



Transportation  
Security  
Administration

**December 19, 2018**

**3600.1**

FOIA Case Number: 2018-TSFO-00143

**VIA EMAIL ONLY**

Ms. Vasudha Talla  
Staff Attorney  
ACLU of Northern California  
39 Drumm Street  
San Francisco, CA 94111  
[vtalla@aclunc.org](mailto:vtalla@aclunc.org)

Dear Ms. Talla:

This letter is provided as final resolution of your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request submitted on December 20, 2017. The Transportation Security Administration (TSA) provided you with interim responses to your request on March 20, May 15, and June 22, 2018 (regarding Request 1)<sup>1</sup>; July 20, 2018 (regarding Request 5); and July 27, 2018 (regarding Requests 2-4). You have agreed that no further processing of your FOIA request is necessary if TSA provides a letter clarifying certain information discussed in the interim responses. Accordingly, for the purpose of finally resolving and closing this matter, TSA provides you with the following information:

As indicated in the interim responses, TSA does not have policies that address searching passengers' electronic devices for the purpose of copying or examining the data or information stored within, as TSA does not search for or collect information housed on passengers' electronic devices and does not provide screening personnel with any means to do so (as indicated by TSA's "no records" response to your Requests 2 through 4 seeking records regarding equipment that could be used for that purpose). TSA's search for records responsive to your FOIA request located no records expressly addressing the content housed on passengers' electronic devices. The records identified as responsive to your Request 1 set forth TSA's procedures for security screening passengers' electronic devices, including through the use of x-ray and explosives trace detection technology. These procedures do not include searching the content housed on

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<sup>1</sup> On July 26, 2018, you submitted an administrative appeal of TSA's interim response to Request 1. TSA issued a final decision on the appeal on August 23, 2018.

electronic devices. To the extent your FOIA request sought a record that contains an explicit prohibition on such activity, no such record was located. This search result is consistent with the facts that screening personnel are required and expected to follow TSA's security screening procedures, TSA does not search electronic devices for the purpose of examining or extracting electronic content that may be contained on the device, and screening personnel are not provided with any equipment to do so.

As you have agreed, TSA will not engage in any further processing of your FOIA request, and this matter is now closed.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Teri Miller".

Teri Miller  
FOIA Officer