



NATIONAL ARCHIVES *and* RECORDS ADMINISTRATION  
8601 ADELPHI ROAD COLLEGE PARK, MD 20740-6001  
[www.archives.gov](http://www.archives.gov)

***Sent Via Email. No Hard Copy to Follow.***

December 11, 2019

Ms. Mary Beth Roberts  
United States Department of Interior  
Office of the Special Trustee for American Indians  
4400 Masthead NE  
Albuquerque, NM 87109  
[MaryBeth\\_Roberts@ost.doi.gov](mailto:MaryBeth_Roberts@ost.doi.gov)

Dear Ms. Roberts:

Thank you for your letter dated November 26, 2019, regarding a potential loss of the Department of the Interior (DOI), Office of the Special Trustee for American Indians (OST) records. Your letter reported that on November 20, 2019, OST discovered that the Assistant Secretary of Indian Affairs possessed a collection of approximately 600 cubic feet of documents. It was later discovered that approximately 520 of the approximate 600 cubic feet of incoming and outgoing correspondence including letters, memoranda and/or manuals were destroyed because they were identified as duplicate documents.

You also stated that OST expects to complete a full report in accordance with 36 CFR 1230 within 120 days of the date of your letter. We look forward to receiving your report by February 27, 2020.

Sincerely,

LAURENCE BREWER  
Chief Records Officer  
for the U.S. Government

CC: David Alspach, Departmental Records Officer



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February 28, 2020

Ms. Mary Beth Roberts  
United States Department of Interior  
Office of the Special Trustee for American Indians  
4400 Masthead NE  
Albuquerque, NM 87109  
[MaryBeth\\_Roberts@ost.doi.gov](mailto:MaryBeth_Roberts@ost.doi.gov)

Dear Ms. Roberts:

The National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) received your report dated February 27, 2020 in response to your letter dated November 26, 2019, regarding a potential loss of the Department of the Interior (DOI), Office of the Special Trustee for American Indians (OST) records.

Based on the information in your report, NARA understands that no Federal records were actually destroyed and that safeguards are being put in place to ensure that no Federal records are accidentally destroyed going forward. We therefore consider the allegation to be unfounded and this case is now closed.

Thank you very much for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

LAURENCE BREWER  
Chief Records Officer  
for the U.S. Government

cc. David Alspach, Departmental Records Officer