

United States of America FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D.C. 20580

Matt Novak
Gawker Media
(b) (6)
Los Angeles, CA(b) (6)

Re: FOIA-2015-01334

Trump University

Dear Mr. Novak:

This is in response to your request dated August 17, 2015 under the Freedom of Information Act seeking access to complaints filed against Trump University or the Trump Entrepreneur Initiative. In accordance with the FOIA and agency policy, we have searched our records as of August 18, 2015, the date we received your request in our FOIA office.

As a news media requester, there are no fees associated with this request so your request for a fee waiver is moot.

The only responsive documents we have located are approximately 35 consumer complaints. I am granting partial access to, and am enclosing copies of, the accessible records. You should know that the enclosed complaints have not necessarily been verified by the FTC. Therefore, you should make your own judgment about relying on the information provided. Some of the complaints, and portions of other complaints, are subject to two of the nine exemptions to the FOIA's disclosure requirements, as explained below.

One of the complaints are withheld in full under FOIA Exemption 3, 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(3), because it is exempt from disclosure by another statute; specifically, Section 21(f) of the FTC Act provides that the FTC may not disclose any material reflecting a consumer complaint obtained from a foreign source if that foreign source has requested confidential treatment. 15 U.S.C.§ 57b-2(f).

I am also denying access to consumers' names and addresses, and any other identifying information found in the complaints. This information is exempt from release under FOIA Exemption 6, 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(6), because individuals' right to privacy outweighs the general public's interest in seeing personal identifying information. See The Lakin Law Firm v. FTC, 352 F.3d 1122 (7th Cir. 2003).

If you are not satisfied with this response to your request, you may appeal by writing to Freedom of Information Act Appeal, Office of the General Counsel, Federal Trade Commission, 600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W., Washington D.C. 20580, within 30 days of the date of this letter. Please enclose a copy of your original request and a copy of this response. If you believe that we should choose to disclose additional materials beyond what the FOIA requires, please explain why this would be in the public interest.

If you have any questions about the way we handled your request or about the FOIA regulations or procedures, please contact Brian Welke at 202-326-2897.

Sincerely,

Dione J. Stearns

Assistant General Counsel