

**TOXIC EXPOSURE ARMY VETERANS OF FORT  
MCCLELLAN, ALABAMA. 1950 to 1998**

**Army Military Police School (MP) / Women's Army Corps National Center (WAC) /  
Army Radiological School (Rad-Vets) / Army Chemical Corps School / Anniston  
Army Depot / Pelham Range / Miscellaneous School Attendees (All branches)**

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(b) (6) Privacy, (b) (7)(C) Enforcement Privacy, **NATIONAL ACTIVIST**

**March 26, 2021**

**ENTRY OF A COMPLAINT FOR DISCRIMINATION PRACTICES  
ORCHESTRATED BY EMPLOYEES OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL  
PROTECTION AGENCY**

**Submitted On Behalf Of: The military veterans and medical patient  
stakeholders group known as the Toxic Exposure Army Veterans Of Fort  
McClellan (Alabama)**

**Submitted by:**

(b) (6) Privacy, (b) (7)(C) Enforcement Privacy, **national stakeholders activist & Army Veteran**

(b) (6) Privacy, (b) (7)(C) Enforcement Privacy

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] **home/landline**

(b) (6) Privacy, (b) (7)(C) Enforcement Privacy

[REDACTED]

**Submitted By Email To:**

**U.S. EPA External Civil Rights  
Compliance Office (2310A)  
1200 Pennsylvania Ave. NW  
Washington DC 20460**

**NAMES AND DEPARTMENTS OF EPA EMPLOYEES WHO ARE IDENTIFIED AS WORKING TO EXECUTE AN ILLEGAL DISCRIMINATION SCHEME.**

**Kelly Widener first inquiries were started but never replied to. Center for Public Health and Environmental Assessment**

[Widener.Kelly@epa.gov](mailto:Widener.Kelly@epa.gov)

**Dr. Wayne Cascio a couple of attempts were made with no reply, and then a bum steer was made to EPA Region 4 Atlanta who has also not replied. Center for Public Health and Environmental Assessment. Dr. Cascio tried to refer me back to Kelly Widener who was already a failed effort without replying.**

[cascio.wayne@epa.gov](mailto:cascio.wayne@epa.gov)

**Linda Lassiter was named as an alternate assistance contact for Dr. Wayne Cascio only to find that her email security settings were blocking all public inquiries for assistance by email. No reply was obtained here either. Center for Public Health and Environmental Assessment.**

[lassiter.linda@epa.gov](mailto:lassiter.linda@epa.gov)

**Brandi Jenkins EPA agency Region 4, Atlanta, GA called into play by Dr. Wayne Cascio. Her department is the EPA Outreach and Engagement Office. No reply has been received from her since the initial contact was made.**

[jenkins.brandi@epa.gov](mailto:jenkins.brandi@epa.gov)

**THIS IS AN ALLEGATION OF PATTERNS OF DISCRIMINATION WHICH IS IMPOSED BY AGE, AND BY HANDICAP OR DISABILITY, AND BY A GENERALIZED REFUSAL TO PROVIDE ACCESS TO AN ESTABLISHED FEDERAL AGENCY PROGRAM AT THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY.**

**1. Four EPA employees have refused to answer intelligently, or to adequately reply to a list of failed attempts by a military veteran's medical patient group to obtain the information about, or the external facility**

**contacts for, or the admissions to, or the services of the EPA agency department known as the Center For Public Health and Environmental Assessment for the startup of a national Cumulative Risk Health Assessment study for the former Fort McClellan, Alabama military service veterans from 1950 to 1998. The veterans allege there is no legal basis for an organized refusal to assist from these particular employees.**

**2. The veterans do hereby allege that the unified refusal to cooperate with a valid access attempt by the veterans to commence a Cumulative Risk Health Assessment project at the EPA, has amounted to a discrimination practice to block, refuse, and deny legitimate agency services by reason of their environmental toxic exposures related health conditions, handicaps, and disabilities which are medically matching to the known and documented toxic sources from the former Army base of Fort McClellan, Alabama. The veterans group also alleges that the same refusal to assist coming from four different EPA employees is an act of discrimination by reason of the age of the veteran's medical patient group.**

**3. The veterans medical patient group has no other means of access to the EPA's agency program for a Cumulative Risk Health Assessment project other than to launch informative emails describing introductory information about our effort. The department has no access filing form to complete. The veterans allege that the contacts who are listed as information and access resources to the program at the Center for Public Health and Environmental Assessment are false, deceptive, non-existent, and are tantamount to a discrimination practice to avoid, evade, and to illegally block out environmental exposure toxic exposure medical patient groups such as the Fort McClellan Veterans.**

