



Federal Communications Commission
Washington, D.C. 20554

March 4, 2025

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

Arthur Belendiuk
Smith & Belendiuk, P.C.
5028 Wisconsin Ave. N.W.
Suite 301
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Re: FOIA Control No. FCC-FOIA-2025-000636

Mr. Belendiuk:

This letter responds to your application for expedited processing in connection with your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request, FOIA Control No. FCC-FOIA-2025-000636, seeking “all documents from October 1, 2024, to the present, concerning the following USDS matters: 1. All documents by persons affiliated with or representing USDS relating to access to any records of the FCC including data repository, database, system of records, computer matching program, code base, or other system containing information. 2. All documents sent or received by the FCC regarding the deployment of individuals associated or affiliated with USDS. All documents pertaining to any past or planned meeting(s) with any Commission employee that included or includes any person or persons affiliated or associated with USDS; 4. All documents relating to USDS received, produced or disseminated by FCC employees. 5. All documents relating to the selection of DOGE Team members by any FCC employee or insertion of any DOGE Team member at the FCC; 6. All documents relating to the hiring of DOGE Team members or any other Schedule C or non-career Senior Executive Service (SES) or Senior Level (SL) employees to be placed within the FCC, including but not limited to the hiring of special government employees; 7. All documents exchanged between any employee of the FCC and any person affiliated with or representing USDS; and 8. All documents from January 1, 2021, to the present, relating to travel by Brendan Carr or the Carr Office to any location or facility of any Elon Musk Affiliated Entity.” By this letter, we grant your request for expedited processing.

Section 0.461(h) provides that a request for expedited processing shall be granted where a requester demonstrates a compelling need for expedited processing and certifies his request to be true and correct to the best of his knowledge. Our rules provide that the term “compelling need” means (1) “[t]hat failure to obtain requested records on an expedited basis could reasonably be expected to pose an imminent threat to the life or physical safety of an individual” or (2) “[w]ith respect to a request made by a person primarily engaged in disseminating information, there is an urgency to inform the public concerning actual or alleged Federal Government activity.”¹

¹ 47 CFR § 0.461(h)(3).

We conclude that the reasoning you provide justifies granting expedited processing on the basis that you are a person primarily engaged in disseminating information and there is an urgency to inform the public concerning actual or alleged government activity. Therefore, we grant your request for expedited processing. We will commence the search for records responsive to your request and anticipate responding to you as soon as possible.

Sincerely,
Cathy Williams SK

Cathy Williams
Associate Managing Director
Office of the Managing Director
Performance and Program Management