

## U.S. Department of Justice

## Federal Bureau of Investigation

Washington, D.C. 20535

APR 25 1989

Mr. Harold Weisberg 7627 Old Receiver Road Frederick, Maryland 21701

Harold Weisberg

Re: FOIPA # 277836-001

Dear Requester:

This is in further response to your pending Freedom of Information-Privacy Acts (FOIPA) request(s).

The FBI has allocated substantial resources and manpower, including over 200 employees assigned full time to FOIPA processing, to implement the disclosure provisions of the FOIPA. Despite this commitment, a significant increase in the number of requests received by the FBI during the past three years has strained our resources to the point that we are faced with a constantly increasing backlog of requests awaiting review. At the end of September, 1988, we had over 10,000 requests on hand in various stages of processing. Many of these inquiries are for records encompassing thousands of documents.

We attempt to handle requests based on the approximate order of receipt consistent with sound administrative practices, and every effort will be made to complete your request as soon as possible. However, as you will readily understand from the above information, a delay of several months or more may be anticipated before your request is handled in turn.

In an effort to reduce the correspondence involved with the thousands of requests currently on hand, you will be advised only after the processing of your request has been partially or fully completed. We appreciate your continued patience and understanding.

Sincerely yours,

Emil P. Moschella, Chief Freedom of Information-Privacy Acts Section

Records Management Division