



October 5, 2022

Via Electronic Mail

Jeniffer Perez Santiago, Attorney Advisor
U.S. Department of Justice
Executive Office for Immigration Review
Office of the General Counsel
5107 Leesburg Pike, Suite 2150
Falls Church, VA 22041

Email: jeniffer.perez.santiago@usdoj.gov

**RE: Response to Correspondence Requesting Clarification of EOIR FOIA
Request/ Placing Response on Hold
2022-55750**

Dear Ms. Perez Santiago,

I am writing in response to your letter, dated September 27, 2022. In that letter, you indicated that the FOIA request as filed, “would require the Executive Office of Immigration Review to conduct an unreasonably burdensome search.” More specifically, the letter stated that “EOIR would have to search over 3,000 email accounts for all EOIR employees and contractors for a time period of approximately 19 months.”

While requestor does not concede that the original request was “unreasonably burdensome,” it nevertheless narrows the scope of the original request in order to facilitate the prompt production of records.

The requestor modifies the original request and seeks the following records¹ prepared, received, transmitted, collected, and/or maintained by the Executive Office for Immigration Review (EOIR):

¹ The term “records” as used herein includes all records or communications preserved in electronic or written form, including but not limited to correspondence, documents, data, videotapes, e-mails, faxes, files, guidance, guidelines, evaluations, instructions, analyses, memoranda, agreements, notes, orders, policies, procedures, protocols, reports, rules, manuals, technical specifications, training materials, and studies.

- All records from January 2021 through the present that include the term “Dedicated Docket,” *that were created by or sent from the following individuals/positions within the Department of Justice- Executive Office of Immigration Review (EOIR):*
 - Director of the Executive Office of Immigration Review
 - Deputy Director of the Executive Office of Immigration Review
 - Chairman of the Board of Immigration Appeals
 - Chief Appellate Immigration Judge of the Board of Immigration Appeals
 - Deputy Chief Appellate Immigration Judge of the Board of Immigration Appeals
 - Assistant Director, Office of Policy
 - Chief Immigration Judge
 - Deputy Chief Immigration Judge (including Principal Deputy and Regional Deputies)
 - Assistant Chief Immigration Judges located in the Immigration Courts participating in the Dedicated Docket.²
 - Court Administrators located in the Immigration Courts participating in the Dedicated Docket.³

As was indicated in the original request, Requestor *does not* request the record of proceedings, immigration court files, or other records of individual noncitizens' removal proceedings. Requestor also *does not* request EOIR database records.

The Requestor renews its request for a fee waiver or reduction of all costs as well as expedited processing.

I trust that this limitation and narrowing of senders/recipients will allow the agency to promptly review and release records within 20 days as is statutorily required.

Please send responsive records to:

Lisa Weissman-Ward
Stanford Law School Immigrants' Rights Clinic
559 Nathan Abbott Way
Stanford, CA 94305
or
LWeissmanward@law.stanford.edu

² The 11 known Immigration Courts where Dedicated Docket cases are being handled include: Boston, Denver, Detroit, El Paso, Los Angeles, Miami, Newark, New York City, San Diego, San Francisco, and Seattle. In the event that there are additional courts handling the Dedicated docket, this request asks for records from those locations as well.

³ See FN 2.

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Thank you for your attention. Please contact me with any questions or concerns at lweissmanward@law.stanford.edu or 650-724-7396.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Lisa Weissman-Ward", with a horizontal line extending to the right from the end of the signature.

Lisa Weissman-Ward, Stanford Law School
Immigrants' Rights Clinic, Attorney
On Behalf of the Justice and Diversity Center of
The Bar Association of San Francisco