

## McHale, Kelly A CIV WHS ESD (USA)

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**From:** McHale, Kelly A CIV WHS ESD (USA)  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 3, 2020 12:27 PM  
**To:** 'Luis Elizondo'  
**Subject:** RE: [Non-DoD Source] RE: DOPSR: Pre-Publication and Manuscripts Review 30 Sep 2020  
**Attachments:** 20-SB-0149 Final Response - Signed.pdf; 20-SB-0149 First Page Stamped.pdf  
**Signed By:** KELLY.A.MCHALE.CIV@MAIL.MIL

Mr. Elizondo,

I'm sorry you didn't receive the response. I sent it on Monday.

The screenplay titled "Alone" is cleared for public release. Attached is our final response letter and the first page of the screenplay with our clearance stamp. If you have any questions about this response, please let me know.

Thanks,

Kelly McHale  
Security Review Specialist  
Defense Office of Prepublication and Security Review  
Tel: 703.614.4903  
<https://www.esd.whs.mil/DOPSR/>

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Luis Elizondo [mailto:(b)(6)]  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 3, 2020 12:15 PM  
**To:** McHale, Kelly A CIV WHS ESD (USA) <kelly.a.mchale.civ@mail.mil>; McHale, Kelly A CIV WHS ESD (USA) <kelly.a.mchale.civ@mail.mil>; Jeff Springer <(b)(6)>  
**Cc:** Luis Elizondo <(b)(6)>; Laura Bickford <(b)(6)>; Patricia Kennedy <(b)(6)>; Dan Farah <(b)(6)>  
**Subject:** RE: [Non-DoD Source] RE: DOPSR: Pre-Publication and Manuscripts Review 30 Sep 2020

All active links contained in this email were disabled. Please verify the identity of the sender, and confirm the authenticity of all links contained within the message prior to copying and pasting the address to a Web browser.

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Greetings Ms. McHale,

I hope you had a pleasant Thanksgiving holiday.

It was brought to my attention that DOPSR has completed it's review of the draft script; however, I never received confirmation or the adjudication of the review. From my understanding, it was sent to me, yet I never received it? I also looked in my Spam folder in the event it was inadvertently sent there.

May I bother you to send me the final adjudication please?  
Sorry for any inconveniences.  
Best Regards,  
Lue

Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android < Caution-  
[https://go.onelink.me/107872968?pid=InProduct&c=Global\\_Internal\\_YGrowth\\_AndroidEmailSig\\_\\_AndroidUsers&af\\_wl=ym&af\\_sub1=Internal&af\\_sub2=Global\\_YGrowth&af\\_sub3=EmailSignature](https://go.onelink.me/107872968?pid=InProduct&c=Global_Internal_YGrowth_AndroidEmailSig__AndroidUsers&af_wl=ym&af_sub1=Internal&af_sub2=Global_YGrowth&af_sub3=EmailSignature) >

On Tue, Nov 3, 2020 at 2:26 PM, McHale, Kelly A CIV WHS ESD (USA)  
<kelly.a.mchale.civ@mail.mil> wrote:

Mr. Springer,

I understand the timeline you are on. I'm estimating that we'll have the screenplay completed by the end of November.

Thanks,

Kelly McHale

Security Review Specialist

Defense Office of Prepublication and Security Review

Tel: 703.614.4903

How am I doing? Let me know at Caution-[https://ice.disa.mil/index.cfm?fa=card&sp=139133&s=110&dep=\\*DoD](https://ice.disa.mil/index.cfm?fa=card&sp=139133&s=110&dep=*DoD)

From: Jeff Springer <(b)(6)>

Sent: Friday, October 30, 2020 8:20 PM

To: McHale, Kelly A CIV WHS ESD (USA) <kelly.a.mchale.civ@mail.mil>

Cc: Luis Elizondo <(b)(6)>; Laura Bickford <(b)(6)>; Patricia Kennedy

<(b)(6)>

Subject: RE: [Non-DoD Source] RE: DOPSR: Pre-Publication and Manuscripts Review 30 Sep 2020

All active links contained in this email were disabled. Please verify the identity of the sender, and confirm the authenticity of all links contained within the message prior to copying and pasting the address to a Web browser.

