



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
HEADQUARTERS
NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE
27130 TELEGRAPH ROAD
QUANTICO VA 22134-2253

5720 2026-009830
SER00LJF/26U1449
August 6, 2026

[REDACTED]

RE: NCIS FOIA Request 2026-NavyFOIA-009830

Dear [REDACTED]

This responds to your July 10, 2026, Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request seeking specific records concerning the joint FBI/NCIS undercover operation and arrest of LCDR Edward Lin. We received your request on July 10, 2026. For your reference, your request number is 2026-NavyFOIA-009830.

This letter also acknowledges your original FOIA request 2026-NavyFOIA-005210 for the investigation concerning Edward Lin, which we denied pursuant to FOIA Exemption 1 (see 5 U.S.C. § 552 (b)(1)). You subsequently appealed our determination under 2026-NavyAppeal-000371. That appeal is currently pending resolution. You have indicated that this request is NOT to be considered a duplicate and that you have identified specific records that are separate and distinct that specifically respond to the operation and coordination between NCIS and the FBI. However, all records pertaining to the investigation of Edward Lin are contained within the full report of investigation identified in your 2026-NavyFOIA-005210 request, including records documenting the coordination between NCIS and the FBI, NCIS operation plans, arrest records, etc. Therefore, we consider this request to be a duplicate. As we have already provided a response to your initial request and it is currently pending appeal, we will not take further action on this request.

Under 32 CFR §701.12(a), you have a right to appeal our determination. Appeals may be submitted through the mail or electronically via e-mail. All appeals must be postmarked/dated (vice received) within 90 calendar days from the date of this letter, contain the reasons for your appeal, and include a copy of this letter along with a copy of your original request.

1. You may appeal in writing to the Judge Advocate General of the Navy (Code 14), 1322 Patterson Avenue SE, Suite 3000, Washington Navy Yard, DC 20374-5066, or via email at Navy-OJAG-C14-FOIA-PA-ADMINAPPEALS@us.navy.mil. The appeal letter and envelope and/or the email subject must both bear the notation: "FOIA Appeal."
2. Alternatively, you may appeal online via the public portal of the SecureRelease (the Department of the Navy's FOIA processing system). Go to <https://www.securerelease.us>

and click "Login/Create Account" (in the top-right corner). You must have a SecureRelease account and have also submitted your request through SecureRelease in order to appeal. Once complete, you will be able to file your appeal by clicking the "Create Appeal" button in the top-right corner of your FOIA request page.

3. To appeal a request that was not submitted through the SecureRelease portal, go to <https://www.securerelease.us> and click "Login/Create Account" (in the top-right corner) and enter the required information to create an account. Next click the "Create Request" button on the SecureRelease portal homepage in order to create a new FOIA request (do not choose Privacy Act request). In the Request Description field, indicate that this is an appeal and make reference to the original FOIA tracking number you received to easily identify the request you wish to appeal.

If you choose not to appeal, you have the right to seek dispute resolution services. You may contact the Department of the Navy's FOIA public liaison, Mr. Chris Julka, at christopher.a.julka@navy.mil or (703) 697-0031 or the Office of Government Information Services (<https://ogis.archives.gov/>).

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact us at ncis_foia@ncis.navy.mil or (571) 305-9092.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'R. Zeigler', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

R. ZEIGLER
Senior Associate Counsel