

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-0609

April 4, 2023

The Honorable Antony J. Blinken
Secretary of State
U.S. Department of State
2201 C Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20520

Secretary Blinken:

We write to follow up on requests for information regarding the origins of COVID-19 that remain outstanding. The Department of State has an obligation to be responsive to congressional requests for information.

Following an August 3, 2022 hearing of the Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Subcommittee on Emerging Threats and Spending Oversight¹, multiple letters were sent to your Department requesting documents and information. To date, the Department has failed to provide the requested information.

For this reason, we reaffirm the following requests for information:

1. Unredacted copies of any and all records excluded from production under 5 U.S.C. 522(c) with respect to FOIA Case Number: F-2020-06715/FL-2021-00033
2. Unredacted copies of all records produced in the March 24, 2021 production of documents in Case Number F-2020-06715/FL-2021-00033.
3. Unredacted copies of all responsive records identified in July 2021 with respect to Case Number FL-2021-00033 including, but not limited to, the seven records produced on July 26, 2021 and the one record withheld in its entirety.
4. Unredacted copy of the record produced in the August 24, 2021 with respect to Case Number FL-2021-00033.
5. Unredacted copies of all records produced in the September 24, 2021 production of documents in Case Number FL-2021-00033.
6. Unredacted copies of all responsive records identified in October 2021 with respect to Case Number FL-2021-00033 including, but not limited to, the eight records produced on October 25, 2021 and the one record withheld in its entirety.
7. Unredacted copies of all records produced in the November 24, 2021 production of documents in Case Number FL-2021-00033.
8. Unredacted copies of all records produced in the December 21, 2021 production of documents in Case Number FL-2021-00033.
9. Unredacted copies of all records produced in the January 24, 2022 production of documents in Case Number FL-2021-00033.

¹Revisiting Gain of Function Research: What the Pandemic Taught Us and Where Do We Go From Here: Hearing Before the S. Subcomm. on Emerging Threats and Spending Oversight of the S. Comm. on Homeland Sec. and Governmental Affairs, 117th Cong. (2022), available at: <https://www.hsgac.senate.gov/subcommittees/etso/hearings/revisiting-gain-of-function-research-what-the-pandemic-taught-us-and-where-do-we-go-from-here>.

10. Unredacted copies of all responsive records identified in February 2022 with respect to Case Number FL-2021-00033 including, but not limited to, the four records produced on February 24, 2022, the three records withheld in their entirety, and the record that originated with another U.S. Government agency.
11. Unredacted copies of all responsive records identified in March 2022 with respect to Case Number FL-2021-00033 including, but not limited to, the six records produced on March 24, 2022 and the two records withheld in their entirety.
12. Unredacted copies of all records produced in the April 25, 2022 production of documents in Case Number FL-2021-00033.
13. Unredacted copies of all records produced in the May 24, 2022 production of documents in Case Number FL-2021-00033.
14. Unredacted copies of all records produced in the June 24, 2022 production of documents in Case Number FL-2021-00033.
15. Unredacted copies of all records produced in the July 25, 2022 production of documents in Case Number FL-2021-00033.
16. Unredacted copies of all records produced in the August 24, 2022 production of documents in Case Number FL-2021-00033.
17. Unredacted copies of all processed material identified as potentially responsive in the September 26, 2022 production with respect to Case No. FL-2021-00033 including, but not limited to, the 10 records released in part and the 49 records withheld in their entirety.
18. Unredacted copies of all processed material identified as potentially responsive in the October 24, 2022 production with respect to Case No. FL-2021-00033 including, but not limited to, the 13 records released in part and the 50 records withheld in their entirety.
19. Unredacted copies of all potentially responsive records identified as of September 26, 2022 with respect to Case No. F-2022-04853/FL-2022-00062.
20. Unredacted copies of all records released in part on September 26, 2022 with respect to Case No. F-2022-04853/FL-2022-00062.
21. Unredacted copies of all potentially responsive records identified as of October 28, 2022 with respect to Case No. F-2021-07160/FL-2022-00076.
22. Unredacted copies of all responsive records identified on October 28, 2022 with respect to Case No. F-2021-07160/FL-2022-00076 including, but not limited to, the 1 record released in part and the 20 records withheld in their entirety.

We respectfully request you provide our offices with the status of each request no later than 5:00 PM on April 10, 2023.

Sincerely,

Rand Paul

Raymond

Ed Kennedy

Rosemary

John

Ad Long

Luis He

John

Eric

Richard

Paul

Susan M. Collins

Gynthia P. Lummis

John E

MA

Thomas

Harold

Mike Cross

W. J. ...

Bob ...

Mike ...

Ken ...

[Signature]

Ray ...

Kathy ...