

**EXHIBIT B**

**JANUARY 8, 2016 EMAIL FROM ICE TO SPLC**

**From:** [ice-foia@dhs.gov](mailto:ice-foia@dhs.gov)  
**To:** [Eunice Cho](#)  
**Subject:** ICE FOIA Request 2016-ICFO-14741  
**Date:** Friday, January 08, 2016 9:07:36 AM

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January 08, 2016

Eunice Cho  
Southern Poverty Law Center  
Immigrant Justice Project  
1989 College Ave NE  
Atlanta, GA 30317

**RE: ICE FOIA Case Number 2016-ICFO-14741**

Dear Ms. Cho:

This acknowledges receipt of your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request to U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), dated January 07, 2016, and to your request for a waiver of all assessable FOIA fees. Your request was received in this office on January 07, 2016. Specifically, you requested disclosure of any and all records<sup>3</sup> prepared, collected, maintained, or created, including the following: 1. Any and all records containing, describing, or referring to guidance, guidelines, rules, directives, policies, procedures, or trainings related to enforcement operations to identify, locate, arrest, or remove individuals apprehended at the southern border after May 1, 2014 without authorization, including, but not limited to individuals taken into custody in North Carolina, Georgia, and Texas on January 2 and 3, 2016; or discussing enforcement goals, quotas, or targets for such enforcement teams or operations; 2. Any and all records containing, describing, or referring to disciplinary complaints, press releases, public statements, and post-investigation reports for enforcement operations conducted by DHS in North Carolina, Georgia, and Texas on January 2 and 3, 2016, including, but not limited to lists of individuals relied upon during enforcement operations; 3. Any and all records containing, describing, or referring to assistance provided by or cooperation with local, state, or federal law enforcement officers or agencies, including, but not limited to local police departments or sheriffs in the jurisdictions of enforcement operations conducted by DHS in North Carolina, Georgia, and Texas on January 2 and 3, 2016. Such records may include, but are not limited to agreements with counties, cities, towns, and municipalities, or any agent thereof; information-sharing agreements, including, but not limited to proposed agreements, Memoranda of Agreements, Memoranda of Understanding; or communication between DHS agents and any local or state law enforcement official; 4. Any and all records containing, describing, referring to, or revealing the following information related to enforcement operations conducted by DHS in North Carolina, Georgia, and Texas on January 2 and 3, 2016: **\*\*SEE ORIGINAL REQUEST TEXT and SUB-REQUEST SECTION for EXACT DETAILS\*\*** 5. Any and all records containing, describing, pertaining to, or referring to aggregate statistical reports or data regarding the enforcement operations or raids conducted in North Carolina, Georgia, and Texas on January 2 and 3, 2016.

Due to the increasing number of FOIA requests received by this office, we may encounter some delay in processing your request. Per Section 5.5(a) of the DHS FOIA regulations, 6 C.F.R. Part 5, ICE processes FOIA requests according to their order of receipt. Although ICE's goal is to respond within 20 business days of receipt of your request, the FOIA does permit a 10- day extension of this time period. As your request seeks numerous documents that will necessitate a thorough and wide-ranging search, ICE will invoke a 10-day extension for your request, as allowed by Title 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(6)(B). If you care to narrow the scope of your request, please contact our office. We will make every effort to comply with your request in a timely manner.

After thoroughly reviewing your letter and request for fee waiver, I have determined that you have not presented a convincing argument that [Southern Poverty Law Center](#) is entitled to a blanket waiver of applicable fees.

The DHS FOIA Regulations at 6 CFR § 5.11(k)(2) set forth six factors to examine in determining whether the applicable legal standard for a fee waiver has been met. We will consider these factors in our evaluation of your request for a fee waiver:

- (1) Whether the subject of the requested records concerns "the operations or activities of the government";
- (2) Whether the disclosure is "likely to contribute" to an understanding of government operations or activities;
- (3) Whether disclosure of the requested information will contribute to the understanding of the public at large, as opposed to the individual understanding of the requestor or a narrow segment of interested persons;
- (4) Whether the contribution to public understanding of government operations or activities will be "significant";

- (5) Whether the requester has a commercial interest that would be furthered by the requested disclosure; and
- (6) Whether the magnitude of any identified commercial interest to the requestor is sufficiently large in comparison with the public interest in disclosure, that disclosure is primarily in the commercial interest of the requestor.

As a requester, you bear the burden under FOIA of showing that the fee waiver requirements have been met. Based on my review of your January 07, 2016 letter and for the reasons stated herein, **I have determined that your fee waiver request is deficient because your request did not satisfy factors 4, 5, and 6.** Since your request for a fee waiver has failed to satisfy each of the required factors, I am denying your fee waiver request.

Provisions of the FOIA allow us to recover part of the cost of complying with your request. We shall charge you for records in accordance with the DHS Interim FOIA regulations as they apply to non-commercial requesters. As a non-commercial requester, you will be charged 10 cents per page for duplication; the first 100 pages are free, as are the first two hours of search time, after which you will pay the per quarter-hour rate (\$4.00 for clerical personnel, \$7.00 for professional personnel, \$10.25 for managerial personnel) of the searcher. We will construe the submission of your request as an agreement to pay up to \$25.00. You will be contacted before any further fees are accrued.

You have the right to appeal the determination to deny your fee waiver request. Should you wish to do so, please send your appeal following the procedures outlined in the DHS regulations at 6 Code of Federal Regulations § 5.9 and a copy of this letter to:

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement  
Office of Principal Legal Advisor  
U.S. Department of Homeland Security  
Freedom of Information Act Office  
500 12th Street, S.W., Stop 5900  
Washington, D.C. 20536-5900

Your appeal must be received within 60 days of the date of this letter. Your envelope and letter should be marked "FOIA Appeal." Copies of the FOIA and DHS regulations are available at [www.dhs.gov/foia](http://www.dhs.gov/foia).

ICE has queried the appropriate program offices within ICE for responsive records. If any responsive records are located, they will be reviewed for determination of releasability. Please be assured that one of the processors in our office will respond to your request as expeditiously as possible. We appreciate your patience as we proceed with your request.

Your request has been assigned reference number **2016-ICFO-14741**. Please refer to this identifier in any future correspondence. To check the status of an ICE FOIA/PA request, please visit <http://www.dhs.gov/foia-status>. Please note that to check the status of a request, you must enter the 2015-ICFO-XXXXX or 2016-ICFO-XXXXX tracking number. You may contact this office at (866) 633-1182. Our mailing address is 500 12th Street, S.W., Stop 5009, Washington, D.C. 20536-5009.

Regards,

ICE FOIA Office  
Immigration and Customs Enforcement  
Freedom of Information Act Office  
500 12th Street, S.W., Stop 5009  
Washington, D.C. 20536-5009  
Telephone: 1-866-633-1182  
Visit our FOIA website at [www.ice.gov/foia](http://www.ice.gov/foia)