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Dear Ms. McHale:

Thank you very much for your October 20 email. We completely understand that COVID-19 has made everything more difficult and time-consuming, and we appreciate that you're dealing with a large volume of material.

Unfortunately our client is in a position where forward progress on the film project is stopped until the review is completed. If by now you might have a better idea of the estimated timeframe for completion, we would really appreciate an update.

Thanks again for your service, and we hope to hear from you shortly.

Kind regards,

Jeff Springer

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Jeff Springer, Esq.

Lichter, Grossman, Nichols, Adler, Feldman & Clark, Inc.

Attorneys at Law

9200 Sunset Boulevard, Suite 1200

West Hollywood, CA 90069

WORKING REMOTELY – TO SET UP A CALL, PLEASE EMAIL ME

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From: McHale, Kelly A CIV WHS ESD (USA) <kelly.a.mchale.civ@mail.mil>  
Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2020 10:20 AM  
To: Jeff Springer <(b)(6)>  
Cc: Luis Elizondo <(b)(6)>  
Subject: RE: [Non-DoD Source] RE: DOPSR: Pre-Publication and Manuscripts Review 30 Sep 2020

Mr. Springer,

Mr. Elizondo has been provided with an acknowledgment that the screenplay was received. Currently, manuscripts/screenplays are taking several months to complete. This is due to the high volume of submissions and COVID-related delays. We are doing our best to complete reviews in a timely manner but we cannot provide a definitive completion date at this time.

Thank you,

Kelly McHale

Security Review Specialist

Defense Office of Prepublication and Security Review

Tel: 703.614.4903

How am I doing? Let me know at [https://ice.disa.mil/index.cfm?fa=card&sp=139133&s=110&dep=\\*DoD](https://ice.disa.mil/index.cfm?fa=card&sp=139133&s=110&dep=*DoD) < Caution-Caution-  
[https://ice.disa.mil/index.cfm?fa=card&sp=139133&s=110&dep=\\*DoD](https://ice.disa.mil/index.cfm?fa=card&sp=139133&s=110&dep=*DoD) >

From: Jeff Springer <(b)(6)> < Caution-Caution-mailto:(b)(6)> >  
Sent: Monday, October 12, 2020 6:54 PM  
To: WHS Pentagon ESD Mailbox SECREV <whs.pentagon.esd.mbx.secrev@mail.mil < Caution-Caution-mailto:whs.pentagon.esd.mbx.secrev@mail.mil > >  
Cc: Luis Elizondo <(b)(6)> < Caution-Caution-mailto:(b)(6)> > >; Laura Bickford <(b)(6)> < Caution-Caution-mailto:(b)(6)> > >; Patricia Kennedy <(b)(6)> < Caution-Caution-mailto:(b)(6)> > >  
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] RE: DOPSR: Pre-Publication and Manuscripts Review 30 Sep 2020

All active links contained in this email were disabled. Please verify the identity of the sender, and confirm the authenticity of all links contained within the message prior to copying and pasting the address to a Web browser.

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Greetings Sir/Ma'am,

This law firm represents Luis D. Elizondo, former Director of the DoD's Advanced Aerospace Threat Identification Program (AATIP).

I'm writing to follow up on the DOPSR review request our client made to this office on September 30, 2020, (copy below) with respect to the attached screenplay. Although our client is confident that the screenplay contains no classified information, our national security is of paramount importance, and we would greatly appreciate DOPSR confirmation that nothing in the screenplay would inadvertently pose a security risk.

We understand that reviews of this type typically take 10 - 15 working days, and 7 working days have now elapsed since the submission was made. Could you please acknowledge receipt of the screenplay on September 30 and confirm that the review will be completed no later than 15 working days from receipt?

