



**Homeland
Security**

August 8, 2011

Michael W. Macleod-Ball
Chief Legislative and Policy Counsel
Michael German
Policy Counsel
American Civil Liberties Union
915 15th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20005

Re: Complaint No. 09-06-DHS-0054

Dear Mr. Macleod-Ball and Mr. German:

On February 24, 2011, I wrote to advise you that the DHS Office for Civil Rights and Civil Liberties (CRCL) had concluded our investigation of your complaint regarding potential abuse of authority by officials of the U.S. Secret Service (USSS) and the Federal Protective Service (FPS) in the creation of monthly calendars of protest activity near FPS-protected buildings. Since that time, we have reviewed the issue further, and I accordingly write now to inform you that we have provided FPS with an additional recommendation not reflected in our February 24 letter.

As you know, the documents that formed the subject of your complaint contained information about both coordinated nationwide protest activity as well as purely local events. While FPS no longer produces documents of this sort, we have now recommended that, if it were to do so in the future, information on local protests by groups with no history of violence should be reported only to local personnel, who have a situational awareness need for the information, and should not be distributed on a regional or national basis. FPS recognizes that this is the appropriate approach to this sort of information sharing, and has agreed with our recommendation.

We appreciate your bringing this matter to our attention. If you have any further concerns, please contact CRCL by phone at 1-866-644-8360, 1-866-644-8361 (TTY), or by email at crcl@dhs.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Margo Schlanger".

Margo Schlanger
Officer for Civil Rights and Civil Liberties
U.S. Department of Homeland Security