

U.S. Department of Justice

Executive Office for Immigration Review Office of the General Counsel

5107 Leesburg Pike, Suite 2150 Falls Church, Virginia 22041

07/21/2023

Mr. Jason Hopkins Immigration Reform Law Institute 25 Massachusetts Ave, NW, Suite 335 Washington, DC

Re: 2023-16792

Dear Mr. Hopkins,

This letter is in response to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request dated 03/17/2023 to the Executive Office for Immigration Review (EOIR) in which you seek

- 1. All email correspondence to and from EOIR staff that mentions or pertains to the "Immigration Reform Law Institute", from and including January 1, 2021 up to and including January 10, 2023.
- 2. All email correspondence to and from EOIR staff that pertains to its policy of amicus brief invitations, from and including January 1, 2021 up to and including January 10, 2023.

On March 17, 2023, you agreed to limit the scope of your request from January 1, 2021 up to and including January 10, 2022 and to only search the following custodians:

- 1. David Neal, EOIR's director
- 2. Lauren Alder, Assistant Director for the Office of Policy (Date Range for Record Search: From 1/1/2021 To 1/10/2023).

A search was conducted, and responsive record(s) was/were located. You are granted partial access to the responsive record(s). You may access and download the responsive records for up to 60 days a this link: https://jefs.box.com/s/3otb2lstir28y95rxledj9xqczofuruq

Important: Do not click the link. You must copy and paste the link into your browser to view the file.

Also, upon review of the records, it was determined that some of the records were originated from a different DOJ component. Those records have been forwarded to the Civil Division and to the Office of Policy Information for a release determination and direct response to you. Accordingly, EOIR has closed this request.

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Portions of the enclosed records have been redacted in accordance with FOIA Exemption 5, 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(5), which concerns certain inter- and intra-agency communications protected by the deliberative process privilege, attorney work-product doctrine, and/or the attorney-client privilege.

Additionally, portions of the enclosed records have been redacted in accordance with FOIA Exemption 6, 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(6), which concerns material the release of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of the personal privacy of third parties.

Please be advised that we have considered the foreseeable harm standard when reviewing records and applying FOIA exemptions.

For your information, Congress excluded three discrete categories of law enforcement and national security records from the requirements of the FOIA. *See* 5 U.S.C. § 552(c) (2006 & Supp. IV 2010). This response is limited to those records that are subject to the requirements of the FOIA. This is a standard notification that is given to all our requesters and should not be taken as an indication that excluded records do, or do not, exist. *See* http://www.justice.gov/oip/foiapost/2012foiapost9.html.

We have placed you in the news media/ educational requester category. EOIR is not charging any fees related to the processing of your request.

You may contact the EOIR FOIA Public Liaison by e-mail at <u>EOIR.FOIARequests@usdoj.gov</u> for any further assistance and to discuss any aspect of your request. Please reference the FOIA control number. Additionally, you may contact the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) at the National Archives and Records Administration to inquire about the FOIA mediation services they offer. The contact information for OGIS is as follows: Office of Government Information Services, National Archives and Records Administration, Room 2510, 8601 Adelphi Road, College Park, Maryland 20740-6001; e-mail at ogis@nara.gov; telephone at (202) 741-5770; toll free at (877) 684-6448; or facsimile at (202) 741-5769.

If you are not satisfied with the Executive Office for Immigration Review's determination in response to this request, you may administratively appeal by writing to the Director, Office of Information Policy (OIP), United States Department of Justice, 441 G Street, NW, 6th Floor, Washington, D.C. 20530, or you may submit an appeal through OIP's FOIA STAR portal by creating an account following the instructions on OIP's website:

https://www.justice.gov/oip/submit-and-track-request-or-appeal. Your appeal must be postmarked or electronically transmitted within 90 days of the date of this response to your request. If you submit your appeal by mail, both the letter and the envelope should be clearly marked "Freedom of Information Act Appeal."

Sincerely,

Jeniffer Perez Santiago Associate General Counsel