Of course, we expect that COVID-19 has placed a strain on the DOPSR process in the same way it has affected other areas of life and are sympathetic to its impact. Due to the fast-paced nature of the film business, however, we'd greatly appreciate anything you could do to expedite the process.

Mr. Elizondo has followed up by email and by phone already but has not yet received a response. We hope to hear from you shortly so that escalation to the Washington Headquarters Services (what I understand to be the next step) is not required. Thank you for your service!

Kind regards,

Jeff Springer

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Jeff Springer, Esq.



Lichter, Grossman, Nichols, Adler, Feldman & Clark, Inc.

Attorneys at Law

9200 Sunset Boulevard, Suite 1200

West Hollywood, CA 90069

Cell Phone: (b)(6)

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From: Luis Elizondo <(b)(6)> <Caution-Caution-Caution-mailto:(b)(6)>  
<Caution-Caution-mailto:(b)(6)> %3c Caution-Caution-Caution-mailto:(b)(6)>  
>>>

Sent: Wednesday, September 30, 2020 7:21 AM

To: whs.pentagon.esd.mbx.secrev@mail.mil <Caution-Caution-mailto:whs.pentagon.esd.mbx.secrev@mail.mil>  
> <Caution-Caution-Caution-mailto:whs.pentagon.esd.mbx.secrev@mail.mil>  
<whs.pentagon.esd.mbx.secrev@mail.mil <Caution-Caution-Caution-mailto:whs.pentagon.esd.mbx.secrev@mail.mil <  
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mailto:whs.pentagon.esd.mbx.secrev@mail.mil >>>

Cc: Jeff Springer <(b)(6)> <Caution-Caution-Caution-mailto:(b)(6)> <Caution-  
Caution-mailto:(b)(6)> %3c Caution-Caution-Caution-mailto:(b)(6)> >>  
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Caution-Caution-Caution-mailto:(b)(6)> <Caution-Caution-mailto:(b)(6)> %3c Caution-  
Caution-Caution-mailto:(b)(6)> >>>

Subject: AATN DOPSR: Pre-Publication and Manuscripts Review 30 Sep 2020

Greetings Sir/Ma'am,

Per DoDI 5230.09, and DoDI 5230.29, attached is a partially fictionalized screenplay based on real individuals that were associated/affiliated with the Department of Defense and its activities/efforts. Specifically, one character, Mr. Luis Elizondo, is based after me (Luis D. Elizondo) who was the former Director of the Advanced Aerospace Threat

Identification Program (AATIP). This screenplay is based on a book by author, Ms. Lesley Keane, and not written by me, but because it uses my name and likeness, this review is being requested.

I have carefully and thoroughly reviewed the draft screenplay to ensure there is no inadvertent disclosure of classified/sensitive information. At no time, are real names, dates, or places used that could compromise ongoing operational activities by the Department, nor is any information revealed that could constitute a compromise of sources & methods, OPSEC, PERSEC, or INFOSEC.

I respectfully request a DOPSR review be conducted to ensure DoD concurs with this assessment prior to its broader distribution to studios/networks. Should a discrepancy be identified by your office, please specify which portion of the script requires our attention and remedy.

Lastly, if expedited service can be afforded, it would be greatly appreciated. We understand the limitations COVID-19 has placed on the DOPSR process and are sympathetic to its impact. Thank you for your service!