**NO REPLIES, FAILED EMAIL DELIVERIES,  
AND BUM STEERS THAT MAKES UP THIS  
COMPLAINT FOR DISCRIMINATION PRACTICES.'**

**TO: KELLY WIDENER EPA // AN OUTREACH INQUIRY TO LOCATE  
RESEARCH STUDY SOURCES WHO ARE CAPABLE OF CONDUCTING A  
NATIONAL CUMULATIVE RISK HEALTH ASSESSMENT ON MILITARY  
VETERAN PATIENTS  
Yahoo/EPA**

**Fort McClellan Group (b) (6) Privacy, (b) (7)(C) Enforcement Privacy  
To:Widener.Kelly@epa.gov  
Mon, Jan 4 at 5:01 PM  
January 4, 2021**

**TO: KELLY WIDENER, STAFF  
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
WASHINGTON DC**

**INQUIRY ABOUT OBTAINING A LIST OF KNOWN  
RESEARCH SITES WHO HAVE THE CAPABILITY  
OF CONDUCTING A NATIONAL CUMULATIVE  
RISK HEALTH STUDY ON A GROUP OF MEDICAL  
PATIENTS WHO ARE MILITARY VETERANS.**

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**Hello,**

**This is a legitimate inquiry to see if I can obtain a list from your agency that shows all the possible research venues who have the capability of conducting a Cumulative Risk Health Assessment on a national group of medical patients who are also military veterans.**

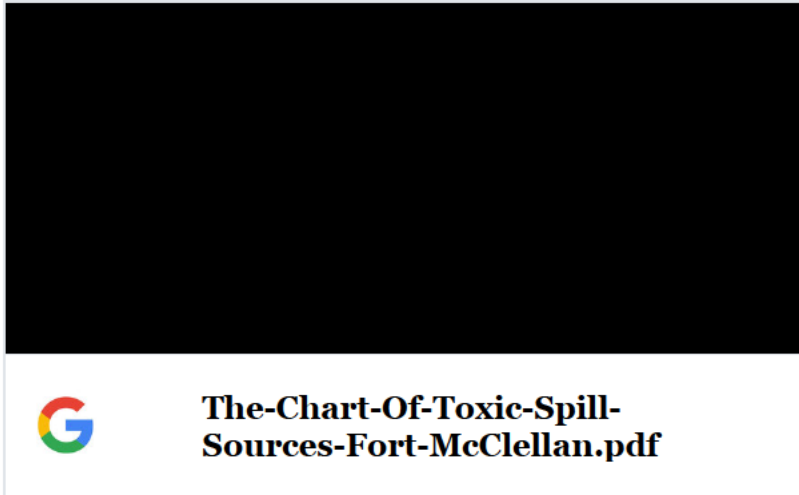
**I am the Activist for the Fort McClellan Army service veterans who were all stationed in Alabama prior to the year 1998.**

**The Dept. of Veterans Affairs has no capability for this kind of a study and we have determined that for our particular patient efforts in Washington, this is exactly what we need to obtain. It's not exactly clear to us if EPA actually conducts these kinds of patient studies, or if we have to run a search across outside academic institutions for it.**

**It's the start of a new term in Congress and we are setting up our legislative goals for the session. We will likely have to work with a partner to establishing a funding bill for the Fort McClellan Veterans Cumulative Risk Assessment.**

**I do have a single PowerPoint slide to show you to start off this email discussion with you. The slide is already converted to PDF format for you here below.**

[The-Chart-Of-Toxic-Spill-Sources-Fort-McClellan.pdf](#)



We are holding in our possession, most of the original environmental engineering paperwork along with sampling data and site reviews for our cause.

I hope this is adequate to start a conversation with you about this topic. Thank you.

(b) (6) Privacy, (b) (7)(C) Enforcement Privacy, activist and army veteran  
**The Fort McClellan Veterans Group**

(b) (6) Privacy, (b) (7)(C) Enforcement Privacy

[Redacted]

[Redacted] home/landline

(b) (6) Privacy, (b) (7)(C) Enforcement Privacy

[Redacted]

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**NOTE: EMAILS WERE ALSO SENT TO KELLY WIDENER AS A CONTACT IN THE EMBEDDED “CONTACT US” SET UPS ON THE EPA AGENCY INFORMATION WEB PAGES THAT I AM NOT ABLE TO COPY OVER AS SEPARATE EMAILS. NONE OF THE EMAIL METHODS WERE EVER REPLIED**

