



Office of the Chief
Records Officer for the
U.S. Government

Sent Via Email. No Hard Copy to Follow.

September 27, 2022

Kim Tart
Department of Veterans Affairs
810 Vermont Ave, NW
Enterprise Records Service (005R1B)
Washington, DC 20420
kim.tart@va.gov

Dear Kim Tart,

The National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) has been notified of a potential unauthorized disposition of records at the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). A member of the public has alleged that video surveillance records relating to a U.S. District Court case were erroneously destroyed. The records document an incident that occurred on October 17, 2019 at the Birmingham Veterans Affairs Medical Center (BVAMC), Birmingham, Alabama.

In accordance with 36 CFR 1230.14(a), NARA requests that VA respond within 30 calendar days to this allegation. If it is determined that an unauthorized disposition of records has occurred, the response should include the following information:

- A complete description of the records with volume and dates if known;
- The office maintaining the records;
- A statement of the exact circumstances surrounding the removal, defacing, alteration, or destruction of records;
- A statement of the safeguards established to prevent further loss of documentation; and
- Details of the actions taken to salvage, retrieve, or reconstruct the records.

If it is determined that there has been no unauthorized disposition, please provide us with sufficient documentation to support that finding. I appreciate your attention to this matter. If you have any questions or wish to discuss further, please contact me at laurence.brewer@nara.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Laurence M. Brewer". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'L' and a distinct 'M'.

LAURENCE BREWER
Chief Records Officer
for the U.S. Government



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December 14, 2022

Kim Tart
Department of Veterans Affairs
810 Vermont Ave, NW
Enterprise Records Service (005R1B)
Washington, DC 20420
kim.tart@va.gov

Dear Kim Tart,

The National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) acknowledges receipt of the Department of Veterans Affairs' report regarding an alleged unauthorized disposition of video surveillance tapes of an incident that occurred at the Birmingham Veterans Affairs Medical Center (BVAMC), Birmingham, Alabama.

We understand that the records were lost due to a failure to follow established records management procedures and FOIA guidance. To mitigate future loss of records, the VA Records Officer has recommended that all BVAMC records management staff complete records management training and that all custodians who handle surveillance video take additional FOIA/Privacy training.

Based on this information, 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 regarding this matter, please contact me at laurence.brewer@nara.gov.

Sincerely,

LAURENCE BREWER
Chief Records Officer
for the U.S. Government