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From: Rick *****

Sent: Friday, March 16, 2007 2:04 PM

To: john.hugya@mail.house.gov; MaryBeth_LaVerghetta@specter.senate.gov

Cc: alex_davis@casey.senate.gov; pfsc@pa.net; dave@bihammer.net

Subject: [Fwd:] Dept of Interior refuses FOIA request re: VCDL Petition For Rule Making

Attachments: Attached Message (5.67 KB)

Good afternoon,

The VA Citizen's Defense League submitted a Petition For Rule Making to the Department of the Interior in February 2005. This February, two years later, Philip Van Cleave, President of the VCDL, received a response from DOI that the petition to amend the National Park regulations to assimilate state concealed carry laws was summarily denied. We believe the reasons given were invalid, unable to be substantiated and were made without complying with due process.

VCDL Executive Member Dave Yates submitted a Freedom of Information Act request on February 8, 2007 to the DOI for any and all relevant materials regarding our Petition. To date we have still not received an answer from either the FOIA officer or the Interior Department. This failure to respond is clearly beyond the time frame of all regulatory guidelines for response to public requests for information.

As a result of the failure of both DOI and the Departmental FOIA officer to respond in a timely manner Dave Yates has again asked the departments for a response to our request. I have enclosed a copy of the original FOIA request and Dave's subsequent request for information.

We feel this behavior is outrageous. Clearly these departments are again denying us access to the reasons for the original DOI Petition dismissal and the documents they used to make that determination. Could you please contact Secretary Klemphorne at the Interior Department and urge him to release these documents or to ensure that our original Petition is accorded the appropriate process of review that all petitions are given. Please keep me informed of any response or information you may receive.

Thank you for your help with this matter.

Rick *****

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