

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

William Wilson Americans for Limited Government 9900 Main Street, Suite 303 Fairfax, VA 22031 MAY 1 7 2012

Re:

FOIA-2012-00640

Microsoft Correspondence

Dear Mr. Wilson:

This is in partial response to your request dated March 5, 2012, under the Freedom of Information Act seeking access to (1) all correspondence between Randall Long and any representative of the Microsoft Corporation, and (2) records of any meetings between Mr. Long and any representative of the Microsoft Corporation. In accordance with the FOIA and agency policy, we have searched our records, as of March 16, 2012, the date we received your request in our FOIA office.

We have located 33 pages of responsive records thus far, and are continuing to search for additional records. We hope to complete our search within the next few weeks, at which point we will send a further response. I am granting partial access to and am enclosing copies of, the accessible records. Twenty-one pages, and portions of other pages, fall within the exemptions to the FOIA's disclosure requirements, as explained below.

Some of the records are exempt from disclosure under FOIA Exemption 3, 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(3), because they are exempt from disclosure by another statute. Specifically, 15 U.S.C. § 18a(h) exempts any information or documentary material that may have been filed pursuant to the Hart-Scott-Rodino pre-merger notification program.

Some responsive records contain staff analyses, opinions, and recommendations. Those portions are deliberative and pre-decisional and are an integral part of the agency's decision making process. They are exempt from the FOIA's disclosure requirements by FOIA Exemption 5.5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(5); see NLRB v. Sears, Roebuck & Co., 421 U.S. 132 (1975).

I am also denying access to personal identifying information found in the enclosed documents. 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 are handling your request or about the FOIA regulations or procedures, please contact Andrea Kelly at (202) 326-2836.

Sincerely,

Dione J. Stearns

Assistant General Counsel

Enclosures