" exercise; even in retrospect, it is difficult for me to believe that such an exercise would be perceived as being inappropriate. That said, these files were very old files, most of which were well over five years old and some of which actually even predated my occupancy of the office over ten years ago. The majority of the files included informational documents on programs, services, organizations and other more general information. Some of them were draft or submitted proposals on operational, procedural or budget matters generated either by this office or submitted to this office from

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