

The following list contains the entire submission submitted September 29, 2025 12:30:06pm ET, and is formatted for ease of viewing and printing.

Contact information

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Request

Request ID	2416721
Confirmation ID	2420121

Request description

Dear FOIA Officer, Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, I request all records held by the Bureau of African Affairs, Office of West African Affairs (AF/W), that mention or refer to Sgt Kelvin Blas, from March 1, 2020 to present. This includes but is not limited to: Communications between AF/W and Embassy Lomé Cables or emails referencing Sgt Blas's welfare, case handling, or repatriation Any briefing materials, decision memos, or internal discussions prepared for leadership Sincerely, David Burger
Covenant for Forgotten Warriors — Records Enforcement Division

Supporting documentation

Fees

Request category ID	other
Fee waiver	yes

Explanation

I request a waiver of all fees associated with this request under 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(4)(A)(iii). Disclosure of the requested information is in the public interest because it is likely to contribute significantly to public understanding of government operations and is not primarily in my commercial interest. Public Interest: The records sought concern the treatment of a U.S. veteran and citizen stranded overseas and the performance of government agencies in providing consular assistance. Disclosure will contribute significantly to public understanding of how [AGENCY] responds to Americans in crisis abroad, specifically addressing questions of inter-agency coordination, policy implementation, and accountability for citizen welfare. Dissemination: I operate Covenant for Forgotten Warriors, a nonprofit organization dedicated to advocating for abandoned veterans. Information obtained will be disseminated to the public through our website (covenantforwarriors.org), advocacy materials, engagement with media and congressional offices, and public reporting to inform Americans about government performance. No Commercial Interest: I have no commercial interest in this information. Covenant for Forgotten Warriors is a nonprofit advocacy organization, and I receive no compensation for this work. Any information obtained will be used exclusively for public education and government accountability purposes. If fees are still determined to apply despite this waiver, I agree to pay up to \$25 without prior notice. If fees are expected to exceed this amount, please contact me in advance.

Willing to pay

25

Expedited processing

Expedited Processing

yes

Explanation

I request expedited processing pursuant to 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(6)(E)(v)(I) and (II). Compelling Need - Life/Safety: This matter involves a credible threat to an individual's life and physical safety. Sgt. Kelvin Blas, a U.S. Army veteran, has been stranded in Lomé, Togo for over five years without effective consular assistance. His passport was seized, and he continues to face deteriorating health conditions and living circumstances that pose imminent harm. Delay in disclosure could reasonably be expected to threaten the life or physical safety of a U.S. citizen who requires immediate government intervention. Compelling Need - Urgency to Inform Public: There is an urgent need to inform the public concerning actual federal government activity regarding the abandonment of American citizens overseas. The public has an immediate interest in understanding how government agencies coordinate (or fail to coordinate) assistance for stranded veterans, particularly given ongoing policy debates about consular services and veteran welfare.

Additional information

attachments_supporting_documentation