



## George Bush Presidential Library

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### Inventory for FOIA Request 1999-0804-F

## Records on Matagorda Island

#### **Extent**

15 folders

#### **Access**

Collection is open to all researchers. Access to Bush Presidential Records, Bush Vice Presidential Records, and Quayle Vice Presidential Records is governed by the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA)(5 USC 552 as amended) and the Presidential Records Act (PRA)(44 USC 22) 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 (Title 17, USC) which governs the making of photocopies or other reproductions of copyrighted material.

#### **Provenance**

Official records of George Bush's presidency and vice presidency are housed at the George Bush Presidential Library and administered by the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) under the provisions of the Presidential Records Act (PRA).

#### **Processed By**

Staff Archivists, December 1999. Previously restricted materials are added as they are released.

#### **Scope and Content**

The materials in FOIA 1999-0804-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 1999-0804-F contains material concerning land on Matagorda Island, off the coast of Texas in the Gulf of Mexico. Land on this island belonging to the Hawes family was taken by the federal government in 1940 for use by the military. The United States Army declared the property "excess" in 1975 at which

time it was acquired by the Department of the Interior and made part of the Aransas National Wildlife Refuge. This FOIA concerns attempts by the Hawes family to reacquire the property and to continue grazing cattle on the island. Material in the FOIA includes letters, notes, and news clippings. Letters from Joe Hawes document the family's history on the island and their attempts to regain possession of the land. Letters and notes also outline the government's position concerning the matter. News clippings include editorials and articles relating to the history of Matagorda Island and the government's actions regarding the island. The FOIA is very small, comprised of less than two hundred pages.

### **System of Arrangement**

Records that are responsive to this FOIA request were found in three collection areas—Bush Presidential Records: WHORM Alphabetical Files; Bush Presidential Records: WHORM Subject Files; and Bush Presidential Records: Staff and Office Files. As policy, WHORM Alphabetical Files and WHORM Subject Files are processed at the document level. 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.

The WHORM Subject File compiled by the White House Office of Records Management is comprised of a series of documents assigned a letter/number combination and filed in a subject category. A complete listing of the subject categories including a detailed description of each category is available in our research room and on our website at <http://bushlibrary.tamu.edu/research/find/whorm/whorm.html>.

Please note that a single asterisk "\*" indicates that the category is entirely processed and open.

The following is a list of documents and folders processed in response to FOIA 1999-0804-F.

### **Bush Presidential Records: WHORM Alphabetical Files**

#### **Name**

Cheatham, Wiley L.  
Hawes, Beth  
Johnson, Anne S.

### **Bush Presidential Records: WHORM Subject Files**

<b>Category</b>	<b>Case Number</b>
AG*	Scanned: Case Number 201626
ND009	Scanned: Case Number 202752
NR*	Unscanned: Case Number 106040
NR002*	Scanned: Case Number 263549CU Unscanned: 158308
PA003*	Scanned: Case Number 241946, 241946CU
PR012-02	Unscanned: Case Number 152852, 167897
RA*	Scanned: Case Number 175461
ST043*	Scanned: Case Number 105099CU

**Bush Presidential Records: Staff and Office Files**

Counsel's Office, White House

Ronald Von Lembke Files—OIC Iran-Contra Alpha Subject File  
Matagorda Island [OA/ID 00600]

**Last modified:** 07/10/2008