

## U.S. Department of Justice

## Federal Bureau of Investigation

Washington, D.C. 20535

FEB 13 1986

James H. Lesar, Esq. Room 509 918 F Street, N.W. Washington, D. C. 20004

Subject: RFK Assassination FOIPA No. 255,315

Dear Mr. Lesar:

Reference is made to your letters dated December 28, 1985, and January 4, 1986.

In your letter of December 28, 1985, you infer that the identities of Special Agents and other personnel are "routinely" withheld from Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) releases. This is not the case. The decision to withhold the identities of law enforcement personnel is determined on a case-by-case basis. In this instance, the case agent's and the supervisor's names are being released. Other agents' names are being released in those instances where such are already in the public domain or where there would be no unwarranted invasion of their personal privacy.

The identities of FBI and other law enforcement personnel will be protected (pursuant to FOIA exemption (b)(7)(C)) where it is appropriate to protect their privacy rights. Such deletions have been upheld by the courts. See Lesar v. United States Department of Justice, 636 F.2d 472 (D. C. Cir. 1980).

In your letter of January 4, 1986, you requested the worksheets generated in connection with the processing of your FOIA request. Worksheets have not been used to date in this

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case because they would have been of no assistance to, and would have unnecessarily delayed, the processing of your request. However, if such worksheets are used at a later date, they will be provided at no cost.

You may submit an appeal from any denial contained herein by writing to the Assistant Attorney General, Office of Legal Policy (Attention: Office of Information and Privacy), United States Department of Justice, Washington, D. C. 20530, within thirty days from receipt of this letter. The envelope and the letter should be clearly marked "Freedom of Information Appeal" or "Information Appeal." Please cite the FOIPA number assigned to your request so that it may be easily identified.

Sincerely yours,

James K. Hall, Chief Freedom of Information-Privacy Acts Section Records Management Division