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September 10, 2019

Ms. Kim Tart
Director of Enterprise Records Service (ERS) and
Agency Records Officer
Department of Veterans Affairs
810 Vermont Avenue, NW
Enterprise Records Service (005R1B)
Washington, DC 20420

Dear Ms. Tart:

The National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) received the Department of Veteran Affairs' (VA) letter of an unauthorized disposition on August 13, 2019. Your letter reported the improper and inadvertent destruction of litigation, military health, and contractor files containing PII. The inclusive dates and volume of these records, which were maintained by the Office of General Counsel, cannot be determined and efforts to specify whether the affected records are originals or copies is still ongoing.

While the VA has established a number of measures to mitigate similar risks in the future, in order to determine whether the reporting requirements have been met, further information is required. Please respond to this memo within 30 days with additional information regarding VA's findings as to whether the destroyed records were the original recordkeeping copies for the agency. If you have any questions, please contact me at laurence.brewer@nara.gov.

Sincerely,

LAURENCE BREWER Chief Records Officer

for the U.S. Government

Laurece N. Brewes



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December 4, 2020

Ms. Kim Tart
Director of Enterprise Records Service (ERS) and
Agency Records Officer
Department of Veterans Affairs
810 Vermont Avenue, NW
Enterprise Records Service (005R1B)
Washington, DC 20420
kim.tart@va.gov

Dear Ms. Tart:

The National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) received the Department of Veterans Affairs' (VA) response regarding NARA's request for further information pertaining to its Office of General Counsel's (OGC) unauthorized destruction of records (UD-2019-0047). In August 2019, your agency reported this incident to NARA and identified several adopted measures to mitigate future risks to similar records. The VA has since determined that it is unable to verify whether the destroyed records were designated as original recordkeeping copies or duplicates.

Based on the information that you provided, the reporting requirements of 36 CFR 1230.14(a) have been met. NARA is satisfied with the safeguards established and considers this matter closed. If you have any questions, please contact me at laurence.brewer@nara.gov.

Sincerely,

LAURENCE BREWER
Chief Records Officer

for the U.S. Government

Laurece N. Brewes