**TO BY THIS EMPLOYEE KNOWN AS KELLY WIDENER.**

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**TO: Contacts For The National Center For Environmental Assessment  
Yahoo/EPA**

•  
**Fort McClellan Group (b) (6) Privacy, (b) (7)(C) Enforcement Privacy**  
**To:bussard.david@epa.gov,vandenberg.john@epa.gov,bahadori.tina@epa.gov,ross.mary@epa.gov**  
**Thu, Jan 14 at 1:48 PM**  
**January 14, 2021**

**TO: THE NATIONAL CENTER FOR ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT**

**SENDING A LEGITIMATE INQUIRY TO LOCATE  
POINTS OF CONTACT TO DEVELOP A NATIONAL CUMULATIVE  
RISK HEALTH ASSESSMENT STUDY FOR A MILITARY  
VETERANS PATIENT GROUP FROM A VERIFIED  
MULTIPLE CONTAMINATION ZONE SITE IN ALABAMA.**

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**Hello Everyone,**

**I have previously sent this outreach inquiry to a listed employee by the name of Kelly Widener, who has refused to even reply to me. This is a broader effort to get some answers.**

**Military veterans who were previously stationed at an Army base in Alabama, between the years of 1950 and 1998, have discovered in more recent years that the base was overrun with multiple toxic or hazardous spill sites. Most of them required remedial cleanup projects to resolve. These were completed before the base was closed in 1998 by the BRAC agency.**

**Those of us who served at the former Fort McClellan, Alabama and the nearby town of Anniston, Alabama, have since returned back to our original home states. We do not live any longer in the state of Alabama. We are organized on the internet and scattered across the states.**

**We have identified a list of TEN significant toxic spill sources that each ran for a duration of years before any remedial cleanup actions were mobilized. We have searched up and down the health science databases at the HHS agency as well as the other individual sites at CDC etc. and have found that many of us are medically matching to these very toxic sources as long term health cases stemming from these TEN toxic sources. We are very literate and have read across the useful reference documents that are posted by EPA and ATSDR.**

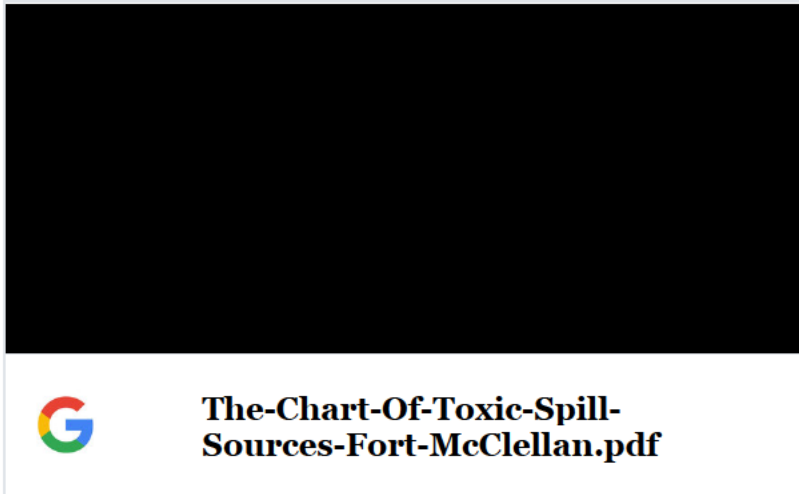
**The Dept. of Veterans Affairs has incorrectly only set up a limited and narrowly drawn Health Registry processing venue that does not apply to us as an aging and beyond Half-Life medical cases. The idea of a health registry has already been looked at for us and it's been dismissed as the wrong screening tool.**

**I am here today as the national activist for our veterans group to begin the conversation with you about how we should go about identifying a research source that has the capability to conduct our Cumulative Risk Health Assessment for multiple or combination exposures stemming from our active duty service at Fort McClellan? If your office has a list of academic sources who offer this kind of a study program, then we would like to obtain this list if it's possible. If it's YOUR EPA Office who does this line of work, then I need to identify a contact name to begin developing the project conversation for this topic. A Cumulative Assessment funding bill will likely come out at either the House or Senate Veterans Affairs Committees.**

**I have developed a PowerPoint slide to summarize the environmental spill scenario that we have compiled.**

**LINK to PDF:**

**[The-Chart-Of-Toxic-Spill-Sources-Fort-McClellan.pdf](#)**



**We have been working at the Senate Veterans Committee to launch a new GAO Office report on the multiple spill sites at Fort McClellan. That may also be coming out this year, but it hasn't been launched yet. It's a work in progress.**

