Extent

53 folders, 304 pages

Summary

This collection consists of records from when James L. Farmer, Jr. received the Presidential Medal of Freedom on January 15, 1998. The files contain congressional correspondence and correspondence written by the general public recommending that President William J. Clinton award Dr. James L. Farmer, Jr. the Presidential Medal of Freedom. The files also contain lists of Presidential Medal of Freedom award ceremony invitees and the citations read for each recipient during the ceremony.

Scope and Content Note

The materials in FOIA 2008-0695-F are a selective, not necessarily all inclusive, body of documents responsive to the topic of the FOIA. Researchers should consult the archivist about related materials. FOIA request 2008-0695-F contains congressional correspondence and correspondence written by the general public recommending that President William J. Clinton award Dr. James L. Farmer, Jr. the Presidential Medal of Freedom. The FOIA also contains lists of Presidential Medal of Freedom award ceremony invitees and the citations read for each recipient during the ceremony.

Biographical Note

James L. Farmer, Jr. was born in Marshall, Texas on January 12, 1920 and died in Fredericksburg, Virginia on July 9, 1999. He was a leader of the American civil rights movement in the 1940’s, 50’s, and 60’s and the organizer of the 1961 Freedom Rides, which consisted of civil rights activists who rode on interstate buses into the segregated south of the United States to test the Supreme Court's ruling in Boynton v. Virginia (1960). Farmer was also a co-founder of the Committee of Racial Equality,

later known as the Congress of Racial Equality (CORE), which sought to end segregation in America through active nonviolence. James Farmer’s contributions during the civil rights movement and after were recognized on January 15, 1998, when President William J. Clinton awarded him the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the highest civilian award in the United States.

Record Type

Textual

System of Arrangement

Records that were responsive to this FOIA request were found in three collection areas – Clinton Presidential Records: WHORM Alpha File, Clinton Presidential Records: WHORM Subject Files, and Clinton Presidential Records: White House Staff and Office Files. As policy, Staff and Office Files are processed at the folder level, that is, individual documents are not selected and removed from a folder for processing. While this method maintains folder integrity, it frequently results in the incidental processing of documents that are not wholly responsive to the subject area. WHORM Subject Files are processed at the document level. The WHORM Subject File was compiled by the White House Office of Records Management and is a series of categories designated by a letter/number combination. A complete listing of the categories with detailed descriptions is provided in our research room.

Access

Collection is open to all researchers. Access to Clinton Presidential Records is governed by the Presidential Records Act (PRA) (44 USC 2201) and the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) (5 USC 552, as amended) and therefore records may be restricted in whole or in part in accordance with legal exemptions.

Copyright

Documents in this collection that were prepared by officials of the United States government as part of their official duties are in the public domain. Researchers are advised to consult the copyright law of the United States (17 USC 101), which governs the making of photocopies or other reproductions of copyrighted material.

Provenance

Official records of William Jefferson Clinton’s presidency are housed at the Clinton Presidential Library and administered by the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) under the provisions of the Presidential Records Act (PRA).

Person Names

Farmer, James L., Jr. (James Leonard), 1920-1999

Organization Names

Congress of Racial Equality

Topical Subjects

Presidential Medal of Freedom

Processed by

Staff Archivist, 2010. Previously restricted materials are added as they are released.

Last Modified Date

2012-07-27

Container List

The following is a list of documents and folders processed in response to FOIA 2008-0695-F:
Box 1
Clinton Presidential Records: WHORM Alpha File
AF
221636 [Donna Sherie Marie Lee] [OA/ID 8643]
221636 [Mitzi H. Saffos] [OA/ID 8643]
221636 [Whitney E.H. Donaghy] [OA/ID 8643]
222823 [Marvin S. Bolinger] [OA/ID 9738]
228252 [Theresa L. Watson] [OA/ID 9749]
235136 [Merilie Robertson] [OA/ID 9762]
243322 [Gloria Darden Gettys] [OA/ID 10201]
244643 [Marietta J. Tanner] [OA/ID 10201]
248392 [Lacy L. Joyner] [OA/ID 10206]
254340 [Gregory V. Palmer] [OA/ID 10889]
Clinton Presidential Records: WHORM Subject Files
Category Case Number
MA026 Scanned: Case Numbers 212636
214579
216400
216403
216415
217270
217272
217273
217274
217275
217276
217297
Clinton Presidential Records: WHORM Subject Files (continued)
Category Case Number
MA026 Scanned: Case Numbers 217299

217300
217303
217304
217305
217307
217308
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217310
217311
217312
217313
217314
217618
218682
218981
218984
222526
224139
224144
224154
224196
Box 2 224440
224831
229274
242713
247227
249696SS
249861
252594
Clinton Presidential Records: White House Staff and Office Files
Public Liaison
Presidential Medal of Freedom/James Farmer [OA/ID 11512]