

Harold Weisberg
Route 8, Frederick, Md. 21701
10/15/73

Mr. Russ Roberts, Director
Special Public Information Office
Department of Health, Education and Welfare
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Roberts,

A Washington Post news story indicates that you are the one in HEW to whom to address requests for public information under the Freedom of Information Act.

I write, under the provisions of 5 U.S.C. 552 to ask for access to the records of HEW contracts with Robert R. Mullen & Co., who present address is 1700 Penna. Ave., NW., and for contracts with this company when it was at other addresses, going back to January 1, 1959.

If in some cases the contracts are in the names of officials or employees of this company, I would also like access to those contracts.

I do not know in what form your records exist. If you keep tabulations of contracts by the name of the contractor - by which I mean not the contract itself but a summary of the record in tabular form or its equivalent - then rather than going in to HEW I would prefer a copy.

Perhaps there after I might want to examine records holding other details.

My initial interest is in what the contracts were for, how much money was involved in each and whether or not there was competitive bidding for the contract.

If it is necessary that or if you would prefer that I examine those records you have, because we are 50 miles away, I would appreciate it if you would tell me to whose office to go and where I may be able to park my car near it. I would prefer to make it on a Tuesday or a Thursday. For your convenience or that of anyone else who may be involved, as of now it can be any Tuesday or Thursday you select.

If some of the records are in storage but you do have summary information, do not go to the trouble of retrieving the stored information until I have seen the summary.

Within the past year Congresswoman Green had interest in one or more of these contracts. I would like access to the records of that inquiry about them. If this involves only a short exchange of correspondence, I would prefer copies to making the trip of 100 miles. In general, I would prefer to be in accord with the national policy of conserving fuel, so I would appreciate it if you would let me know the basis on which you charge for copies.

Should you want to speak to me about this, my phone is 301/473-8186.

If you cannot make this information available to me within a short time, I would appreciate knowing how long it will take.

Sincerely,

Harold Weisberg