**The background story to all of this is that a series of military experiment projects were orchestrated at Fort McClellan, under the secret (and now declassified papers) authority of Edgewood, Maryland. Anyone can run Google searches at Wikipedia to learn about the history of experiments and CBRNE field tests by Edgewood Arsenal and Fort Detrick, Maryland during the Cold War Era. The base in Alabama was one of their remote test locations.**

**The Fort McClellan Veterans Cumulative Risk Assessment will be an important step forward in documenting our recognition and hospital care standing at the Dept. of Veterans Affairs. We are looking to your agency for the information we need to start this important step.**

**I really must have someone from your agency get back to me on this important matter. We are holding most all of our environmental engineering source papers, or the closeout papers by the remedial cleanup action projects. I feel that we have done our part in finding the papers that any study scientist would ever want to see. Thanks.**



(b) (6) Privacy, (b) (7)(C) Enforcement Privacy, Army 1970 National Activist  
The Fort McClellan Veterans Stakeholders Group

(b) (6) Privacy, (b) (7)(C) Enforcement Privacy

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**Resent TO: Environmental Justice Hotline + Contacts For The National  
Center For Environmental Assessment  
Yahoo/EPA**

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**Fort McClellan Group** (b) (6) Privacy, (b) (7)(C) Enforcement Privacy

**To: EJHotline@epa.gov**

**Sat, Jan 16 at 4:47 PM**

**RESENT ONCE AGAIN TO THE ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE  
HOTLINE EMAIL DUE TO NO RESPONSE FROM ANY  
WEB-LISTED CONTACT PEOPLE AT THE EPA.**

**PLEASE REPLY TO MY INQUIRY BELOW. THANKS.**

(b) (6) Privacy, (b) (7)(C) Enforcement Privacy **AT ALBANY NY**

**January 16, 2021**

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**----- Forwarded Message -----**

**From: Fort McClellan Group** (b) (6) Privacy, (b) (7)(C) Enforcement Privacy

**To: bussard.david@epa.gov <bussard.david@epa.gov>;**

**vandenberg.john@epa.gov <vandenberg.john@epa.gov>;**

**bahadori.tina@epa.gov <bahadori.tina@epa.gov>; ross.mary@epa.gov  
<ross.mary@epa.gov>**

**Sent: Thursday, January 14, 2021, 01:48:00 PM EST**

**Subject: TO: Contacts For The National Center For Environmental  
Assessment**

**January 14, 2021**

**TO: THE NATIONAL CENTER FOR ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT**

**SENDING A LEGITIMATE INQUIRY TO LOCATE  
POINTS OF CONTACT TO DEVELOP A NATIONAL CUMULATIVE  
RISK HEALTH ASSESSMENT STUDY FOR A MILITARY  
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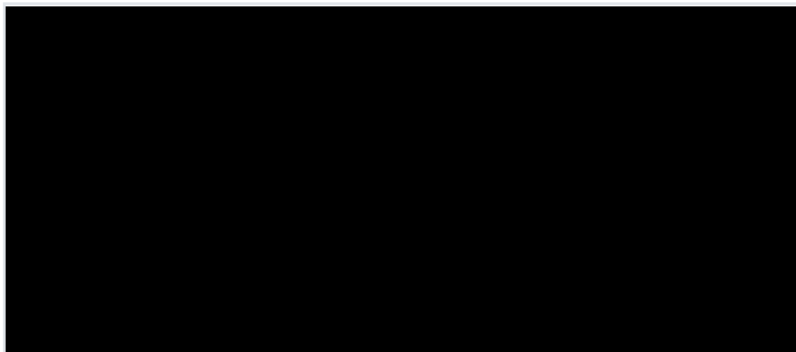
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**(b) (6) Privacy, (b) (7)(C) Enforcement Privacy**, Army 1970 National Activist  
**The Fort McClellan Veterans Stakeholders Group**

**(b) (6) Privacy, (b) (7)(C) Enforcement Privacy**

**[REDACTED]**

**[REDACTED] home/landline**

**(b) (6) Privacy, (b) (7)(C) Enforcement Privacy**

**[REDACTED]**

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**TO: DR. CASCIO // A LEGITIMATE OUTREACH INQUIRY TO BEGIN A CONVERSATION ABOUT OBTAINING A CUMULATIVE HEALTH RISK ASSESSMENT FOR A MILITARY VETERANS GROUP  
Yahoo/EPA**

