

FREEDOM FROM RELIGION *foundation*

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December 18 , 2019

SENT VIA U.S. MAIL AND EMAIL:
USDAFOIA@ocio.usda.gov

Alexis R. Graves
Departmental FOIA Officer
1400 Independence Avenue, SW
South Building, Rm. 4104
Washington, DC 20250-0706

Re: FOIA Request

Dear Freedom of Information Officer:

I am writing on behalf of the Freedom From Religion Foundation (FFRF) to request public records related to a recent week-long religious event at the Museum of the Bible, hosted by Capitol Ministries (the “Capitol Ministries Event”), at which Secretary Sonny Perdue reportedly attended and discussed weekly bible studies at the Wednesday morning panel.¹ Under the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. §552), I respectfully request a copy of the following records:

1. All records indicating expenses of any sort by the Department of Agriculture related to the Capitol Ministries Event, including but not limited to planning, transportation, and staff time;
2. The schedules of Secretary Perdue, and any other Department of Agriculture employees who attended or was otherwise involved with the Capitol Ministries Event, covering December 2, 2019–December 13, 2019;
3. All emails since January 1, 2019, to or from Secretary Perdue or any other employee of the Department of Agriculture who attended or was otherwise involved with the Capitol Ministries Event, that include the following search terms:
 - a. “Museum of the Bible”

¹ See capmin.org/you-have-been-called-to-this-rick-perry-tells-cm-ministry-leaders-from-across-the-globe/.

- b. "Capitol Ministries"
- c. "Discipleship ministries"
- d. "Bible Study"
- e. "Ralph Drollinger"
- f. "Randy Adams"

4. All emails since January 1, 2019, to or from Secretary Perdue or any other employee of the Department of Agriculture who attended or was otherwise involved with the Capitol Ministries Event, that was to or from either Ralph Drollinger or Randy Adams; and

5. All other public records related to the Capitol Ministries Event.

If any of these records are available through electronic media (preferred), they may be e-mailed to ryan@ffrf.org. We appreciate your time and attention to this request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ryan D. Jayne". The signature is stylized and cursive, with the first name "Ryan" and last name "Jayne" clearly legible.

Ryan D. Jayne
Staff Attorney