Message

From: Herrera, Angeles [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=8AA7EA9BF6C74F0783906F40A4252630-AHERRERA]
Sent: 7/13/2015 9:44:49 PM
To: Chesnutt, John [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=e1cd369e94474c2c8a876fb16943320a-JCHESNUT]; Loren Henning (Henning.Loren@epa.gov) [Henning.Loren@epa.gov]
Subject: FW: RESPONSE REQUESTED FW: Press Inquiry

How did the call go?

Please make sure to keep me, David Y and OPA informed.

From: Young, Dianna
Sent: Thursday, July 09, 2015 11:09 AM
To: Chesnutt, John; Harris-Bishop, Rusty; Skadowski, Suzanne
Cc: Henning, Loren; Herrera, Angeles; Bertrand, Charlotte; Cooke, Maryt
Subject: Re: RESPONSE REQUESTED FW: Press Inquiry

I spoke with HQ OPA and OSWER press contact late yesterday. Julia Valentine (OPA) is going to contact R9 PA and asked me to do the same with program to get background/context -- basically what's going on w/ pesticides at three sites mentioned, community/news media interest...that may have precipitated request. Julia agrees that we respond to questions in writing rather than an interview. That presumes that Ms Wagner is willing to send us the questions. So far, she's been very general.

I am happy to set up a call with John and Loren to hear about Treasure Island, Hunters Point and George AFB in regard to this inquiry on pesticide issue. Please let me know when you're available.

Thanks
Dianna

From: Chesnutt, John
Sent: Wednesday, July 8, 2015 12:26 PM
To: Harris-Bishop, Rusty; Skadowski, Suzanne
Cc: Henning, Loren; Herrera, Angeles; Young, Dianna
Subject: Fwd: RESPONSE REQUESTED FW: Press Inquiry

Rusty and Suzanne, see below. I know Suzanne called Liz, and now we know why Liz told Suzanne that Charlotte was taking care of things. Apparently Liz doesn't really want to talk with us. Not sure how we want to handle this.

Maybe Dianna Young from FFRRO, who is copied here, can discuss with Charlotte and HQ PAO and then us, and come up with a unified front.

John

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Young, Dianna" <Young.Dianna@epa.gov>
Date: July 8, 2015 at 9:02:13 AM PDT
To: "Chesnutt, John" <Chesnutt.John@epa.gov>, "Henning, Loren" <Henning.Loren@epa.gov>
Cc: "Herrera, Angeles" <Herrera.Angeles@epa.gov>
Subject: RESPONSE REQUESTED FW: Press Inquiry

John and Loren,

Recently, Charlotte got a vm message from Elizabeth Wagner, KNTV-TV. Charlotte was out that day so I called Ms Wagner and told her I would have to route her through OPA. She did not like that and insisted on talking directly with Charlotte. I suggested she contact Region 9 b/c you oversee site cleanup. She rejected that. She said an unnamed source told her that Charlotte could answer her questions. She would not identify for me the site(s) she was inquiring about.

I routed her to OPA (Julia V) and you will see below what Julia was able to get from her. Pesticides at: George AFB, Hunters Point, Treasure Island. I told OPA that we would coordinate with Region 9 and go from there. I have recommended we provide written responses rather than an interview.

I would guess you all know the events/background leading up to this inquiry. Let me know your thoughts on how to proceed. We need to reply this week, I'm guessing, or will start getting pressure.

Thanks
Dianna

From: Valentine, Julia
Sent: Monday, July 6, 2015 3:45 PM
To: Young, Dianna
Cc: Deitz, Randy; Bassler, Rachel; Bertrand, Charlotte; Cohen, Nancy
Subject: RE: Press Inquiry

I spoke with the reporter and was surprised that she said she usually doesn't give so much information when she is contacting a source. She told me she works at an affiliate station, not the network. What she chose not to tell me, but I found on a simple search, she is an investigative producer with the station's investigative unit.

Take a look and tell me what you think. Maybe I ask for questions and you provide written answers?

Reporter info:
Elizabeth Wagner (Liz), Investigative Producer Bay Area News, KNTV-TV (NBC) San Francisco, CA

From her original email:
Requesting interview with Charlotte Bertrand.
"I have some questions about the type of contaminants historically found on military base housing in California."

From me:
I spoke with her and this is what she told me:
She has questions about pesticides at Hunter's Point, Treasure Island and George AFB in Cali.
Wants to know about the typical use of pesticides on these bases.
They are or are in the process of being turned over for private use.

Julia P. Valentine
Office of Public Affairs
U.S. EPA
202.564.2663 direct
202.740.1336 m/txt

-----Original Message-----

From: Valentine, Julia

Sent: Friday, June 26, 2015 4:22 PM

To: Young, Dianna

Cc: Deitz, Randy; Cohen, Nancy; Bassler, Rachel; Bertrand, Charlotte;

Hull, George

Subject: Re: Press Inquiry

Thanks, Dianna, you handled yourself well. I emailed the reporter and will let folks know what I hear.

So you know, someone in media relations is always available, even on days when most folks are out. We have a great backup structure.

Thanks again and have a great weekend.

Sent from USEPA iPhone

On Jun 26, 2015, at 3:58 PM, "Young, Dianna" <Young.Dianna@epa.gov> wrote:

Julia,

Below is a press inquiry that came in via my office director's voicemail. Since I didn't know who I was going to get on a Friday afternoon, I called the reporter to let her know I was working on getting her the right point of contact. I told her that she has to go through Public Affairs -- and repeated this several times during the call.

FYI: She said she is aware of the protocol but was hoping to skirt it this time in order to talk to Charlotte Bertrand directly. She said a source told her Charlotte could answer some "very pointed" questions about a federal facility. She did not say which one. She said emphatically she did not want to speak to regional EPA folks. She said the interview would be for background and not for quote.

(No, I did not fall for that.)

Her phone number is in Charlotte's message below. Also, this is her

email address: Elizabeth.wagner@nbcuni.com

I called Randy Deitz and conveyed this information.

We'll be ready to work with you if/when the reporter's questions are

routed to OSWER/FFRRO. Thanks,

Dianna

Office: (703) 603-0045

Cell: (703) 407-3988

-----Original Message-----

From: Bertrand, Charlotte

Sent: Friday, June 26, 2015 3:21 PM

To: Young, Dianna

Cc: Chesnutt, John; Cohen, Nancy

Subject: Press Inquiry

Dianna

I have received a phone message from Liv (Liz?)Wagner in the Bay Area who works for the San Fran "Bay Area NBC news". She is an investigative reporter who wants to talk to me about a clean up at a former federal facility site. Can you have one of our press folks reach out to her? Her number is 408-483-2084. Thanks.

Charlotte Bertrand

Acting Director

Federal Facilities Restoration and Reuse Office Office Phone:

703-603-0049