Office of Government Ethics
1201 New York Avenue,
NW, Suite 500
Washington, DC 20005-3917

June 11, 2019

Re: Freedom of Information Act Request

To Whom It May Concern:

Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act (“FOIA”), 5 U.S.C. §552, et seq., I request access to and copies of all logs of congressional correspondence regarding correspondence to or from any officials at the Office of Government Ethics and Senator Tina Smith between January 1, 2018, and June 11, 2019.

Please search for responsive records regardless of format, medium, or physical characteristics. Where possible, please produce records electronically, in PDF or TIF format, via email or CD, particularly if providing the information reduces the time or expense involved. If your office cannot honor this preference, I am willing to discuss the most cost-effective and efficient means of duplication. I agree to pay reasonable duplication fees for the processing of this request in an amount not to exceed $200. However, please notify me prior to your incurring any expenses in excess of that amount.

If any records are withheld or redacted, I request that you state the specific legal and factual grounds for withholding any documents or portions of documents. Please identify each document that falls within the scope of this request but is withheld from release and provide an index of those documents as required under Vaughn v. Rosen, 484 F.2d 820 (D.C. Cir. 1973), cert. denied, 415 U.S. 977 (1972). Please describe each document claimed as exempt including the consequences of supplying the sought-after information. If it is your determination that some portions of requested records are exempt, please disclose any reasonably segregable non-exempt portions of the requested records.

If requested documents are located in another installation or bureau, I respectfully request that you please refer this request or any relevant portion of this request to the appropriate installation or bureau.

To help assess my status for copying and mailing fees, please note that I am gathering information for research purposes and not for commercial activities. Additionally, disclosure of the information sought is in the public interest because it is likely to contribute significantly to public understanding of the operations or activities of the government.

Thank you for your cooperation with this request. If necessary, I welcome the opportunity to discuss whether and to what extent this request can be narrowed or modified to better enable Office of Government Ethics to process it within the FOIA’s twenty-day statutory deadline.

Sincerely,

Vlad Ryaboy

[Redacted]

Minnesota DFL