

Date	Location	Summary of all incidents of violence or threats against NOAA employees	Outcome
5/11/2015	Ann Arbor MI	E-mail threats were sent to a National Weather Service (NWS) employee after a New York Times article on a former National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) employee was released.	Referred to Department of Homeland Security (DHS) / Federal Protective Service (FPS) for investigation.
9/1/2015	Huntsville, AL	Threats to NWS Office left on voicemail.	Referred to Department of Homeland Security (DHS) / Federal Protective Service (FPS) for investigation.
9/1/2015	Gaylord, MI	Threats to NWS Office left on voicemail.	Referred to Department of Homeland Security (DHS) / Federal Protective Service (FPS) for investigation.
1/3/2015	Oxnard, CA	Man arrested by the Ventura County Sheriff's office on the way to "do something about the radar that killed Larry Hagman".	Ventura County Sheriffs Office took a report.
2/11/2015	Seattle, WA	Continuing unsolicited e-mails	Referred to Department of Homeland Security (DHS) / Federal Protective Service (FPS) for investigation.
10/15/2015	Seattle, WA	Threatening phone call	Reported to Investigations and Threat Management Division (ITMD)
11/5/2015	San Diego, CA	Call from a person asking question about when people are in the office and where the office was located. When pressed for more info, he became evasive and then quickly hung up.	Referred to Department of Homeland Security (DHS) / Federal Protective Service (FPS) for investigation.
11/10/2015	New Braunfels, TX	Man outside of the WFO was out of gas, when approached by a WFO employee, the man became belligerent.	Police were called and the man left without further incident
11/13/2015	Newport, OR	Email veiled threat	Referred to Department of Homeland Security (DHS) / Federal Protective Service (FPS) for investigation.
11/19/2015	Salt Lake City, UT	Federal building in Salt Lake City was evacuated due to a Bomb Threat. A suspicious device was detected in the lobby xray machine from 2 individuals trying to bring the device in.	Salt Lake City PD removed the device from the federal building. Individuals were apprehended. Building was cleared and occupants were aloud to re-enter. Referred to Department of Homeland Security (DHS) / Federal Protective Service (FPS) for investigation.
12/4/2015	Portland, OR	Received a letter from someone at Oregon State Hospital (psychiatric facility). It is mostly nonsense, but it refers to ISIS and IED bombs.	Referred to Department of Homeland Security (DHS) / Federal Protective Service (FPS) and Portland PD for investigation.
12/16/2015	Baton Rouge, LA	Report from Louisiana State University (LSU) Military Science cadre of possible foreign national suspicious activity.	Referred to Department of Homeland Security (DHS) / Federal Protective Service (FPS) and LSO Police for investigation. LSU Police determines no threat
12/16/2015	Seattle, WA	Numerous voice messages left overnight by a rambling man who made many threats.	Referred to Department of Homeland Security (DHS) / Federal Protective Service (FPS) for investigation, and sent wave file of messages to Investigations and Threat Management Division (ITMD)
12/18/2015	La Jolla, CA	Ex-wife possibly stalking employee, sending emails, possibly violating restraining order.	ex wife denied access if she show up at the SWFSC, reported to the police that the restraining order may be violated



FOIA Office - NOAA Service Account <foia@noaa.gov>

FOIA request - violence against NPS employees in calendar year 2016

1 message

Laura Dumais <ldumais@peer.org>

Fri, Feb 19, 2016 at 11:14 AM

To: "Dolan, Brenda" <BDolan1@doc.gov>, "foia@noaa.gov" <foia@noaa.gov>

Dear NOAA and DOC FOIA Officers:

Each year, my organization submits requests under the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. 552, as amended) seeking information from major federal agencies about the incidence of violence and threats against their employees.

Accordingly, Public Employees for Environmental Responsibility (PEER) now asks that, as you have done in years past, you provide information for **calendar year 2015**. Specifically, we request the following records and/or documents concerning acts of violence or threats against National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) employees and professional observer contractor employees as follows:

A summary of all incidents of violence, threats, or harassment against **NOAA employees** that occurred in **calendar year 2015**. The summary should include the date, location, and nature of the incident or threat together with a summary of what, if any, outcomes stemmed from the incident or threat (e.g., arrest, conviction, ongoing investigation).

A summary of all incidents of violence, threats, or harassment against **professional observers**, including government contractors, that occurred in **calendar year 2015**. The summary should include incidents against observers aboard NOAA vessels or while otherwise carrying out their duties as NOAA contractors, and include the date, location, and nature of the incident or threat together with a summary of what, if any, outcomes stemmed from the incident or threat (e.g., arrest, conviction, ongoing investigation).

In the past, there was some confusion over whether NOAA or the Department of Commerce should handle our request as to *professional observers*. (For more information, you might contact Brenda Dolan, Departmental FOIA/Privacy Act Officer, U.S. Department of

Commerce, Office of Privacy and Open Government. Telephone: 202-482-3258, Email: BDolan1@doc.gov.) Thus, I am sending this request to both NOAA and DOC, and I trust that the respective FOIA officers will work out amongst themselves the most expeditious way of responding, involving NMFS if necessary.

Please note that your past responses have indicated severe inaccuracies. For example, for our calendar year 2013 request pertaining to violence against professional observers, DOC's Office of Security reported only once responsive incident, yet a report by the NMFS Office for Law Enforcement's Alaska Enforcement Division stated that observers had reported 38 incidents of violence, threats, or harassment in the first two quarters of 2013 in *Alaska alone*. We do not know who within NOAA or DOC keeps track of these numbers, but we ask your assistance and cooperation in ensuring that the appropriate people respond to our request to provide a **complete and accurate response**.

We greatly appreciate your efforts in providing this important information, which will contribute to our ongoing study of the extent of violence and intimidation directed against public resource employees. Release of the requested information is in the interest of the general public, in order for the public to understand the true dimensions of, and motivations for, confrontations with public resource agencies.

For any documents or portions of documents that you claim specific FOIA exemption(s), please provide an index itemizing and describing the documents or portions of documents withheld. The index should, pursuant to the holding of *Vaughn v. Rosen*, 484 F.2d 820 (D.C. Cir. 1973), *cert. denied*, 415 U.S. 977 (1974), provide a detailed justification for claiming a particular exemption explaining why each such exemption applies to the document or portion of a document withheld.

PEER requests that all fees be waived because "disclosure of the information is in the public interest . . . and is not primarily in the commercial interest of the requestor" (5 U.S.C. 552 (a) (4)(A)). Disclosure of the above requested information is in the public interest because disclosure would contribute significantly to public understanding of the difficulties encountered by NOAA employees working to manage public resources.

Disclosure is in no way connected with any commercial interest of the requestor. PEER is a nonprofit, nonpartisan public interest organization concerned with upholding the public trust through responsible management of our nation's resources and with supporting professional integrity within public land management and pollution control agencies. To that end, PEER is designated as a tax-exempt organization under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue code.

If you have any questions about this FOIA request, please contact me at (202) 265-7337. I look forward to receiving the agency's final response within twenty working days.

Cordially,

Laura Dumais, Staff Counsel

Public Employees for Environmental Responsibility (PEER)

Please note new office address and direct dial phone number!

962 Wayne Ave, Suite 610

Silver Spring, MD 20910

Direct: (202) 265-4189 / PEER: (202) 265-7337

www.peer.org

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