Sincerely,

Luis Elizondo

(b)(6)

**CLEARED**  
**For Open Publication**

Nov 30, 2020

Department of Defense  
OFFICE OF PREPUBLICATION AND SECURITY REVIEW

**ALONE**

DRAFT DATED JANUARY 13, 2020

CURRENT DRAFT BY BRYCE KASS

A fictionalized screenplay based on

*UFOs: Generals, Pilots and Government Officials Go On the Record,*

a New York Times best seller by Leslie Kean

Cherry Pix, LLC  
c/o Lichter, Grossman, Nichols, Adler, Feldman & Clark, Inc.  
9200 Sunset Boulevard, Suite 1200  
Los Angeles, California 90069  
Attention: Jeff Springer, Esq.  
Email: (b)(6)



## McHale, Kelly A CIV WHS ESD (USA)

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**From:** McHale, Kelly A CIV WHS ESD (USA)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 13, 2020 11:03 AM  
**To:** (b)(6)  
**Subject:** DOPSR Case 20-SB-0149 - Screenplay Review

Dear Mr. Elizondo,

This email is to confirm the Defense Office of Prepublication and Security Review (DOPSR) has commenced prepublication review of your screenplay "Alone", received on September 30, 2020. DOPSR will conduct a security review for classified information, controlled unclassified information, operational security related information, and a policy review to ensure accurate statements of DoD Policy. I am the assigned action officer and the manuscript is assigned case number 20-SB-0149.

Manuscript/screenplay reviews are averaging several months, and have been severely hampered by the current Pandemic mitigation measures that have affected the Department. DOPSR is currently on part-time telework and has reduced capabilities to complete manuscript/screenplay reviews efficiently. Other factors affecting review times are the complexity of the subject matter, the volume of information, and the number of components with equity in the manuscript/screenplay. DOPSR continues to strive to complete reviews in as timely a manner as possible.

DOPSR does not accommodate publishers' timelines, therefore, we recommend that you do not sign a contract with a publishing company, or provide copies of the manuscript/screenplay to a publisher or other individuals until the review is complete.

The DoD seal and seals of the Military Departments are protected by trademark restrictions: the DoD seal and the seals of the Military Departments can only be used for official purposes. Other DoD insignia, emblems, ribbons, and medals are protected under trademark licensing laws and require permission prior to use. See DoD Instruction 5535.12, "DoD Branding and Trademark Licensing Program Implementation," Section 2.d. Guidance on obtaining permission to use DoD insignia can be found at: [www.defense.gov/Resources/Trademarks/Trademarks/](http://www.defense.gov/Resources/Trademarks/Trademarks/).

If you have not done so already, please provide any photos, exhibits, tables, appendices, or any other material intended for use in your manuscript/screenplay. These materials should be emailed to our office inbox at: [whs.pentagon.esd.mbx.secrev@mail.mil](mailto:whs.pentagon.esd.mbx.secrev@mail.mil), and should reference the case number above.

Please direct any questions regarding this case to me at the contact information below.

Sincerely,

Kelly McHale  
Security Review Specialist  
Defense Office of Prepublication and Security Review  
Tel: 703.614.4903  
<https://www.esd.whs.mil/DOPSR/>



**DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE**  
**DEFENSE OFFICE OF PREPUBLICATION AND SECURITY REVIEW**  
**1155 DEFENSE PENTAGON**  
**WASHINGTON, DC 20301-1155**

November 30, 2020

Ref: 20-SB-0149

Mr. Luis Elizondo

(b)(6)

Dear Mr. Elizondo:

This is in response to your September 30, 2020, email requesting public release clearance of the screenplay titled, "Alone." The screenplay submitted for prepublication security review is **CLEARED** for public release. This clearance does not include any photograph, picture, exhibit, caption, or other supplemental material not specifically approved by this office, nor does this clearance imply Department of Defense endorsement or factual accuracy of the material.

A copy of the first page of the screenplay with our clearance stamp is enclosed. Please direct any questions regarding this case to Kelly McHale at [kelly.a.mchale.civ@mail.mil](mailto:kelly.a.mchale.civ@mail.mil).

Sincerely,

for

MCHALE.KELLY

.A. (b)(6)

Digitally signed by

MCHALE.KELLY.A. (b)(6)

Date: 2020.11.30 16:24:31

-05'00'

George R. Sturgis, Jr.  
Chief

Enclosure(s):

As stated