



United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520

FEB 12 2009

Case Number: 200900535

Ms. Pamela Barnett
2541 Warrego Way
Sacramento, CA 95826

Dear Ms. Barnett:

This is in response to your Freedom of Information Act/Privacy Act (FOIA/PA) request, dated January 2, 2009, for copies of US passports and consular records between 1/1/1959 and 12/31/1962 for the late Stanley Ann Dunham (aka: Stanley Ann Obama, Ann Dunham, Ann Obama) for the purpose of determining the location of Barack Obama's birth.

We will begin the processing of your request based upon the information provided in your communication. We will notify you as soon as responsive material has been retrieved and reviewed.

We wish to advise you that the cut-off date for retrieving records is either the date you have given the Department by specifying a particular time frame, or the date the search initiated.

Fees

The Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requires agencies to assess fees to recover the direct costs of processing requests, unless a fee waiver has been granted.

According to our regulations, by making a FOIA request, you have agreed to pay all applicable fees up to \$25 unless a fee waiver has been granted. You may specify a willingness to pay a greater amount. If the estimated fees exceed this limit, you will be notified.

Office of Information Programs and Services
U.S. Department of State, SA-2
Washington, DC 20522-8100
Website: www.foia.state.gov

Inquiries:
Phone: 1-202-261-8484
FAX: 1-202-261-8579
E-mail: FOIAStatus@state.gov

- You have stated your willingness to pay the fees incurred in the processing of this request up to \$1,000.00.
- Please let us know if you are willing to pay the fees that will be incurred in the processing of your request. You may set a limit of the maximum amount that you wish to pay. Please be advised that, without an agreement to pay fees, your request will be processed without cost up to the required first 2 hours of search time (for all other requester category only) and duplication of the first 100 pages (for all other, media, educational and non-commercial scientific requester categories).

We will notify you of the costs incurred in processing your request as soon as the search for, and review of, any responsive documents have been completed.

Based upon the information that you have provided, we have placed you in the requester category checked below. This request will be processed in accordance with the fee schedule designated for that category (see 22 C.F.R. 171, enclosed).

- Commercial Use Requesters – Requires us to assess charges that recover the full direct costs of searching for, reviewing for release, and duplicating the record(s) sought.
- Educational Institution Requesters – Requires us to assess charges that recover the cost of duplicating the record(s) sought only, after the first 100 pages of duplication.
- Non-commercial Scientific Institution Requesters – Requires us to assess charges that recover the cost of duplicating the record(s) sought only, after the first 100 pages of duplication.
- Representatives of the News Media – Requires us to assess charges that recover the cost of duplicating the record(s) sought only, after the first 100 pages of duplication.
- All Other Requesters – Requires us to assess charges that recover the full reasonable direct cost of searching for and duplicating the record(s) sought, after the first 100 pages of duplication, and the first two hours of search time.

- You have indicated your inclusion in a category different than the one indicated above. Please forward the information requested on the enclosed sheet titled "Requester Categories" to substantiate your inclusion in a particular category of requester.

Fee Waiver

- Your request for a fee waiver has been granted; therefore, your request will be processed at no charge to you.
- Based upon the information provided in your letter, your request for a fee waiver has been denied. If you wish to appeal this decision, you may write to the Chief, Requester Liaison Division, at the address given on the bottom of this page. Your appeal should address the points listed in the enclosed sheet titled "Requests for Fee Waivers." Your appeal must be sent to us within 30 days from the date that you receive this letter.

Expedition

- After consideration of your request for expedited processing under the Department's rules governing Freedom of Information Act requests, we have determined that your request does warrant expedited processing.

Although we cannot promise that the processing of your request will be completed by a specific date, it will be processed ahead of all other requests now pending with the Department, except for those other requests already determined to warrant expedition.

- Our published regulations regarding expedition, 22 C.F.R. 171.12(b), require a specific showing of a compelling need. Expeditious processing is granted only in the following situations: (1) imminent threat to the life or physical safety of an individual; (2) urgently needed by an individual primarily engaged in disseminating information in order to inform the public concerning actual or alleged

Federal Government activity and the information is urgently needed in that a particular value of the information would be lost if not disseminated quickly; (3) substantial humanitarian reasons; and (4) loss of substantial due process rights. Your request does not meet any of the established criteria. Regrettably, I must advise that you have not provided adequate justification for expedition. However, you may be assured that we will make every effort to process your request in as timely a manner as possible. For your convenience, I have enclosed a copy of the Department's expeditious processing criteria.

If you wish to appeal the denial of expedition, you may write to the Chief, Requester Liaison Division, at the address below, within 30 days of receipt of this letter.

Other Agency Material

- Some of the material that you seek appears to have been originated by another agency (ies). If you wish to contact the Freedom of Information/Privacy Office of that agency (ies), the address (es) can be found on the attached list.

- Some of the records you seek are no longer in the possession of the State Department. The majority of Department of State records (excluding passport and visa records) which are 25 years or older are transferred to the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) in accordance with Title 22, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 171.6. Accordingly, requests for such records should be addressed to:

National Archives and Records Administration
8601 Adelphi Road, Room 311
College Park, MD 20740-6001

- For pre-1925 passport records, and visa records dating 1910-1940, please contact:

Civil Records
National Archives & Records Administration
Washington, DC 20408

If you wish to review further information on our requirements for maintenance or disposal of records, please visit the following website:
foia.state.gov/records.asp.

