Extent

6 folders, approximately 533 pages

Summary

This collection consists of records related to White House staffer Robert B. “Ben” Johnson and crack cocaine sentencing. It contains emails only.

Scope and Content Note

The materials in FOIA 2018-0899-F are a selective body of documents responsive to the topic of the FOIA. Researchers should consult the archivist about related material. This collection consists of emails regarding press briefings, talking points, remarks, and summaries pertaining to the U.S. Sentencing Commission Report on Crack Cocaine, discussion of the sentencing recommendations and reducing the crack vs powder cocaine sentencing disparity, African American outreach, President Clinton’s meeting with the Trotter Group of columnists and Black Leadership Forum, and the January 2001 President’s Message to Congress: The Unfinished Work of Building One America. Robert B. “Ben” Johnson began working for the Clinton Administration in 1993 as an Associate Director in the Office of Public Liaison and Special Assistant to the President for Outreach to the African American Community. In 1999, he was appointed Assistant to the President and Director of the White House Office on the President's Initiative for One America.

Record Type

Textual

System of Arrangement

Records that are responsive to this FOIA request were found in these collection areas—Clinton Presidential Records: ARMS Emails, and Clinton Presidential Records: TRP Emails. The Automated Records Management System (ARMS) is a database that contains email records of the Executive Office of the President. This system maintained unclassified Presidential email. The ARMS database is comprised of seven sub-series of email records called "buckets." The buckets generally represent a specific White House office. The buckets are titled: NPR for National Performance Review, OPD for Office of Policy Development, POTUS for President of the United States, WHO for White House Office, CEA for Council of Economic Advisers, NSC for National Security Council, and Default for emails not associated with an office. The NPR bucket contains email created or received by an individual with a National Performance Review (NPR) White House user account. The OPD bucket contains email created or received by an individual with an Office of Policy Development (OPD) White House user account. The POTUS bucket was designated for email created and received by the President of the United States (POTUS). Please note that President Clinton never used his POTUS White House user account to send the few emails he wrote while in office. The WHO bucket contains email created or received by individual with an Executive Office of the President White House user account not identified as CEA, NPR, or OPD. The CEA bucket contains email created or received by an individual with a Council of Economic Advisors (CEA) White House user account. The NSC bucket contains email created or received by an individual with a National Security Council (NSC) user account. The Default bucket contains email created or received by unknown or un-recognized email accounts. Email found within the Default bucket often includes email created or received by offices or individuals outside the Executive Office of the President. ARMS email are arranged by topic, there-under by bucket, and there-under chronologically by creation date. The Tape Restoration Project (TRP) is a database consisting of restored emails from the Automated Records Management System (ARMS) from July 1994 through June of 2000. The TRP is a database that contains email records of the Executive Office of the President. This system maintained unclassified Presidential record email. The TRP database is comprised of the same seven sub-series of email as in ARMS. TRP email are arranged by topic, there-under by bucket, and there-under chronologically by creation date.

Access

Collection is open to all researchers. Access to Clinton Presidential Records is governed by the Presidential Records Act (PRA) (44 U.S.C. Chapter 22, as amended) and the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) (5 U.S.C. 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 U.S.C. Chapter 1) 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).

Organization Names

United States Sentencing Commission

Topical Subjects

Drug traffic--Law and legislation
Crack (Drug)--Government policy

Processed by

Staff Archivist, 2018. Previously restricted materials are added as they are released.

Last Modified Date

2018-09-05

Container List

The following is a list of documents and folders processed in response to FOIA 2018-0899-F:
Box 1
Clinton Presidential Records: Automated Records Management System [Email]
WHO [OA/ID 500000]
[Ben Johnson…]
[04/11/1996 – 05/12/1999]
[11/15/1999]
[03/29/2000 – 12/07/2000]
[12/22/2000 – 01/17/2001]
Clinton Presidential Records: Tape Restoration Project (TRP) [Email]
OPD [OA/ID 250000]
[Ben Johnson…]
[05/12/1999]
Clinton Presidential Records: Tape Restoration Project (TRP) [Email] [continued]
Default [OA/ID 1100000]
[Ben Johnson…]