

Bruce & Sara Schundler

From: "Bruce & Sara Schundler" <bruce@schundler.net>
To: <Charis_Wilson@nps.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, February 16, 2010 5:10 PM
Subject: Re: FOIA Appeal Status

Dear Charis

Once again, thank you.

I will post your email ---and hopefully everyone will be able to recognize you as one of the "good guys!"

And also.....no matter what I hear from the Appeals Officer, I do intend to contact OGIS.

To be sure, with the exception of you and Diane Cooke before you, I've gotten the impression that a lot of people in the NPS simply don't care about FOIA, they haven't read the President's memorandums and directives concerning greater openness and transparency, and they feel they are immune from disobeying the directives and memorandums addressing FOIA issues. In a word, they just don't care, no one cares enough to discipline them, and there's almost no incentive for them to change. (I wrote an article on this at <http://schundler.net/FOIAfailing.pdf> .)

Fortunately, some of us feel that's bad and something has to be done to change it. In part, we are driven by a concern that as our federal budgets become increasingly debated and as more and more programs have to be cut because of huge deficits and declining revenues, more openness and transparency will help protect the better programs and budgets, and force the waste and less critical expenditures be cut.

For instance, at Mesa Verde NP, I suspect a lot less money is going to be spent on unnecessary travel during the next few years.

All of this is a way of thanking you for your continuing interest and commitment to the FOIA process!

Bruce

----- Original Message -----

From: <Charis_Wilson@nps.gov>
To: "Bruce & Sara Schundler" <bruce@schundler.net>
Sent: Tuesday, February 16, 2010 2:49 PM
Subject: Re: FOIA Appeal Status

>I have no problem with your posting it. Also, as I said, I was very
> impressed by Miriam Naisbit of the Office of Government Information
> Services (OGIS). Per the 2007 OPEN Government Act they now have Ombudsman
> responsibilities for FOIA processes in the federal government.
> <http://www.archives.gov/ogis/> I would definitely recommend contacting
> them
> they have the responsibility to:

> If it's official, I'll post it....otherwise, I won't.

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> Let me know.

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> Bruce

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>> Ms. Charis Wilson, MLS, CRM
>> Acting NPS FOIA Officer
>> 12795 W. Alameda Parkway
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>> Denver, CO 80225-0287
>> 303-969-2959
>> Fax: 303-969-2557

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>> "What we find changes who we become." - Peter Morville

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>> "The historian works with records...there is no substitute for records:

> no
>> records, no history." - Paraphrasing Langlois & Seignobos (1903)

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>> "Let us be guardians, not gardeners" - Adolph Murie

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