



**United States Department of State**

*Washington, D.C. 20520*

June 13, 2022

Case No. F-2022-08430

Ms. Elizabeth L. Lewis  
Eubanks & Associates, PLLC  
1629 K St NW, Suite 300  
Washington, D.C. 20006

Dear Ms. Lewis:

This letter is in response to your request dated March 12, 2022, under the Freedom of Information Act (“FOIA”), 5 U.S.C. § 552, which included a request for expedited processing. The Department of State’s expedited processing regulations, 22 C.F.R. 171.11(f), require a specific showing of a compelling need. Expedited processing is granted only when:

1. There exists an imminent threat to the life or physical safety of an individual;
2. Records are urgently needed by an individual primarily engaged in disseminating information in order to inform the public concerning actual or alleged Federal Government activity; or
3. Delay would impair substantial due process rights or harm substantial humanitarian interests.

We have reconsidered your request for expedited processing based on the additional information provided since you submitted your request in March 2022, and have determined that your request does meet the established criteria for expedited processing. We have further determined to process your request, which is now in our “expedited” queue, and to release any responsive, non-exempt records as soon as practicable.

Additionally, please note that requests for OGE 278 financial disclosure reports fall within the Ethics in Government Act, not the FOIA. Therefore, to the extent your request seeks any such records, you will need to submit an Office of Government Ethics form, OGE Form 201, to [OGE201Request@state.gov](mailto:OGE201Request@state.gov). See also 22 CFR § 171.31.

For further communications with this office, please contact [FOIAStatus@state.gov](mailto:FOIAStatus@state.gov) and include case number F-2022-08430.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Diamonece Hickson for".

Diamonece Hickson  
Acting Chief, Litigation and Appeals Branch  
Office of Information Programs and Services

Enclosures: As stated.