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**Fort McClellan Group <(b) (6) Privacy, (b) (7)(C) Enforcement Privacy  
To:cascio.wayne@epa.gov  
Tue, Mar 9 at 10:43 PM  
March 10,2021**

**TO: DR. WAYNE CASCIO  
CENTER FOR PUBLIC HEALTH AND ASSESSMENT RESEARCH  
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY**

**A LEGITIMATE OUTREACH INQUIRY TO BEGIN  
A POSSIBLE LEGISLATIVE CONVERSATION  
TO LAUNCH A CUMULATIVE RISK HEALTH  
ASSESSMENT ON A MILITARY VETERANS  
SERVICE GROUP. MULTIPLE TOXIC SOURCES  
AND DIFFERENT EXPOSURE SITES.  
MOSTLY AIR, INGESTION, OR SOIL PATHWAYS.**  
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**Dear Dr. Cascio,**

**I am the national activist for a group of military service veterans who were previously stationed at the Fort McClellan, Alabama Army base from 1950 to 1998 before it was closed by the BRAC agency. This is a legitimate outreach effort to introduce our cause to you, and to perhaps be referred to someone in your department that we should be talking to.**

**In recent years, the former McClellan Army Base has been discovered to be a former remote test location for military test experiments and (CBRNE) field tests that were orchestrated by Edgewood, Maryland and Fort Detrick, Maryland during the Cold War Era. These tests were secret at the time so many of our service units there were never notified or coordinated with as the toxic release**

events took place. Maryland was involved in open air releases of chemical war weapons and substances. These left behind numerous remaining toxic sites that were allowed to stand for decades without any remedial cleanup actions.

In addition to that part of our story, there were also other contributing toxic spill sites that contributed to the exposure events of the first part of this story. That would include indoors, friable Asbestos pollution leading to abatement and demolition projects; a SuperFund (TCE) contamination site at the Anniston Army Depot where some of our McClellan Vets were assigned to work as commuter soldiers; and a massive, regional-wide Aroclor PCB contamination zone in downtown Anniston, Alabama stemming from a former Monsanto Factory that no longer exists. That was right in the nearby retail district where all of the soldiers gathered off base or used public transportation to go to and from the base.

There are a total of TEN significant toxic sources that we have identified through the compiling of environmental engineering papers which are authored by either military or EPA. Most of these toxic sources played out unresolved for a range of years, simultaneous to each other for the most part. In 1990, the Army Corps Of Engineers did issue a set of Exposure Pathway Reports for some of the sources, which was long after most of us had left the base and returned back to our home states. This is where we are all located right now. We are not in the state of Alabama any longer.

We are organized as a medical patient group across the states on Facebook. We are smart, literate, and articulate and have made strides in trying to read outside of our own academic levels to self-educate ourselves about how to navigate your Environmental Health industry well enough to figure out what to ask for.

The VA has already looked at a few of our spill sources as individual "aggregate" sites and they have concluded that a national Health Registry is not the right medical patient screening tool for us. We are an aging population now and are well beyond the Half-Life period of all the toxic sources including the PCB's from downtown. It was only later on that we discovered that a Cumulative Health Risk Assessments for multiple or combined exposures was the right way for us to go. The VA does not have the capacity to conduct Cumulative Assessments. Which brings me here.

We are working tirelessly to accomplish just that for our group. To that end, I am here to connect with you today to start that conversation. The main goal of such a review is to

**make an all new toxicity "opinion" and health risk determination that would cause the VA agency to recognize us (or not) as a military service-connected patient group for Comp and Pen disability claims benefits and for VA Hospital care for the same. Many of our veterans have been in the hospital system for decades, just as I have, but have never been notified by any agency in Alabama that we are toxic exposure victims. All of the public hearing notices there only went out to local community levels in Alabama. We were long gone from the area by then.**

**We are currently working out of the Senate Veterans Committee to try and launch a new GAO Office report on Fort McClellan, to usher in the expediting of having our environmental papers verified into a single official report. I am assuming, that a funding legislation bill would be needed for your Department to conduct our Health Risk Assessment, if you were to become interested in our project. So I am here to say that we do have email and staff contacts in place there that I'm already working with, if it comes to bear that you would need a new funding bill to cover our Assessment study.**

**Most all of the declared pathways that we have are by air, or ingestion, or by soil or clothing contact. Most all of the toxic sources are considered to be low-dose. We have gone the distance to compile the health condition sciences that are matched to the toxic sources from our spill profile, and this is what our group is formed up under. We have a huge population of former women veterans from the base, since it used to be the national training center for the Women's Army Corps 1950 to 1978. We are a gender-diverse veterans group.**

