

## **U.S. Department of Justice**

Executive Office for Immigration Review

Office of the General Counsel

5107 Leesburg Pike, Suite 2600 Falls Church, Virginia 20503

October 31, 2013

Ms. Julie A. Murray Public Citizen 1600 20th Street, NW Washington, DC 20009

> RE: Freedom of Information Act Request for Records Regarding All Complaints Filed Against Immigration Judges

Dear Ms. Murray:

This letter is in response to the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request which was filed by Mr. Robert Deasy of the American Immigration Lawyers Association seeking records related to all complaints filed against Immigration Judges. Prior to EOIR's response to Mr. Deasy's request litigation ensued. Pursuant to a negotiated agreement, this is the first response to the FOIA request which covers closed cases on or after October 1, 2009.

Enclosed is a computer disk containing closed cases from the Immigration Judge Complaint database. In addition, EOIR created a key which assigned a random three letter code to each immigration judge. This key is linked to the complaint number in the database. Please note that the records have been redacted pursuant to 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(6) to avoid a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy and 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(7)(C) to protect law enforcement exempt information where the release could reasonably be expected to constitute an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.

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).

Please feel free to contact me at (703) 305-1994 should you have any questions concerning this information.

Sincerely

Cecelia M. Espenoza Senior Associate General Counsel

EOIR FOIA# 2013-2789 cc: Javier M. Guzman