

Jonathan Manes

From: Powell, Amy (CIV) [Amy.Powell@usdoj.gov]

Sent: Thursday, July 07, 2011 3:36 PM

To: Jonathan Manes

Cc: Ben Wizner

Subject: FW: Drones FOIA: OLC response

Dear Jonathan –

On April 15, 2011, the Department of Justice, Office of Legal Counsel, provided you with a final response to your FOIA request dated January 2010, as narrowed by agreement. We have since discussed the possibility of providing additional information about the withheld material.

The original request sought a variety of records “pertaining to the use of unmanned aerial vehicles . . . by the CIA and the armed forces for the purpose of killing targeted individuals.” OLC located one responsive final OLC opinion related to operations of the Armed Forces. OLC also located four underlying documents related to operations of the Armed Forces that are responsive to the modified request. These four documents are communications with agency counsel related to the preparation of the OLC opinion, including responses to requests for information or comments given as part of OLC’s rendering of legal advice. The five documents are withheld in full pursuant to FOIA Exemptions 1 and 5. The documents are all classified and the basis for the Exemption 5 claim is the deliberative process privilege and the attorney-client privilege.

Pursuant to FOIA Exemptions 1 and 3, OLC can neither confirm nor deny the existence of any responsive documents related to alleged CIA operations.

Regards

Amy

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