**I have created a single PDF-converted file of the significant toxic sources that we are claiming before the VA agency as the cause of our health conditions that we are matched to. These are PowerPoint slides showing the range of years and duration of time that the toxic sources ran.**

**LINK:**

**[Consolidated-Toxic-Sources-Slide-Series-10pgs.pdf](#)**



**I normally come to Washington DC to conduct my meetings in person, pre-pandemic. I do have a full computer setup to support a ZOOM meeting or something like it. I am having my second COVID vaccine shot this upcoming Saturday so I will be able to travel again, if I need to embrace that option.**

**I hope I have given you enough starter information to begin this conversation. I'll be waiting for your reply in regard to this important matter. I am wishing you safety, wellness, and success in your new Department. Thank you.**

**(b) (6) Privacy, (b) (7)(C) Enforcement Privacy, Army Signal Corps 1970 // national activist  
Toxic Exposure Army Veterans of Fort McClellan**

**(b) (6) Privacy, (b) (7)(C) Enforcement Privacy**

**[Redacted]**

**[Redacted] home/landline**

**(b) (6) Privacy, (b) (7)(C) Enforcement Privacy**

**[Redacted]**

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**Automatic reply: TO: DR. CASCIO // A LEGITIMATE OUTREACH INQUIRY TO BEGIN A CONVERSATION ABOUT OBTAINING A CUMULATIVE HEALTH RISK ASSESSMENT FOR A MILITARY VETERANS GROUP Yahoo/EPA**

•  
**Cascio, Wayne <cascio.wayne@epa.gov>**

**To:Fort McClellan Group**

**Tue, Mar 9 at 10:44 PM**

**I will be away from the office from Monday, March 8th through Saturday March 13th. I will respond to your emails when I return. For urgent matters please contact Linda Lassiter (lassister.linda@epa.gov; 919-541-2281) and she will assist.**

**Submitted By:**

**(b) (6) Privacy, (b) (7)(C) Enforcement Privacy**, Army Signal Corps 1970  
**A Vietnam Era and Cold War Service Veteran**

**National Activist for The Toxic Exposure Army Veterans  
of Fort McClellan (Alabama) on Facebook  
at Albany, New York  
In the 20<sup>th</sup> congressional district of New York**

**(b) (6) Privacy, (b) (7)(C) Enforcement Privacy**  
[REDACTED]

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**[Failure Notice](#)**  
**[Yahoo/EPA](#)**

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**[MAILER-DAEMON@yahoo.com](mailto:MAILER-DAEMON@yahoo.com) <[mailer-daemon@yahoo.com](mailto:mailer-daemon@yahoo.com)>**

**To:** (b) (6) Privacy, (b) (7)(C) Enforcement Privacy

**[Tue, Mar 9 at 10:48 PM](#)**

**[Sorry, we were unable to deliver your message to the following address.](#)**

[<lassister.linda@epa.gov>](mailto:lassister.linda@epa.gov):

[550: 5.1.1 <lassister.linda@epa.gov>: Recipient address rejected: User unknown in relay recipient table](#)

----- Forwarded message -----

[A COPY IS FORWARDED TO LINDA LASSISTER TO COVER FOR DR. CASCIO'S ABSENCE.](#)

----- Forwarded Message -----

[From: Fort McClellan Group](#) (b) (6) Privacy, (b) (7)(C) Enforcement Privacy

[To: cascio.wayne@epa.gov <cascio.wayne@epa.gov>](#)

[Sent: Tuesday, March 9, 2021, 10:43:20 PM EST](#)

[Subject: TO: DR. CASCIO // A LEGITIMATE OUTREACH INQUIRY TO BEGIN A CONVERSATION ABOUT OBTAINING A CUMULATIVE HEALTH RISK ASSESSMENT FOR A MILITARY VETERANS GROUP](#)

[March 10,2021](#)

[TO: DR. WAYNE CASCIO](#)

[CENTER FOR PUBLIC HEALTH AND ASSESSMENT RESEARCH  
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY](#)

[A LEGITIMATE OUTREACH INQUIRY TO BEGIN  
A POSSIBLE LEGISLATIVE CONVERSATION  
TO LAUNCH A CUMULATIVE RISK HEALTH  
ASSESSMENT ON A MILITARY VETERANS  
SERVICE GROUP. MULTIPLE TOXIC SOURCES  
AND DIFFERENT EXPOSURE SITES.  
MOSTLY AIR, INGESTION, OR SOIL PATHWAYS.](#)

[Dear Dr. Cascio,](#)

[I am the national activist for a group of military service veterans who were previously stationed at the Fort McClellan, Alabama Army base from 1950 to 1998 before it was closed by the BRAC agency. This is a legitimate outreach effort to introduce our cause to you, and to perhaps be referred to someone in your department that we should be talking to.](#)

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I hope I have given you enough starter information to begin this conversation. I'll be waiting for your reply in regard to this important matter. I am wishing you safety, wellness, and success in your new Department. Thank you.