While we will make every effort to meet the time limits cited in the FOIA (5 U.S.C. § 552), unusual circumstances may arise for extending the time limit (see enclosure). We appreciate your patience in this matter.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us at the number or address below. We can provide faster service if you include the case number of your request in your communications with us.

We are pleased to be of service to you.

Sincerely,



Patrick D. Scholl, Acting Chief
Requester Communications Branch
ISO 9001:2000 Certified

Enclosures: As stated.

§ 171.14 Fees to be charged—general.

The Department shall seek to charge fees that recoup the full allowable direct costs it incurs in processing a FOIA request. It shall use the most efficient and least costly methods to comply with requests for documents made under the FOIA. The Department will not charge fees to any requester, including commercial use requesters, if the cost of collecting a fee would be equal to or greater than the fee itself. With the exception of requesters seeking documents for a commercial use, the Department will provide the first two hours of search time and the first 100 pages of duplication without charge. By making a FOIA request, the requester shall be considered to have agreed to pay all applicable fees up to \$25.00 unless a fee waiver has been granted.

(a) *Searches for responsive records.* If the Department estimates that the search costs will exceed \$25.00, the requester shall be so notified. Such notice shall offer the requester the opportunity to confer with Department personnel with the object of reformulating the request to meet the requester's needs at a lower cost. The request shall not be processed further unless the requester agrees to pay the estimated fees.

(1) *Manual searches.* The Department will charge at the salary rate (*i.e.*, basic pay plus 16 percent of basic pay) of the employee making the search.

(2) *Computer searches.* The Department will charge at the actual direct cost of providing the service. This

63939 Federal Register /
Vol. 69, No. 212 /
Wednesday, November 3,
2004 / Rules and Regulations
will include the cost of operating
the central processing unit
(CPU) for that portion of
operating time that is directly
attributable to searching for
records responsive to a FOIA
request and

operator/programmer salary
attributable to the search.

(b) *Review of records.* Only requesters who are seeking documents for commercial use may be charged for time spent reviewing records to determine whether they are releasable. Charges may be assessed for the initial review only; *i.e.*, the review undertaken the first time the Department analyzes the applicability of a specific exemption to a particular record or portion of a record.

(c) *Duplication of records.* Records shall be duplicated at a rate of \$.15 per page. For copies prepared by computer, such as tapes or printouts, the Department shall charge the actual cost, including operator time, of production of the tape or printout. For other methods of reproduction or duplication, the Department shall charge the actual direct costs of producing the document.

If the Department estimates that the duplication costs will exceed \$25.00, the requester shall be so informed. The request shall not be processed further unless the requester agrees to pay the estimated fees.

(d) *Other charges.* The Department shall recover the full costs of providing services such as those enumerated below:

(1) Certifying that records are true copies (*see* part 22 of this chapter); (2) Sending records by special methods such as express mail, overnight courier, *etc.*

(f) Payment shall be in the form either of a personal check or bank draft drawn on a bank in the United States, or a postal money order. Remittances shall be made payable to the order of the Treasury of the United States and mailed to the Information and Privacy Coordinator.

(g) A receipt for fees paid will be given upon request. Refund of fees paid for services actually rendered will not be made.

§ 171.15 Fees to be charged—categories of requesters.

Under the FOIA, there are four categories of requesters: Commercial use requesters, educational and noncommercial scientific institutions, representatives of the news media, and all other requesters. The fees for each of these categories are:

(a) Commercial use requesters.

When the Department receives a request for documents for commercial use as defined in § 171.11(l), it will assess charges that recover the full direct costs of searching for, reviewing for release, and duplicating the record sought. Commercial use requesters are not entitled to two hours of free search time or 100 free pages of reproduction of documents. The Department may recover the cost of searching for and reviewing records even if there is ultimately no disclosure of records (*see* § 171.16(b)).

(b) Educational and non-commercial scientific institution requesters. The Department shall provide documents to requesters in this category for the cost of reproduction alone, excluding charges for the first 100 pages. To be eligible for inclusion in this category, a requester must show that the request is being made as authorized by and under the auspices of a qualifying institution, as defined in § 171.11(m) and (n), and that the records are not sought for a commercial use, but are sought in furtherance of scholarly (if the request is from an educational institution) or scientific (if the request is from a noncommercial scientific institution) research.

(c) Representatives of the news media. The Department shall provide documents to requesters in this category for the cost of reproduction alone, excluding charges for the first 100 pages. To be eligible for inclusion in this category, a requester must meet the criteria in § 171.11(o), and the request must not be made for a commercial use. A request for records supporting

the news dissemination function of the requester shall not be considered to be a commercial use request.

(d) All other requesters. The Department shall charge requesters who do not fit into any of the categories above fees that recover the full reasonable direct cost of searching for and reproducing records that are responsive to the request, except that the first 100 pages of reproduction and the first two hours of search time shall be furnished without charge.