American Oversight  
1030 15th Street North West, Suite B255  
Washington, DC 20005  

Dear Requester:  

This letter is in response to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request dated January 11, 2021 for records from December 31, 2020 through January 7, 2021 from the following personnel:  

Maj. Gen. William Walker, Commanding General, DC National Guard  
Brigadier Gen. Aaron Dean II, Adjutant General, DC National Guard  
Brigadier Gen. Mark Maldonado, Commander, DC National Guard  

You requested all communications sent or received by the officials listed above regarding events at the U.S. Capitol, U.S. National Mall, or surrounding grounds in Washington D.C. on January 6, 2021 concerning but not limited to the potential or actual deployment of law enforcement officers and/or National Guard troops, requests for assistance from members of Congress or Congressional staff, protests or armed activity at the Capitol, President Trump’s rally, or concerns about security; and all orders, directives, protocols, or guidance prepared, written, approved, or signed by the officials listed above.  

A search by the District of Columbia National Guard revealed 8 pages responsive to your request. This office is providing an interim response to you through the Department of Justice. These records you have requested are being granted to you in part. After a thorough review of this document, our office determined that portions of it are exempt from disclosure under the FOIA, 5 U.S.C. § 552 (b)(5), (b)(6), and (b)(7)(E).  

Exemption (b)(5) protects inter-agency or intra-agency memorandums or letters which would not be available by law to a party other than an agency in litigation with the agency. Under this exemption, I am withholding records under the pre-decisional and deliberative process privilege.  

Exemption (b)(6) protects personnel, medical, and similar files the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy. Under this exemption, I am withholding the names of all DoD personnel below the rank of General Officer as well as personal information on third parties.  

Exemption (b)(7)(E) protects techniques and procedures for law/administrative enforcement investigations or prosecutions or would
disclose guidelines for law enforcement; if disclosed, could reasonably be expected to risk circumvention of the law.

If you have any questions regarding this request, please contact our office by e-mail at NGB.FOIA@mail.mil.

Sincerely,

For
Charles L. Young, III
General Counsel
Office of the General Counsel

Enclosures:
J-21-0132-L Records for Release (Oct 21)
December 31, 2020

Major General William J. Walker  
Commanding General  
District of Columbia National Guard  
2001 East Capitol Street, SE  
Washington, DC 20003  

Dear Major General Walker:

As you know, First Amendment demonstrations permitted by the National Park Service are scheduled to occur in the District of Columbia on Tuesday, January 5, 2021 and Wednesday, January 6, 2021. As a result, District Government requests DC National Guard (DCNG) support, as these demonstrations will follow similar events on November 14, 2020 and December 12, 2020, which resulted in a large influx of participants, violence and criminal activity.

The District of Columbia is requesting personnel from the DCNG. Further, DCNG will support operations for both the Metropolitan Police Department and the DC Fire and Emergency Medical Services. Finally, no DCNG personnel shall be armed during this mission, and at no time, will DCNG personnel or assets be engaged in domestic surveillance, searches, or seizures of US persons.

Director Christopher Rodriguez of the District’s Homeland Security and Emergency Management Agency will provide the requirements of and more details related to the mission. I request that you immediately connect with Director Rodriguez to discuss this critical request. Thank you for your immediate assistance.

Sincerely,

Muriel Bowser  
Mayor
December 31, 2020

District of Columbia National Guard
ATTN: General William Walker
2001 East Capitol Street, SE
Washington, DC 20003

Sent via email

Dear General Walker,

As you know, First Amendment demonstrations permitted by the National Park Service are scheduled to occur in the District of Columbia on Tuesday, January 5, 2021 and Wednesday, January 6, 2021. As a result, District Government requests DC National Guard (DCNG) support, as these demonstrations will follow similar events on November 14, 2020 and December 12, 2020, which resulted in a large influx of participants, violence, and criminal activity. I can confirm that the requesting DC agencies below have exhausted their organic capabilities in accordance with the Seven Step Call-Up process for DCNG support. This request is made on behalf of, and with concurrence from, The Honorable Muriel Bowser, Mayor of Washington, DC.

First, to support the Metropolitan Police Department’s (MPD) security mission, it is requested that members of DCNG be activated to assist MPD. Due to the size of these events, all available MPD resources will be deployed and the assistance of DCNG will be essential in supporting the security plan. The mission of DCNG during this activation will primarily be crowd management and assistance with blocking vehicles at traffic posts. Specifically, DCNG is requested to provide:

- Six (6) crowd management teams to manage crowds at specified Metro stations and prevent overcrowding on Metro platforms;
- A team to assist at thirty (30) designated traffic posts.

DCNG should be prepared to staff these locations from 0730 hours until 2400 hours on both Tuesday, January 5, 2021 and Wednesday, January 6, 2021. In addition, it is requested that DCNG members be equipped with visibility vests and lighted traffic wands to assist with this mission. The availability of resources to assist MPD would greatly enhance our ability to successfully accomplish our mission of securing the safety of the residents and visitors of the District of Columbia.
Second, the DC Fire and Emergency Medical Services Department (FEMS) requests that members of the Civil Support Team (CST) conduct the following five (5) tasks on request: (1) Chemical, Biological, Radiation, Nuclear monitoring, and hazardous material on-site support; (2) provide liaisons at all required locations; (3) provide technical decontamination support; (4) provide Analytical Laboratory System support; and (5) provide CST Operations and Communications capability support. FEMS would like CST support to begin at 0700 hours on Tuesday, January 5, 2021 and conclude at 0700 hours on Thursday, January 7, 2021—or when released by FEMS. The CST will be partnered with FEMS throughout this mission, and DCNG will coordinate with FEMS to ensure support requirements are complete. DCNG’s chain-of-command will remain intact for purposes of administrative and operational control.

No DCNG personnel will be armed during this mission. At no time will DCNG personnel or assets be engaged in domestic surveillance, searches, or seizures of US persons. If there are any questions about this request, please contact me. Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Respectfully,

Dr. Christopher Rodriguez
Director, HSEMA
ARMING ORDER (AO) IS AS FOLLOWS: **UNARMED**

CURRENT ARMING ORDER WILL BE PROVIDED WHEN AUTHORIZED.

District of Columbia National Guard
Task Force Civil Disturbance
Tel: (202) 685-9717

**RULES FOR THE USE OF FORCE**

SPECIAL POLICE

“UNARMED”