(b) (6) Privacy, (b) (7)(C) Enforcement Privacy, Army Signal Corps 1970 // national activist Toxic Exposure Army Veterans of Fort McClellan

(b) (6) Privacy, (b) (7)(C) Enforcement Privacy

[Redacted]

[Redacted] home/landline

(b) (6) Privacy, (b) (7)(C) Enforcement Privacy

[Redacted]

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**RE: 2nd Effort TO: DR. CASCIO // A LEGITIMATE OUTREACH INQUIRY TO BEGIN A CONVERSATION ABOUT OBTAINING A CUMULATIVE HEALTH RISK ASSESSMENT FOR A MILITARY VETERANS GROUP**  
**Yahoo/EPA**

**Cascio, Wayne <cascio.wayne@epa.gov>**

**To:Fort McClellan Group**

**Cc:Widener, Kelly**

**Sat, Mar 20 at 12:01 PM**

**Dear (b) (6) Privacy, (b) (7)(C) Enforcement – Thank you for your email and your concern for our military veterans. I am forwarding your email to Kelly Widener who is our Center’s Communication Director and she should be able to identify the appropriate place within the US EPA or other federal agencies such as CDC/ATSDR where your concern can be directed.**

**Sincerely, Wayne Cascio**

**Wayne E. Cascio, MD, FACC | Director | Center for Public Health and Environmental Assessment | Office of Research and Development | U.S. Environmental Protection Agency | Research Triangle Park, NC 27711 |**

**From: Fort McClellan Group (b) (6) Privacy, (b) (7)(C) Enforcement Privacy**

**Sent: Friday, March 19, 2021 9:19 AM**

**To: Cascio, Wayne <Cascio.Wayne@epa.gov>**

**Subject: 2nd Effort TO: DR. CASCIO // A LEGITIMATE OUTREACH INQUIRY TO BEGIN A CONVERSATION ABOUT OBTAINING A CUMULATIVE HEALTH RISK ASSESSMENT FOR A MILITARY VETERANS GROUP**

**RESENT A SECOND TIME MARCH 19, 2021**

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**----- Forwarded Message -----**

**From: Fort McClellan Group (b) (6) Privacy, (b) (7)(C) Enforcement Privacy**

**To: cascio.wayne@epa.gov <cascio.wayne@epa.gov>**

**Sent: Tuesday, March 9, 2021, 10:43:20 PM EST**

Subject: TO: DR. CASCIO // A LEGITIMATE OUTREACH INQUIRY TO BEGIN A CONVERSATION ABOUT OBTAINING A CUMULATIVE HEALTH RISK ASSESSMENT FOR A MILITARY VETERANS GROUP

March 10,2021

TO: DR. WAYNE CASCIO  
CENTER FOR PUBLIC HEALTH AND ASSESSMENT RESEARCH  
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

A LEGITIMATE OUTREACH INQUIRY TO BEGIN A POSSIBLE LEGISLATIVE CONVERSATION TO LAUNCH A CUMULATIVE RISK HEALTH ASSESSMENT ON A MILITARY VETERANS SERVICE GROUP. MULTIPLE TOXIC SOURCES AND DIFFERENT EXPOSURE SITES. MOSTLY AIR, INGESTION, OR SOIL PATHWAYS.

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Dear Dr. Cascio,

I am the national activist for a group of military service veterans who were previously stationed at the Fort McClellan, Alabama Army base from 1950 to 1998 before it was closed by the BRAC agency. This is a legitimate outreach effort to introduce our cause to you, and to perhaps be referred to someone in your department that we should be talking to.

In recent years, the former McClellan Army Base has been discovered to be a former remote test location for military test experiments and (CBRNE) field tests that were orchestrated by Edgewood, Maryland and Fort Detrick, Maryland during the Cold War Era. These tests were secret at the time so many of our service units there were never notified or coordinated with as the toxic release events took place. Maryland was involved in open air releases of chemical war weapons and substances. These left behind numerous remaining toxic sites that were allowed to stand for decades without any remedial cleanup actions.

In addition to that part of our story, there were also other contributing toxic spill sites that contributed to the exposure events of the first part of this story. That would included indoors, friable Asbestos pollution leading to abatement and demolition projects; a SuperFund (TCE) contamination site at the Anniston Army Depot where some of our McClellan Vets were assigned to work as commuter soldiers; and a massive, regional-wide Aroclor PCB contamination zone in downtown Anniston, Alabama stemming from a former Monsanto Factory that no longer exists. That was right in the nearby retail district where all of the soldiers gathered off base or used public transportation to go to and from the base.

There are a total of TEN significant toxic sources that we have identified through the compiling of environmental engineering papers which are authored by either military or EPA. Most of these toxic sources played out unresolved for a range of years, simultaneous to each other for the most part. In 1990, the Army Corps Of Engineers did issue a set of Exposure Pathway Reports for some of the sources, which was long after most of us had left the base and returned back to our home states. This is where we are all located right now. We are not in the state of Alabama any longer.

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The VA has already looked at a few of our spill sources as individual "aggregate" sites and they have concluded that a national Health Registry is not the right medical patient screening tool for us. We are an aging population now and are well beyond the Half-Life period of all the toxic sources including the PCB's from downtown. It was only later on that we discovered that a Cumulative Health Risk Assessments for multiple or combined exposures was the right way for us to go. The VA does not have the capacity to conduct Cumulative Assessments. Which brings me here.

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in the hospital system for decades, just as I have, but have never been notified by any agency in Alabama that we are toxic exposure victims. All of the public hearing notices there only went out to local community levels in Alabama. We were long gone from the area by then.

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LINK:

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I normally come to Washington DC to conduct my meetings in person, pre-pandemic. I do have a full computer setup to support a ZOOM meeting or something like it. I am having



with my colleagues here to identify the best point of contact for you. I hope to follow-up with you within the next couple of days.

Best,

**Brandi Jenkins, Director**  
**Outreach and External Engagement Office**  
**U.S. Environmental Protection Agency – Region 4**  
**404-562-9124 (office)**  
**(b) (6) Privacy (cell)**

**Twitter: [@EPASoutheast](#)**  
**Facebook: [U.S. EPA Southeast Region](#)**  
**Webpage: [EPA Region 4](#) (Southeast Region)**

**From: Fort McClellan Group (b) (6) Privacy, (b) (7)(C) Enforcement Privacy**  
**Sent: Monday, March 22, 2021 10:48 AM**  
**To: Cascio, Wayne <[Cascio.Wayne@epa.gov](mailto:Cascio.Wayne@epa.gov)>**  
**Subject: TO: Dr. Cascio // Kelly Widener Does NOT Reply To Public Inquiry Emails -- Just For The Record**

Dear Dr. Cascio,

**Please be aware the Kelly Widener is exactly who I started my email outreach effort with. She refuses to answer her email. Also, the contact that was posted on your trip reply, has her email security set so high that public access is not allowed. I ended up getting a delivery failure.**

**Across the board with your agency, my effort to obtain information is delayed by WEEKS as I bounce around from one agency excuse to another with nobody talking to me about my project.**

**This matter is too deep to handle by a phone call and I think you will agree. I trust your opinion.**

**Please hook me up with somebody who is actually willing to talk to me because all of these counter-referrals are simply NOT working for me. Thank you and sending you my**

very best today in Washington DC.

**(b) (6) Privacy, (b) (7)(C) Enforcement Privacy**, Activist / Army Veteran  
The Fort McClellan Veterans Stakeholders Group  
Albany, New York

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On Saturday, March 20, 2021, 12:01:12 PM EDT, Cascio, Wayne  
<[cascio.wayne@epa.gov](mailto:cascio.wayne@epa.gov)> wrote:

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RESENT A SECOND TIME MARCH 19, 2021

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**March 10,2021**

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CENTER FOR PUBLIC HEALTH AND ASSESSMENT RESEARCH  
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY**

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A POSSIBLE LEGISLATIVE CONVERSATION  
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Toxic Exposure Army Veterans of Fort McClellan**

**(b) (6) Privacy, (b) (7)(C) Enforcement Privacy**

**[REDACTED]**

**[REDACTED] home/landline**

**(b) (6) Privacy, (b) (7)(C) Enforcement Privacy**

**[REDACTED]**

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**end of email exchanges and attempts  
to obtain access to the EPA program  
for a Cumulative Risk Health Assessment  
through the Center for Public  
Health and Environmental Assessment.**